Abstract

The two-wave 1985 Pilot Study sample universe consisted of those 1984 Post-election respondents with telephones who were administered the personal form of the post-election interview. Respondents aged 60 or over were sampled "with certainty" from this universe in order to produce an oversample of the elderly. The 818 cases in the sample universe were randomly assigned to Form A or Form B. This report inquires into the similarity of the Form A and Form B subsamples, and the representatives of the pilot sample of the 1984 Post-election sample. One significant difference between forms emerges: in wave 2, 64% of the Form A respondents were female, compared to 52% of the Form B respondents (prob. .03) There were significant differences between the distributions in the pilot sample and the overall post-election sample: pilot cross section contained fewer people with less than high school education, slightly more people "working now" and union households; and more pilot respondents had family incomes over $20,000 than post-election respondents. These differences are clearly related to the restriction of the pilot sample to those who had telephones. Beyond this, pilot respondents are more likely to be married, and to report having voted in 1984.