Abstract

In the 1984 National Election Study, the measure of "years of schooling" was coded twice. The first measure coded exactly the number of years of schooling reported by the respondent. The second measure used the traditional coding rules, which evaluates responses to the entire education series and corrects the years of schooling response when necessary. The authors found that the two measures yield extremely similar response distributions. The changes that were made in the second measure increased slightly the categories of 12 years, and 13-15 years, while decreasing the categories of 0-8 years and 9-11 years.