

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

ABSTRACT

Handling Incomplete Data in Surveys

I am indebted to Isaac Dialsingh

for his comments on my project. I also thank Dr Robin Antoine and Dr George Legall for their help. Mr Madhu Jaganathan is worthy of special praise for his binding of the manuscript.

A perfect survey is a *myth* and it is quickly becoming the standard practice of researchers to use state of the art techniques to deal with the problem of incomplete data in surveys. The problem of incomplete data was simply ignored a few years ago, but this led to survey estimates being inaccurately produced. Procedures were developed (and some are still being investigated) for dealing with the problem of incomplete data. This project is a review of some of the main techniques that are available to the researcher to deal with this problem of incomplete data in surveys. Emphasis is placed on methods for handling item and unit non-response because of the great deal of work that had been done in these areas.

Finally, some possible avenues for future research in the area of incomplete data in surveys are suggested.