

A Comparison of Response Pattern between Survey Modes: An Assessment from SOGI Survey Based on a Random Selection from Basic Resident Registration

CHITOSE Yoshimi

This study reports the results of mode comparison from the mixed-mode SOGI survey (mail and web) conducted in 2019. A sample of 15,000 Osaka city residents was randomly selected from the Basic Resident Registration. Questionnaires were sent by mail and respondents answered either by mail or online. The use of web mode increased the level of reporting of sensitive information, including "SOGI", "suicidal ideation" and "bullying," even after controlling for demographics. The use of web mode especially increased the level of reporting of both homosexual/bisexual and asexual/no experience but the mode effect was stronger for the former. An independent analysis of mode comparison on homosexual or bisexual behaviors was not possible due to the small number of observations. An analysis of mode comparison on gender identity was also not possible due to the small number of observations in which gender identity is different from the assigned sex at birth. It is necessary to carry out surveys on a larger scale as well as conduct research on both survey designs and survey modes that would put sexual and gender minorities at ease in answering.

keywords: mixed-mode surveys, web surveys, mail surveys, sexual orientation and gender identity