



# Effects of adjustments in face-to-face data collection due to the COVID-19 pandemic on survey results

Results of the Labour Force Survey and the Housing Survey

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# Overview

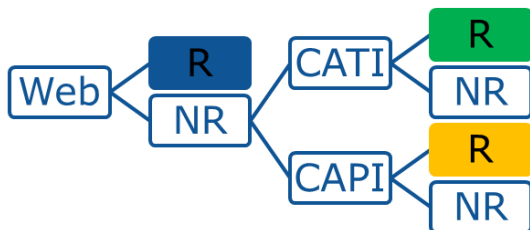
- Face to face interviewing in times of COVID-19
- Disentangling the role of selection effects and mode-specific measurement errors
- Results of the Labour Force Survey \*
- Conclusion
- Limitations and recommendations

\* Results of the Housing Survey: see paper

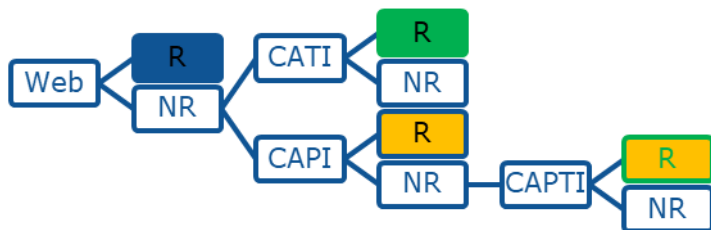


# CAPI fieldwork

## Normal situation



## Current situation



## CAPI in times of COVID-19

- Cancel all CAPI fieldwork.
- If a telephone number is available: CATI
- CAWI
- F2F interview outside and/or at enough distance.
- CAPTI: apply CATI to CAPI-sample
  - Persuade the potential respondent at the doorway, ask for a telephone number, and conduct the interview by telephone.

# Conducting the interview by telephone (LFS)

	2020	Face-to-face interviews	CAPTI	Total CAPTI response	% CAPTI by telephone
LFS households	September	761	93	854	10,9%
	October	580	233	813	28,7%
	November	446	325	771	42,2%
	December	305	209	514	40,7%
	Total	2092	860	2952	29,1%

# Mode-effects

- Selection effects
  - To adjust for during weighting
- Mode-specific measurement errors
  - May cause more problems

# Disentangling the role of selection effects and mode-specific measurement errors

- Preferably: **experiment**
- Alternatively: regression analyses on important target variables
  - **Model 1**: Only includes a variable indicating the mode of response (= total mode effect)
  - **Model 2**: includes the mode of response and all variables that will also be used during weighting (= mode-specific measurement error)



# Mode-effects

People who responded by telephone were more likely to:

- belong to the employed labour market
- work 28-35 hours a week
- be of age 50-54
- belong to a household having children
- have a higher household income
- have an income from salary
- live in the Southern parts of the Netherlands

In comparison with people who responded face-to-face.

# Logistic regression analyses (LFS)

		Model 1 <sup>a</sup>	Model 2 <sup>b</sup>
		OR (95% CI)	OR (95% CI)
Employed labour market	CAPTI	1,22 (1,08-1,37)	1,09 (0,93-1,27)
	CAPI face-to-face	ref	
Permanent employment	CAPTI	1,14 (1,02-1,27)	1,00 (0,87-1,17)
	CAPI face-to-face	ref	
>28 h/week employed	CAPTI	1,12 (1,01-1,24)	1,06 (0,91-1,23)
	CAPI face-to-face	ref	
Higher level of education	CAPTI	1,14 (1,02-1,28)	1,10 (0,97-1,26)
	CAPI face-to-face	ref	

a. Unadjusted.

b. Adjusted for all variables from the weighting. Through likelihood ratio tests, non-significant variables were removed from the model



# Conclusion

- Mode differences were mainly caused by **selection effects** and are less likely to be due to mode-specific measurement errors
- Specific groups are more likely to respond by telephone
- Similar results were found in the Housing Survey

# Limitations and recommendations

- Few respondents involved in the analysis
- Possible underestimation of percentage conducted by phone
- Only for the variables under study
- On average 30% was conducted by phone
- ‘Covid-effect’ on the total response?
- Experiments are needed

- Mode effects are mainly caused by selection effects and are less likely to be due to mode-specific measurement errors.
- This is reassuring because we can take into account selection effects during weighting.
- Offering the possibility of conducting the interview by phone, enhances the number of response and thereby precision of results.



**Facts that matter**