

Call for proposals

The Risks that Matter (RTM) survey at the intergovernmental Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is soliciting proposals for questions to include in the core questionnaire for the 2020 wave of RTM. RTM assesses perceptions of the social and economic risks people face in OECD countries, and explores how well people feel their government reacts to their concerns.

More information, including the 2018 questionnaire and OECD reports, can be found at the RTM website: <https://www.oecd.org/social/risks-that-matter.htm>. The deadline for question submission is 27 September 2019. Proposals may suggest additions or changes to the core questionnaire. The same questionnaire will run in every country.

The 2020 RTM survey will consist of nationally-representative surveys with 1000 respondents aged 18 to 70 in at least 10 OECD countries. Participation is contingent upon OECD member countries opting in. (The 2018 round included 21 countries: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, United States. The participant list for 2020 may expand or contract following negotiations in Autumn 2019.) The survey will be administered online. Survey sample recruitment method will be confirmed in October 2019.

Each proposal will be reviewed by the RTM research team. We give priority to funded proposals. Proposals from teams of researchers working on a particular topic may be given priority over proposals from individual investigators.

Funding

The RTM survey is funded by OECD member countries, foundations, and academic institutions through contributions to the OECD. Current funding sources cover partial costs, but, by necessity, RTM is required to raise additional support from other sources. Scientifically valuable proposals that are accompanied by financial support will therefore have an advantage in this call for proposals. However, all proposals are welcome regardless of funding.

Proposal guidelines

Each proposal should contain the following:

- Exact wording of proposed question(s);
- A short argument explaining why the proposed question merits inclusion in RTM;
- A short argument explaining the conceptual and theoretical foundations of the question;
- Evidence of whether this question has been used in other surveys (and where);
- Statement indicating any financial support for inclusion of the questions being proposed.

Individual questions or short modules of up to five questions can be proposed. Longer modules cannot be accommodated within the available interview time.

RTM operates with a cross-section of adults. There is no panel design so proposals should not anticipate repeat administration. Questions are generally fixed choice survey items rather than open-ended questions.

Proposals for survey experiments that administer alternative question wordings or priming statements to randomly designated subsets of respondents are also welcome if accompanied by funding. Such experiments may address substantive social science questions, issues of survey methodology, or both. Statistical power considerations are relevant, since items can be measured for all respondents or for some randomly drawn subsample. Proposals therefore should consider how large a sample is required to draw conclusions.

Please submit questions in English or French (official languages of the OECD).

Timeline

Submitted proposals will be reviewed in early October 2019 and RTM reviewers will correspond with selected researchers around that time. We may require changes in the wording of proposed questions, though such changes would be made in consultation with proposers.

The final questionnaire selection will be confirmed following a meeting with the relevant OECD governing committee in November 2019.

The survey is estimated to be administered in the field in March/April 2020, and anonymised data will be available to contributing researchers within six months of data collection. The data will be made *publicly* available 12 months after data collection. The OECD retains the right to publish main descriptive results from RTM before the data are available to other researchers. (Results from any possible survey experiments may be subject to a joint agreement on publication, to be determined in collaboration with proposers.)

How to submit a proposal

Please send written proposals of no more than five pages by email to Valerie Frey (valerie.frey@oecd.org) and Chris Clarke (chris.clarke@oecd.org). All submitted proposals will receive a confirmation email. The deadline for submitting proposals is **Thursday 3 October 2019**.

For any additional questions, please feel free to contact valerie.frey@oecd.org and chris.clarke@oecd.org.