



Different Methods of Working with Blaise in the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics

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- **Introduction**
- **Methods of working with Blaise and parameters for each method**
- **Advantages and Disadvantages for each method**
- **Example**
- **Conclusion**



Introduction

- **10 years using Blaise for families and individual surveys:**
 - **Labor force survey, family income survey, social survey, health survey, first degree graduates survey, crime survey**
 - **Population and housing census**
- **Three questionnaire languages: Hebrew, Arabic and Russian (right to left and left to right)**
- **Combined different modes of data collection: CAPI, CATI, CADI**



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Methods of working with Blaise

- **“Blaise + Manipula”**
- **“Blaise + .Net”**
- **“.Net + SQL”**



Parameters in the Different Methods

- **Questionnaire tools**
- **Management system tools**
- **Database**



“Blaise + Manipula” Method

- **Questionnaire language – Blaise**
- **Management system language – Manipula**
- **Database – Blaise DB**



“Blaise + .Net” Method

- **Questionnaire language – Blaise**
- **Management system language – .Net**
- **Database**
 - **Questionnaire data in Blaise DB**
 - **Management data in SQL DB**



“.Net + SQL” Method

- **Questionnaire language – Blaise**
- **Management system language – .Net**
- **Database**
 - **Questionnaire data in SQL DB**
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Advantages and Disadvantages “Blaise + Manipula” Method

○ Advantages

- **Quick development**
- **Stability and efficiency**

○ Disadvantages

- **Limitation of Manipula: screen designs, batch activities**
- **Multi users capabilities**



Advantages and Disadvantages “Blaise + .Net” Method

○ Advantages

- **Using the abilities of Blaise for quick development of questionnaire**
- **Wide opportunities for the screen design, development options**
- **Management system is much more friendly and with good performance**

○ Disadvantages

- **The performance of activities using Blaise tables is relatively slow compared to SQL tables**



Advantages and Disadvantages “.Net + SQL” Method

○ Advantages

- **Great performance compared to the first two methods**
- **Using the Blaise strong abilities as a language for questionnaire development**
- **Management system is much more friendly and with good performance**

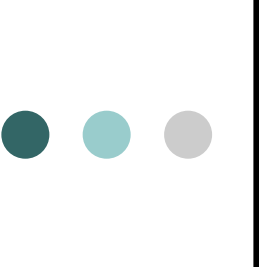
○ Disadvantages

- **Creation of an SQL table for questionnaire data**
- **Two additional modules for transferring the data between the Blaise tables and the SQL tables**
- **Long development and debugging time**



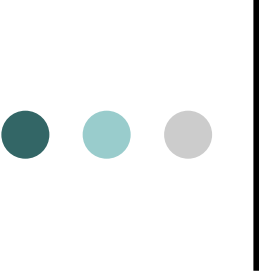
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Example of “.Net + SQL” Method Population Census

- Questioning of 20% of the population, 320,000 households
- Questionnaire held approximately 300 questions in three parts:
 - Questions about the apartment
 - Questions about the household
 - Questions about the individual
- Developed two SQL tables for questionnaire data:
 - Table with values of answers
 - Table for statuses "response", "don't know" and "refuse"



Example of “.Net + SQL “ Method Population Census

- **Modules for data transfer between Blaise and SQL were written in C-Sharp**
- **First experience to combine developing tools in the flow .Net -> Blaise -> .Net**
 - **Management system was written in .Net**
 - **Questionnaire in Blaise**
 - **DLL from DEP for finding and marking of streets was written in .Net**



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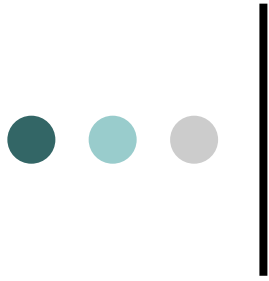
Conclusion

- **“Blaise + Manipula” method is good for relatively small and simple surveys with CATI and/or CADI modes of data collection**
 - **Example: first degree graduates survey, public transport satisfaction survey**
- **“Blaise + .Net” method is good for big and complicated surveys with CAPI mode of data collection**
 - **Example: labor force survey, social survey**



Conclusion

- **“.Net + SQL” method is good for surveys that require great performance and have enough developing time**
 - **Example: Census**
- **The best development method for a specific survey is chosen according to the requirements of that specific survey, the different modes of data collection and other special requests**



THE END