HOW PREDICTABLE IS ITEM NON-RESPONSE IN GEORGIA?
TODAY

Background
Research questions
Methodology 1
Results 1
Methodology 2
Results 2
Conclusions
Questions and answers
Refuse to answer and don’t know questions regularly considered item non-response

Multiple imputation commonly used to deal with this after a survey, but based on a number of assumptions

- Sometimes these are problematic and can bias results more than the use of list-wise deletion

At the end of the day its better to have a response than use multiple imputation
RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What predicts non-response in Georgia?

Are predictors of non-response similar across surveys in Georgia?
METHODOLOGY FOR ANALYSIS 1

Data
- Caucasus Barometer 2017
  - N = 2379
  - CAPI
- EVS 2018
  - N = 2194
  - CAPI

Poisson regression
- Dependent variable 1 = number of DKs a respondent reported during the survey on questions asked to every respondent
- Dependent variable 2 = number of RAs/NA a respondent reported during the survey on questions asked to every respondent
### Predicted number of don't know responses

**By Presence of non-interviewed people, settlement type, education level, sex, age, and ethnicity**

(CRRC Caucasus Barometer, 2017)

<table>
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<td>18–35</td>
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## Predicted number of refuse to answer responses

**By Ethnicity, Settlement type, Education level, Gender, and Age**

(CRRC Caucasus Barometer, 2017)

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Predicted don't know count by various demographic variables (EVS Georgia 2018)

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<tr>
<td>male</td>
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Predicted no answer count by different social and demographic groups (EVS Georgia 2018)
CORRELATION BETWEEN DK AND RA

$CB = 0.009$
$EVS = 0.15$
METHODOLOGY FOR ANALYSIS 2

Pooled data with OLS on:

- Dependent variables
  - RA count / Questions in included in the analysis
  - DK count / Questions in included in the analysis

- Independent variables
  - Survey
  - Age
  - Ethnicity
  - Education level
  - Settlement type
  - Sex

- Second model with
  - Their interactions with which survey it was

- Too much censored data to run a tobit, particularly with the DK variable
### MODEL 1

#### Refuse to Answer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Std. Error</th>
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<td>2.839</td>
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<td>0.00014***</td>
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#### Don't know

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## MODEL 2: DK

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Marginal effects of CB By Demographic group on DK Share (%)
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<td>-1.253</td>
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CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

DK is predictable:
- Age
- Sex
- Education level
- Ethnicity

RA less so
- EVS has numerous RA predictors, while CB has few.
- The predictors are different between the two

Correlation between RA and DK is inconsistent between surveys, with a correlation on EVS and no correlation on CB.

A number of significant differences in response patterns between surveys
Why are ethnic minorities particularly likely to not respond to questions

- H1: Weaker integration into society
- H2: Survey design factors