



ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods

The ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods (CSRМ) provides significant Australian capacity in undertaking research into applied social research and evaluation methods. The Centre meets a need for national leadership in research methods, and assists in raising the level of credible evidence-based research to inform and evaluate policy, programs and initiatives.

Researchers at the ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods come from a range of disciplines including economics, econometrics, political science, psychology, public health, social policy, sociology and statistics.

CSRМ research focuses on:

- The development of social research methods
- Analysis of social issues and policy
- Training in social science methods
- Providing access to social scientific data

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Research Methods

CSRМ has an active program of research into social research methods. Current areas of research include:

- Archiving and data standards
- Methods for undertaking surveys including:
 - Program of research supporting the development of Australia's first national probability online panel: Life in Australia
 - interviewer effects
 - Measurement of racism and discrimination
 - Use of Google trends data to measure political issue salience
- Models
- Small area estimation
- Evaluation methods

PolicyMod

The CSRМ modelling team, led by A/Prof Ben Phillips, focuses on policy modelling and analysis and has built PolicyMod. PolicyMod will contribute significantly to the public debate in the field of public policy, budget analysis and decision making. PolicyMod is a static microsimulation model of the Australian Tax and Transfer system and is capable of both distributional and cameo (hypothetical family) analysis. Modelling capabilities include:

- Distributional analysis
- Hypothetical (cameo) analysis
- Effective Marginal Tax Rates
- Regional modelling

The Australian Data Archive (ADA)

The ADA sits with CSRМ and provides a national service for the collection and preservation of digital research data and to make these data available for secondary analysis by academic researchers and other users. ADA manages data on behalf of our depositors, providing processing, review and publishing to enable your research data for use across Australia and around the world. The ADA holds over 6000 datasets from more than 1500 projects and studies from 1838 through until the present day.

PELab

PELab, led by A/Prof Nicholas Biddle, is a collaborative team of researchers and related resources that work on experimental and quasi-experimental studies with an explicit policy focus. To fill a recognised need in the Australian and Asia-Pacific policy environment for high quality, academically rigorous, experimental and quasi-experimental evaluations. The ultimate aim of the PELab is to improve the evidence in Australia and the region around what works, and what doesn't work, to improve the lives of the Australian population and the populations of the Asia-Pacific region.

Staff at the PELab are interested in a range of projects from small to large. We are committed to publication of academic findings, and making data from experimental research available for secondary analysis.