

Htay-Wah Saw

Michigan Program in Survey and Data Science

Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

426 Thompson Street, Room 4050

Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1248

Email: htaywah@umich.edu

Website: <https://htaywah.com/>

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7735-9837>

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=vlzNBUCAAAAJ&hl=en>

Summary

I am a quantitative researcher and survey methodologist specializing in data collection using emerging technologies and experimental methods to address substantive and methodological challenges. I apply advanced statistical modeling, experimental design, machine learning, and novel data sources to tackle complex business and societal issues.

Education

- **University of Michigan-Ann Arbor** – PhD, Survey and Data Science, April 2025
 - **RAND Graduate School** – PhD, Policy Analysis, 2016
 - **RAND Graduate School** – MS, Policy Analysis, 2014
 - **Iowa State University** – MS, Economics, 2009
 - **Mansfield University of Pennsylvania** – BS, Economics, 2008
-

Appointments and Positions

- **2016 - Present:** Research Associate, Center for Economic and Social Research, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA, USA
 - **2020 - 2024:** Graduate Student Research Assistant, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
 - **2011 - 2015:** Assistant Policy Analyst, RAND Corporation, Santa Monica, CA, USA
-

Publications

(Peer-Reviewed Articles)

1. Saw, H.-W., Kapteyn, A., & Darling, J. (2024). Does Feedback from Physical Activity Measurement Devices Influence Physical Activity? Evidence from a Randomized

Controlled Trial. *Survey Research Methods*. <https://ojs.ub.uni-konstanz.de/srm/article/view/8308>

2. West, B. T., Couper, M. P., Axinn, W. G., Wagner, J., Gatward, R., Saw, H.-W., & Zhang, S. (2024). Toward a New Approach to Creating Population-Representative Data for Demographic Research. *Demography*. <https://doi.org/10.1215/00703370-11693878>
3. Saw, H.-W., West, B. T., Couper, M. P., & Axinn, W. G. (2024). What predicts willingness to participate in a follow-up panel study among respondents to a national web/mail survey? *Field Methods*, 36(3), 206-212. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1525822X231193311>
4. West, B. T., Zhang, S., Wagner, J., Gatward, R., Saw, H.-W., & Axinn, W. G. (2023). Methods for improving participation rates in national self-administered web/mail surveys: Evidence from the United States. *PLOS ONE*, 18(8), e0289695. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0289695>
5. Wagner, J., West, B. T., Couper, M. P., Zhang, S., Gatward, R., Nishimura, R., & Saw, H.-W. (2023). An experimental evaluation of two approaches for improving response to household screening efforts in national mail/web surveys. *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*, 11(1), 124-140. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jssam/smac024>
6. Saw, H.-W., Owens, V., Morales, S. A., Rodriguez, N., Kern, C., & Bach, R. L. (2023). Population mental health in Burma after 2021 military coup: online non-probability survey. *BJPsych Open*, 9(5), e156. <https://doi.org/10.1192/bjo.2023.550>
7. de la Haye, K., Saw, H.-W., et al. (2023). Ecological risk and protective factors for food insufficiency in Los Angeles County during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Public Health Nutrition*, 26(10), 1944-1955. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1368980023001337>
8. Owens, V., & Saw, H.-W. (2021). Black Americans demonstrate comparatively low levels of depression and anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic. *PLOS ONE*, 16(6), e0253654. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0253654>
9. Bruine de Bruin, W., Saw, H.-W., & Goldman, D. P. (2020). Political polarization in US residents' COVID-19 risk perceptions. *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, 61(2), 177-194. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11166-020-09336-3>
10. Wah, S. H. (2018). Do employers in Myanmar prefer workers who accumulated skills in more advanced countries? *IZA Journal of Development and Migration*, 8, 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40176-017-0106-2>
11. Kapteyn, A., & Wah, S. H. (2016). Challenges to small and medium-size businesses in Myanmar: What are they, and how do we know? *Journal of Asian Economics*, 47, 1-22. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asieco.2016.08.004>
12. Kapteyn, A., Banks, J., Hamer, M., Smith, J. P., Steptoe, A., Van Soest, A., Koster, A., & Wah, S. H. (2018). What they say and what they do: comparing physical activity across the USA, England and the Netherlands. *J Epidemiol Community Health*, 72(6), 471-476. <https://doi.org/10.1136/jech-2017-209703>

1. **Saw, H.-W., Angrisani, M., & Kapteyn, A.** *Analyzing the causal effect of survey frequency on nonresponse in probability-based online panels among new panel respondents.* In preparation.
 2. **Saw, H.-W., Kapteyn, A.** *Personality traits, panel tenure, survey topic, and context as predictors of survey nonresponse patterns in high-frequency online longitudinal surveys.* Submitted to *PLOS ONE*.
 3. **Saw, H.-W., West, B. T.** *Evaluating the impact of three incentive schemes on survey nonresponse and attrition in online longitudinal panels.* Submitted to *Survey Research Methods*.
 4. **Kapteyn, A., Saw, H.-W., & Weerman, B.** *Anatomy of pollution exposure by U.S. residents.* In preparation.
-

Quantitative Skills

- Complex survey data analysis
 - Longitudinal data analysis
 - Hierarchical linear modeling
 - Structural equation modeling
 - Machine learning
 - Causal inference
 - Experimental design
-

Technical Skills

- Stata
 - Python
 - R
-

Research Grants

- **2024:** National Science Foundation (NSF) Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (US\$ 20,000)
- **2023:** Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, University of Michigan (US\$ 7,000)
- **2021:** The International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada (US\$ 10,000)
- **2019:** USAID International Development Research Grant (US\$ 100,000)
- **2018:** The International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa, Canada (US\$ 75,000)
- **2016:** Open Society Institute Civil Society Scholar Grant (US\$ 10,000)

- **2015:** UK Department for International Development (DFID) Research Grant (US\$ 55,000)
 - **2015:** Eugene Rosenfeld Dissertation Grant (US\$ 10,000)
 - **2015:** Don Conlan Dissertation Grant (US\$ 10,000)
 - **2014:** Anne and James Rothenberg Dissertation Grant (US\$ 10,000)
-

Conference Presentations

- **2025:** Current Innovations in Probability-based Household Internet Panel Research (CIPHER) Conference, Washington, DC
 - **2025:** American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), St. Louis, MO
 - **2024:** Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM), Portland, Oregon
 - **2024:** American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), Atlanta, Georgia
 - **2024:** Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research (MAPOR), Chicago, IL
 - **2023:** Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM), Toronto, Canada
 - **2023:** American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), Philadelphia, PA
 - **2023:** Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research (MAPOR), Chicago, IL
 - **2022:** Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research (MAPOR), Chicago, IL
-

Professional Memberships

- American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR)
- Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research (MAPOR)
- American Economic Association (AEA)
- American Statistical Association (ASA)