

## **SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 23**

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### **DEVELOPMENT OF SEARCH AND RETRIEVAL SOFTWARE AND TOOLKIT FOR SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC DATA PHASE I**

This Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase I project responded to the growth of commercial opportunities in the sharing of sociodemographic research data. The project developed prototypes of two products: "Search and Retrieval Software for Topically Focused Sociodemographic Data Archives," and "Search and Retrieval Toolkit for Sociodemographic Databases." These products would eventually include capabilities to search an archive for variables by topic, type, study, and key word in variable or value labels; display hit list of variables meeting the criteria with optional inclusion of study-level information; search for studies by title, investigator, key word, or sample characteristics; provide hypertext link of variable and study information to any machine-readable supporting document such as codebook and instrument; provide the tools for converting any paper document into a machine-readable document linked to other documents by variable/survey item; prepare custom SPSS and SAS program files according to user's specifications or variable inclusion; and fully describe these features, with illustrative examples, in clear and instructive user's manuals. Phase II funding, was subsequently awarded (see Sociometrics Project No. 35).

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