



RLMS-HSE

The Russia Longitudinal Monitoring Survey-Higher School of Economics

January, 2012

Dear Current and Future Users of the “Russia Longitudinal Monitoring Survey” (RLMS)

We are pleased to announce a number of major changes in the RLMS. Since its inception in 1992 and first implementation the following year, our goal has been to create and disseminate a very high quality, multipurpose set of community, household, and individual data to users across the globe.

We began to implement the first phase, done in collaboration with the State Statistical Office of Russia (Goskomstat) in 1992. During Phase I and then the subsequent Phase II, Barry Popkin has served as the Principal Investigator and major fund raiser. The sample design, training, and related monitoring costs in Phase I were undertaken by the current team that run the RLMS, led by Polina Kozyreva and Mikhail Kosolapov. During Phase II all operations and design issues were centered with this team in Russia. Our departed colleague Michael Swafford was a key member of the team as was our departed sampling expert Leslie Kish. Dr. Kish’s colleague Steve Heeringa continues to lead with us in sampling as we strive to continue to be nationally representative as a cross-sectional survey with a huge number of PSU’s while also providing longitudinal data.

As you know, initially the RLMS was started with grants to the University of North Carolina and its Carolina Population Center by the World Bank as representative of the G-7. After 18 months, funding shifted for many years to the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and the US National Institutes of Health, National Institute for Child Development. This lasted until 2007. During the last several years of USAID funding, we began to add funding from an array of groups in Russia with the major supporter being the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE) and Pension Fund. Also, with the cessation of USAID support, the agency decided that we needed to use user fees from selling the RLMS to support the effort.

This agreement was only partially successful and certainly not one we liked. It did not allow us to disseminate these data to the thousands of users across the globe.

There is major news and now the RLMS will be free to all scholars again and called by a new name: the RLMS-HSE.

We have reached a historic agreement to join with the State University - National Research University Higher School of Economics. This has become a joint agreement between “Demoscope” (hereinafter Demoscope), University of North Carolina, Carolina Population Center RLMS team, Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences and the National Research University Higher School of Economics.

We will make all data available to the public again at no cost. There are two major requirements needed of all parties that utilize these data. Hereafter, they should cite in all publications the following project name: “The Russia Longitudinal Monitoring Survey of HSE” (RLMS-HSE).

Secondly, we require that all publications acknowledge the institutions that now support and manage the survey in their acknowledgments for any book, book chapter, refereed journal article or presentation.

Source: “Russia Longitudinal Monitoring survey, RLMS-HSE”, conducted by HSE and ZAO “Demoscope” together with Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Institute of Sociology RAS. (RLMS-HSE sites: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/rlms-hse>, <http://www.hse.ru/org/hse/rlms>)

Finally, both the University of North Carolina’s Carolina Population Center team headed by Barry Popkin and the teams in Russia at the HSE and Demoscope headed by Polina Kozyreva, Mikhail Kosolapov, and Yana Roshina will continue to coordinate and run the survey. Some new modules added to the core may not be available for 24 months after other data are disseminated, but both websites will function, and we will improve functionality and dissemination of the data.

Sincerely yours,



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