Call for Participation

The 2021 Federal Computer Assisted Survey Information Collection (FedCASIC) Workshops will be held on April 13-14, 2021. Participation is open to government employees and contractors.

At this time, we are making plans to hold FedCASIC 2021 at the Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, DC. However, if it is not possible to meet in-person safely, FedCASIC 2021 will be held virtually.

We invite proposals for individual presentations, panel sessions, posters, and demonstrations. Submissions on any topic related to the use of technology in federal government surveys will be considered. Please see the list of suggested topics.

Submission types

- *Individual presentations:* Oral presentations of original methodological research, lasting 15 minutes.
- *Panel sessions:* A panel of speakers focused on a common theme, lasting 90 minutes. Submitters should allow substantial time for moderated discussion. These panels typically include four presenters.
- *Posters:* Large format poster-based presentations of original research.
- *Demonstrations:* Computer-based presentation of software or an application.

All abstracts that were accepted for FedCASIC 2020 are welcome to present at FedCASIC 2021 but the abstracts must be re-submitted for 2021. Log into the submission portal using the same account as in 2020 and select the abstract. Update the abstract information if needed and submit.

Important dates

October 1, 2020
Abstract submission opens
Registration opens

December 11, 2020
Abstract submission closes

February 2021
Acceptance notification

March 2021
Preliminary program available

April 6, 2021
Registration closes

Submission instructions

Submissions must include a title, author names and affiliations, presenter names and affiliations, a suggested presentation track, and an abstract (up to 1200 characters). In addition, each submission must include a brief description of how the methodology presented applies broadly to federal government surveys (up to 300 characters).

Each submission will be assigned an Abstract ID. If you do not have all of the information at the time of submission you may use the Abstract ID to update your abstract at any time before abstract submission closes.

Formal papers are not required although authors are encouraged to submit a paper and presentation slides for archiving on the FedCASIC website.

If you have any questions, please contact the 2021 FedCASIC Planning Committee (fedcasic@bls.gov).

Suggested Topics

NEW: Data Collection during a Pandemic

- COVID-19 specific surveys
- Changes to data collection procedures
- Changes to pre-testing methods

Administrative Records and Other Third Party Data

- Cleaning, processing, and archiving administrative records
- Using administrative records in (near) real time data collection
- Data sharing
- Web scraping and other alternative data sources

Big Data

- Machine learning
- Text analysis
- Sampling using automated instruments

Field Operations

- Improving response rates using technology
- Engaging respondents using technology (texting, email, social media)
- Reducing respondent burden using technology

Online Data Collection

- Using online probability and non-probability panels
- Transitioning to online or mixed mode data collection

Organizational Changes and Challenges

- Addressing data collection management challenges
- Recruiting and developing employees with data science skill sets

Paradata

- Mining structured and unstructured paradata
- Analyzing keystroke/trace/audit data
- Using paradata in adaptive survey design

Privacy, Confidentiality, Disclosure, and Data Security

- Respondent trust in government data security
- Privacy/Confidentiality/Disclosure in electronic data collection
- Informed consent and gaining cooperation

Survey Software Development

- Building platform agnostic survey instruments
- Incorporating user experience methodologies in the software development process
- Customizing individual survey experiences
- Implementing stopping rules in data collection