

Pretest 8 Report

Recent developments based on consultation with experts and adjustments in the budget had caused the need to conduct another pretest. Initially, the plan was to conduct a pretest primarily aimed at measuring the workload standards based on the revised questionnaire and listing sheet on September 19 and 20, 2002 in the province of Quezon.

After reviewing the procedures and timetable of activities of the proposed pretest with reference to the objectives, it was decided that it was more appropriate to utilize the pilot results to approximate the workload standards.

Thus, the pretest 8 involved transcribing the pilot results using pencil, while simulating actual field conditions (writing positions). It was undertaken on September 27, 2002 at the NSO vicinity.

Objectives

The main objective of pretest 8 is to test the use of Mongol pencil number 2 or 3 in recording information to be able to assess its effectiveness in data interpretation.

Participants

Participants of Pretest 8 and their respective situations		
Name	Pencil #	Situation
1. Lucia Brebiescas	2	Standing using clipboard, hand supporting the clipboard, with umbrella because it is raining slightly.
2. Emelita Turtal	2	Standing using enumerator's (EN) manual as clipboard, hand supporting the manual.
3. Gregorio Calingasan	2	Standing, writing on a window sill of a one-storey house
4. Marie Pajaganas	2	Standing, writing on top of a sari-sari store escaparte.
5. Arnelson Taguiam	2	Sitting at the top step of a wooden ladder using clipboard.
6. Lily Elegue	3	Sitting in sofa, with clipboard.
7. Analisa Piad	3	Sitting using the EN manual as clipboard on her lap.
8. Ramiro Perez	3	Squatting because the respondent is washing clothes.
9. Guillermo Lipio	3	Using questionnaires as clipboard

There were nine Census Planning and Operation Division (CPOD) staff who participated in this pretest. Each participant transcribed information from 22 booklets of CAF Form 2 (Agriculture Questionnaire) accomplished during the pilot census. They filled out the questionnaires in different given situations. Below is the list of persons and the situation given to each of them while transcribing the forms. Five of them used Mongol pencil number 2, while the remaining four used Mongol pencil number 3.

Briefing

Briefing of the participants was done at the CPOD conference room on September 26, 2002. They were given instructions on what they are going to do during the pretest 8.

Field Work

On September 27, 2002 at 9:30 A.M., the participants went out of the office and do the transcription using the situations assigned to them.

Processing

After the transcription was done, questionnaires were given to the Information Resources Department (IRD) for scanning. The result of the first scanning was not that good. Items in the questionnaires were difficult to read. Some adjustments were made in the Mid Volume Capture System (MVCS) application specifically in the brightness and contrast control. After adjustment,, all items were readable enough for the data entry operators to decipher. The IRD gave a sample of the questionnaire they scanned before and after the adjustment they made.

Results

The questionnaires were processed using the data processing scheme of CAF Pilot Census. The forms were scanned; partially interpreted using EHF and data entered to produced the necessary text files.

During data entry, the operators were complaining about the quality of the images. They claimed that the items in the images were difficult to read due to blurredness (See Picture 5.1).

Before jumping to any conclusions, adjustments were made in the MVCS applications specifically in the brightness and contrast controls. The settings that were used in the blurred images were 80 for brightness and 50 for contrast. New settings were made and the same questionnaire (check the serial number) was scanned (See Picture 5.2).

Picture 5.1. Scanned Form 2 without contrast adjustments

The new settings are as follows: 80 – Brightness and 80 – Contrast. Setting a higher contrast made the image clearer.

Using the new settings, all questionnaires were re-scanned and the images were viewed one by one. Although some images were slightly blurred, the items were still readable enough for the data entry operators to decipher. Based on the result of the pretest, using **MONGOL** pencil no **2** or **3** proved to be credible as far as imaging is concern.

Picture 5.2. Adjusted color and contrast of CAF Form 2

Recommendation

As also noted in pretest 6, using Mongol pencil number 2 or 3 proved to be credible enough as far as imaging is concern. The use of pencil in recording information during the CAF 2002 enumeration is therefore recommended.