The Survey Research Unit (SRU) is a not-for-profit Service Center of UAB School of Public Health (SOPH). The SRU currently has 55 computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) stations, two Nutritional Data System for Research (NDSR) stations, and 4 supervisor stations. The SRU employs between 60 and 80 IRB- and HIPAA-certified personnel who are trained in proper interviewing techniques.

Established in 1995, the SRU has conducted over 410,000 interviews for more than 75 health-related studies. Our client base includes not only UAB investigators but also the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and other state and local health departments, as well as other universities and organizations.

The Reasons for Geographic and Racial Differences in Stroke (ReGARDS) study is one of the SRU’s larger projects and is in its 13th year. The SRU also conducts the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS) for ADPH, a yearly survey collected for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The SRU has been collecting this data for over 20 years. Besides these the SRU has many other smaller projects.

Costs

As a not-for-profit service unit of UAB, the SRU works to keep costs as reasonable as possible. A cost estimate is available upon request at no charge.

The services of the SRU include technical assistance in survey design; sampling methods and questionnaire development; CATI survey interviews; field survey research; data management and analysis when requested.

The CATI stations are constantly monitored by supervisors for quality control and to ensure that interviewers are observing protocol.

The SRU is equipped to conduct web-based surveys, mail surveys, face-to-face and in-person interviews, and focus groups.

The SRU is able to collect, organize, and manage data and transfer it securely and accurately.

Other Services

- Document Scanning
- Data Entry
- Mixed Methods Designs
- Data Management
- Recruitment/Retention
- Results Reporting
  - Publications
  - Reports
  - Presentations

Client Feedback

“The collaboration with the UAB SRU has been a pillar of the success of the ReGARDS study, where they have been the principal group in recruiting our 30,229 participants, performing interviews that are critical in the establishing the risk factor profile of each of these participants. They have been the best partner possible in this research.”

Dr. George Howard
ReGARDS

“The SRU staff has been so easy to work with, willing to make modifications and adjustments when needed, and always helpful when challenges arise. More importantly, they consistently deliver a product that we can trust and will provide sound results for the advancement of understanding of RA and related diseases.”

Dr. Lou Bridges
CLEAR Project

“This is to certify the excellent service that has been provided by the UAB [SRU] in conducting the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey for [20] years. The quality of the surveys conducted by the staff at UAB is exemplary.”

Dr. Jim McVay
ADPH Bureau of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease

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