

Paradata and Blaise: A Review of Recent Applications and Research

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Survey paradata, information about the process of survey data collection, has steadily increased in the breadth and depth of use. From modest beginnings in the 1980s as trace files of the fields entered, keys pressed, and timings during computer-assisted interviews, the value of the information for addressing significant challenges in the survey process has been explored and applied in increasingly diverse ways. A number of survey organizations have recently implemented or enhanced major management systems with paradata as a central feature. As well, computer-assisted recorded interviewing (CARI) seems on the verge of becoming a powerful new form of paradata with the potential to qualitatively enhance important elements of the survey design and survey collection processes. In this paper we review these recent developments of paradata research and application.