

Paradata at the U.S. Census Bureau (and where Blaise fits in)

Michael K. Mangiapane

U.S. Census Bureau

The U.S. Census Bureau is pursuing a number of different efforts dealing with paradata. This paper will briefly describe some of those efforts. For several of them, we are using Blaise functionality to provide some of the data. This paper will go into more detail about the various ways the Census Bureau is using Blaise to collect paradata and how this data can potentially improve survey processes. Topics to be covered include:

- ^ Creation of a Data Combing Process (DCP) that runs in Manipula and uses a list of variables provided by a stakeholder to capture and output paradata to a Blaise Audit Trail or a separate ASCII file.
- ^ Using a Contact History Instrument (CHI) for gathering household, facility, or person-based contact attempt information for a case.
- ^ Parsing and analysis of Blaise Audit Trails and CARI files and logs to provide paradata.
- ^ Using these tools to provide input to the new Unified Tracking System (UTS) that is being developed at the Census Bureau.