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Project Part II.5a

K. We currently plan to use stratified random sampling, based on school (i.e. Tepper, HSS, CIT, CFA, MCS, SCS). We decided to do so because it seems that each school might produce different results. The Career Center, for example, has separate career consultants for each school, and they report their results of post-undergraduate plans based on school and major. However, between now and Tuesday, we will contact the Career Center and use the pilot study to make a better guess as to whether stratified sampling is necessary.

OK

L. Questionnaire (just questions and answers, will be formatted on surveymonkey)

Do you plan to receive a Bachelors degree from Carnegie Mellon in May 2010? (Yes, No)
If yes, then they will be allowed to continue with the survey. If not, then the survey will end and they will be thanked for their participation.

1. What is your gender? (Male,Female)

2. What is your age?

3. What is your race? (White,Black,Hispanic,Asian,Other)

4. What is your nationality (i.e. American)?

great to have #4

* do you want to sugg some categories?

* can a person ans #3 if they are not american in #4?

5. What is your college? (HSS,CIT,CFA,MCS,SCS/Tepper)

6. What is your primary major?

7. What is your home state?

8. How would you describe your personality? (Extroverted,Introverted)

9. How many siblings do you have? (0, 1, 2, 3, 4+)

10. What is the highest level of education that your mother has completed? (some high school, High School diploma, some college, Associate Degree, Bachelors degree, Advanced degree)

11. What is the highest level of education that your father has completed?

Better to address race/ethnicity together, and use std categories:

-- American Indian or Alaska Native
-- Asian
-- Black or African American
-- Hispanic or Latino
-- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
-- White

("check all that apply")

what do you get from this for your resrch q? can you trust self-report on this variable?

convert to closed questions if you can, will make data summary easier.

(some high school, High School diploma, some college, Associate Degree, Bachelors degree, Advanced degree)

12. What is your average GPA? (below 2.0, 2.0-2.49, 2.5-2.99, 3.0-3.49, 3.5-4.0)

The following questions are regarding your current post-undergraduate plans, or what you plan to do immediately following graduation. Whether you are decided or undecided about your plans, please answer the questions honestly and to the best of your ability.

trying q's 13-25 out over the weekend will really help you to refine & clarify them

13. Which of the following do you plan to pursue immediately following graduation?
Full-time employment
Graduate School
Time off from school
Job research
None of the above   **"Other: _____" better than "none of the above", get more info!**

14. Which of the following statements apply to you?
I have accepted a full-time job offer
I have accepted an admission offer from a graduate program
I have received job or admission offer(s) but I have not made a final decision yet
I have applied but not received yet any job or admission offers
I have decided to take time off

15. To which degree have each of the following helped you in deciding your post-undergraduate plans? (1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)
Family
Siblings
Boyfriend/Girlfriend
Friends
Academic advisor
Career Center
   other?

there are other possibilities here that would be good to explore. E.g. sometimes it is a particular professor, or an old teacher from hs, or a book or movie, etc. Try adding categories to address some of these possibilities (however you want to define them) and also add an "Other:___" category/categories, because it's easy to believe something important will be missed.

16. To which degree did each of the following pressure you into making certain post-undergraduate plans? (1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)
Family
Siblings
Boyfriend/Girlfriend
Friends
Academic advisor
Career Center

similar to above, perhaps.

17. If you plan to pursue a full-time job or graduate school, to what degree has each of the following factors influenced you the most?

Salary
Location   **other___**
Ranking/reputation
Mission of the organization
Relation to your area of study

18. What obstacles have you faced while pursuing your post-undergraduate plans?
Financial difficulties
Nationality
Bad economy   **other___**
Rejection from a potential employer or school
Illness
Family conflicts

19. Since when did you start thinking about your pursuing your current plans for after graduation?
Senior year
Junior year
Sophomore Year
Freshman Year
Before coming to college

20. I am excited about my future plans. (1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)

21. With regard to my plans immediately following graduation, I am more concerned with being happy than making money a lot of money. (1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)

22. My post-undergraduate plans are highly similar to my childhood aspirations.
(1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)

23. My post-undergraduate plans are highly similar to my high school aspirations.
(1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)

24. I feel pressured to pursue opportunities that are typical for CMU students with my major. (1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)

25. I feel that students are competing to have the most impressive post-undergraduate plans. (1 Strongly disagree 2 Disagree 3 Neither agree nor disagree 4 Agree 5 Strongly Agree)

M. There are 1323 Seniors at Carnegie Mellon University. If we want the margin of error to be $\pm$ 3, we have to have 591 respondents to be within a 95% confidence interval. If we

believe the estimated response rate would be approximately 75%, we would have to sample 788 people.

this is great, thanks.

0.03 is a pretty small MOE, and 75% is a pretty optimistic resp rate.

you should develop a fall-back plan to deal with much lower resp rate (like 25%). [Don't wait 'till it happens!]