

The Princeton Affect and Time Survey (PATS) was designed by Alan Krueger and Daniel Kahneman and administered by the Gallup Organization in a telephone survey from May through August, 2006. The survey was funded by the National Institute of Aging (P30 AG024928), Hewlett Foundation and Princeton University. An attempt was made to interview approximately 10,700 individuals using a random-digit dialing (RDD) technique such that every residential telephone number in the country had an equal probability of selection. One person was randomly selected per household. Respondents were told that participation in the study was voluntary and they did not have to answer any question they did not want to answer. As many as 9 callbacks were made to each sampled phone number. The cooperation rate was 75 percent and the AAPOR (RR3) response rate was 37 percent. The available sample consists of nearly 4,000 respondents.

PATS was patterned on the Bureau of Labor Statistics' American Time Use Survey (ATUS) and the Day Reconstruction Method. In PATS, respondents were first asked to describe each episode (defined as an interval of time in which the respondent engaged in an activity; the average respondent reported 17.8 episodes) in the preceding day, from 4 AM of the previous day to 4 AM of the survey day. Information about the activity, others present, and location were collected for each episode.

After the entire day was described in this manner, three 15-minute intervals were randomly selected from the non-sleeping portion of the day by the BLAISE computer software, and respondents were reminded of the activity that they participated in at the time, and then asked the extent to which they experienced six different feelings (pain, happy, tired, stressed, sad, and interested) during each interval, on a scale from 0 to 6, where 0 meant "not at all" and 6 meant "very strong." The three 15 minute intervals were selected as follows. The entire day was segmented into 15 minute intervals. Three 15 minute intervals were selected at random. If an episode was selected twice (i.e., two 15 minute intervals were contained in an episode of the same activity), one interval was dropped and another 15 minute interval was randomly selected. The order in which the feelings were presented was randomly assigned to respondents from six different permutations. The same ordering was set for all three selected episodes.

Respondents were also asked for an overall assessment of their satisfaction with their life and health. Specifically, they were asked "Taking all things together, how satisfied are you with your life as a whole these days?" and "How satisfied are you with your health these days?" For each of the two questions, participants chose among "very satisfied, satisfied, not satisfied, or not at all satisfied." Participants were also asked "Do you have a disability that limits the kind or amount of work that you can do? Yes or no." And standard CPS and ATUS demographic information was collected. Further documentation is available on the web in the codebook, screenshots and sampling and weighting documents at <http://www.krueger.princeton.edu/PATS.htm>. The oversample of retired individuals is not yet publicly available.