Italy
ISSP 2008 – Religion III
Study Description

2011-09-20

ISSP Study Description Form
Please use this form for reporting on Module 2006 and later!

Study title:	ISSP 2008 Religion
Fieldwork dates:	from 03-11-2008 to 07-03-2010
Principal investigators:	Cinzia Meraviglia, Laura Accornero Department of Social Research, University of Eastern Piedmont, Italy
Sample type:	Face to face CAPI interviews. Three-stage random cluster sample, based on the electoral national register, with stratification in the first step. At the first stage sampling points are chosen, then electoral precincts, and finally individuals. Strata are built according to region and size of place of residence.
Fieldwork institute:	Doxa SpA (www.doxa.it)
Fieldwork methods:	CAPI
N. of respondents:	number of respondents in the final ISSP file: 1078

Details about issued sample:

Please follow the standards laid down in AAPOR/WAPOR, Standard Definitions: http://www.aapor.org/uploads/standarddefs_4.pdf. The numbers in the parentheses are those used in Tables 2 and 3 of Standard Definitions.

1. Total number of starting or issued names/addresses (gross sample size) *	…6900……..
2. Interviews (1.0)	…1078…………..

3. Eligible, Non-Interview
   A. Refusal/Break-off (2.10)
   B. Non-Contact (2.20)
   C. Other
    i. Language Problems (2.33)
    ii. Miscellaneous Other (2.31, 2.32, 2.35)
	
	…2785………..
	…2180………..
	
	……7…………….
	….546…………..

3. Unknown Eligibility, Non-Interview (3.0)	… 248…………..

4. Not Eligible
   A. Not a Residence (4.50)
   B. Vacant Residence (4.60)
   C. No Eligible Respondent (4.70)
   D. Other (4.10,4.90)
	
	……15………..
	……19………..
	…… 0………..
	……15………..

* When new sample units are added during the field period via a new dwelling units list or other standard updating procedure, these additional issued units are added to the starting number of units to make up the total gross sample size. Also, when substitution is used, the total must include the originally drawn cases plus all substitute cases. See AAPOR/WAPOR Standard Definitions, pp. 9-10 for further clarification.

Language(s):	Italian
Weight present:	Yes, a weighting factor exists in the data-set
Weighting procedure:	The weighting process gives, for each case, a weighting variable that is 4 positions long: 2 whole numbers and 2 decimal points. The macroscopic result obtained when the weighted frequencies relating to the questionnaires are added together is a total sample. This total sample always corresponds to the number of interviews conducted in the survey, but it also reproduces - within the sample - a distribution that is completely consistent with that of the Italian population to which it refers.

The weighting process sets out to check the following characteristics:
- age by sex
- regions by size of municipalities
- regions
- size of municipalities

In the weight attribution process, all the elementary cells are simultaneously checked, so as to relate the frequency of each cell of the sample to the theoretical frequency of the ideal distribution patterns.

The calculation procedure is of a hierarchical iterative type, so as to enable the operator to choose:
- a maximum number of iterations
- a threshold value to express the difference between theoretical cell and real cell, beyond which to stop the procedure
- a hierarchy for handling the weighting variables.

Known systematic properties of sample: The Italian ISSP 2008 module was fielded in two rounds (in November 2008 and from October 2009 to March 2010), owing to problems that the fielding institute encountered during the first fieldwork period. The ISSP Methodological Committee approved the sample resulting from pooling the two rounds, which can still be separated using the FLAG variable in the data set.

More information is available upon request to the Principal Investigator (cinzia.meraviglia@sp.unipmn.it).

Deviations from ISSP questionnaire: No questions were omitted; all questions were asked in the prescribed order.

Publications: None