Projects conducted by the Wolfgang Frese Survey Research Laboratory (SRL) during the past fiscal year covered a broad range of research topics. In addition to collecting data for three longitudinal studies that focused on the quality of life in the Delta, health insurance coverage in Mississippi, and the use and control of tobacco-based products, the SRL also conducted several surveys that focused on special populations. These included a survey of child care centers in Mississippi and a survey of parents in Mississippi with children under the age of six. Additionally, the SRL continued to collect data for its annual client satisfaction surveys for the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services and Mississippi Department of Mental Health. Three general population surveys included measuring public attitudes and opinions toward increasing state taxes on tobacco products, distracted driving due to cellphone usage, and a national survey of public attitudes toward the military and military service. Lastly, the SRL conducted a very specific study of stakeholders’ perspectives of the oyster aquaculture industry in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. The SRL has completed another productive year as part of the Social Science Research Center. Dr. John F. Edwards has begun his eleventh year directing the SRL with the assistance of Laura Grandfield, Laboratory Manager, Izzy Pellegrine, Research Associate, Amanda Gochanour and Audrey Reid, Research Assistants, and more than 50 telephone interviewers. Dr. Wolfgang Frese also continues to provide his many years of experience in his position as Emeritus Research Professor.

Survey of Mississippi Child Care Centers
On behalf of the Family & Children Research Unit (FCRU) at the Social Science Research Center, the SRL conducted a telephone-based survey of more than 500 child care centers in the state of Mississippi. This survey examined the use of developmental screeners for children enrolled in daycare programs. The FCRU secured funding for this research through the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration.

Parent Survey of Children’s Health in Mississippi
This survey was a state-specific replication of the National Survey of Children’s Health by the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration. This telephone-based survey included a representative sample of 1,000 parents in Mississippi with children under the age of six. It assessed healthcare access and developmental screening for infants and young children in Mississippi.

2017 Mississippi Vocational Rehabilitation Client Satisfaction Survey
On a quarterly basis, the SRL conducted telephone-based interviews with approximately 250 individuals who received vocational rehabilitation services from the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services (MDRS) during the prior 12 months. This client satisfaction data assisted the MDRS in program evaluation and development.

2017 MDMH Client Satisfaction Survey
On behalf of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health (MDMH), the SRL conducted an online, tablet-based survey of client satisfaction. For a two-week period, all clients receiving mental health services throughout the state of Mississippi were provided with an opportunity to share their opinions about the quality of services they received from MDMH. The results of this survey were used to improve the quality of MDMH services.

Survey of Proposed Mississippi Tax Increase on Tobacco Products
On behalf of the Tobacco Control Unit at the Social Science Research Center, the SRL administered a statewide survey to examine public attitude toward a proposed increase in tax on tobacco products. This telephone-based survey of the general public included a representative sample of 400 adults residing in the state of Mississippi.

The Integrated Ecosystem Assessment Survey
On behalf of the Northern Gulf Institute, the SRL piloted a study with a multi-mode survey (paper, web, and telephone) to better understand stakeholders’ perspectives regarding the present and future states of the oyster aquaculture industry in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama. This survey provided researchers with valuable information about and the working relationships between various stakeholder groups such as oyster harvesters, processors, industry leaders, and environmental regulators.
2017 Distracted Driving Survey
On behalf of the Center for Mississippi Health Policy, the SRL conducted the 2017 Distracted Driving Survey. This survey allowed researchers to gain a better understanding of behavioral patterns of Mississippi drivers, with emphasis on distracted driving due to cellphone use. The present administration of this survey is a longitudinal measure of changes in cellphone usage while driving with the first survey administered in 2010. Some new survey items were added to the questionnaire to account for emerging uses of cellphones, such as the ability to read and post messages to social media platforms. This telephone-based survey of the general public included a representative sample of 1,000 adults residing in the state of Mississippi.

National Survey of Civilian’s Attitudes toward the U.S. Military
In collaboration with the Stennis Center for Public Service Leadership, the SRL developed a questionnaire to measure various aspects of civilian-military relations, including the attitudes and opinions of the general public toward the U.S. military, its practices, personnel, and military service in general. To assess changes in public opinion over time, a number of survey items from previously administered questionnaires were also included in the present study. This telephone-based survey of the general public included a representative sample of 1,000 adults across the nation.

2017 Health Insurance Coverage in Mississippi
On behalf of the Mississippi Health Policy Research Center at the Social Science Research Center, the SRL conducted the second administration of the Health Insurance Survey, with the prior version administered in 2014. This survey examined the knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs of representative sample or 500 Mississippi adults between the ages of 19 and 64 regarding health insurance coverage options and knowledge about the Affordable Care Act.

The 2017 Delta Quality of Life Survey
On behalf of The Walton Family Foundation, the SRL conducted a survey of the perceived quality of life in the Delta that included measures related to health, safety, education, community activities, and the quality of local services. This telephone-based survey was administered to a representative sample of 800 adults residing in Coahoma County, Mississippi and Phillips County, Arkansas.

2017 Mississippi Social Climate Survey of Tobacco Control
On behalf of the Tobacco Control Unit at the Social Science Research Center, the SRL administered the Mississippi Social Climate Survey of Tobacco Control. Results from this survey assisted researchers in better understanding the degree to which people in Mississippi live in smoke free homes, work in smoke free environments, understand the health risks of tobacco, and talk to their children about tobacco use. Funding for this research was provided by Mississippi State Department of Health. This telephone-based survey of the general public included a representative sample of 1,500 adults residing in the state of Mississippi.