



#### Is Democracy Being Served?

Innovations for Reaching Cell Phone Users in a TCPA Environment



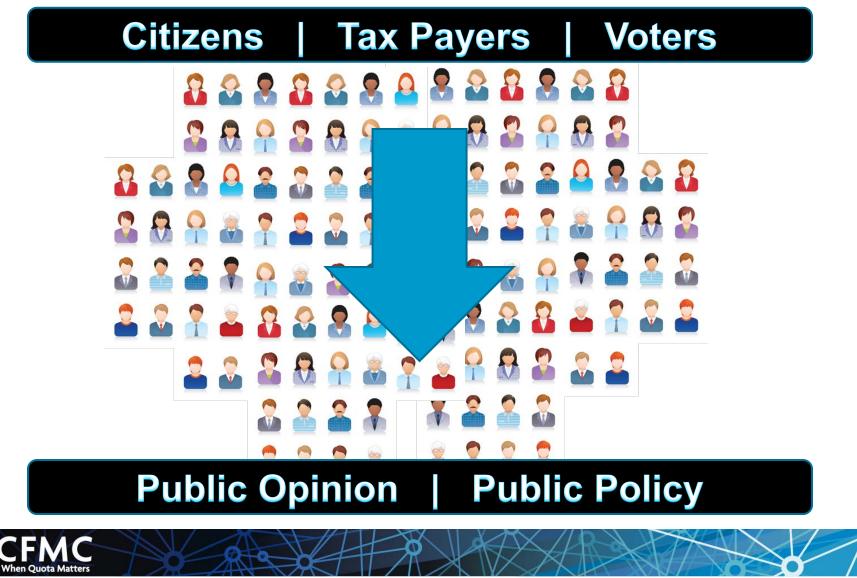
## **Is Democracy Being Served?**

- Much public policy is based on research, not citizen votes.
- How do you make sure that the research reflects the views of the electorate?
- TCPA & Phone-based research
  - The economics
  - The unintended consequences of compliance
  - Technology's role
  - How researchers have adapted





#### **Demographics Matter**



#### **Data Collection Options**







**Reach** demographics you can't access online

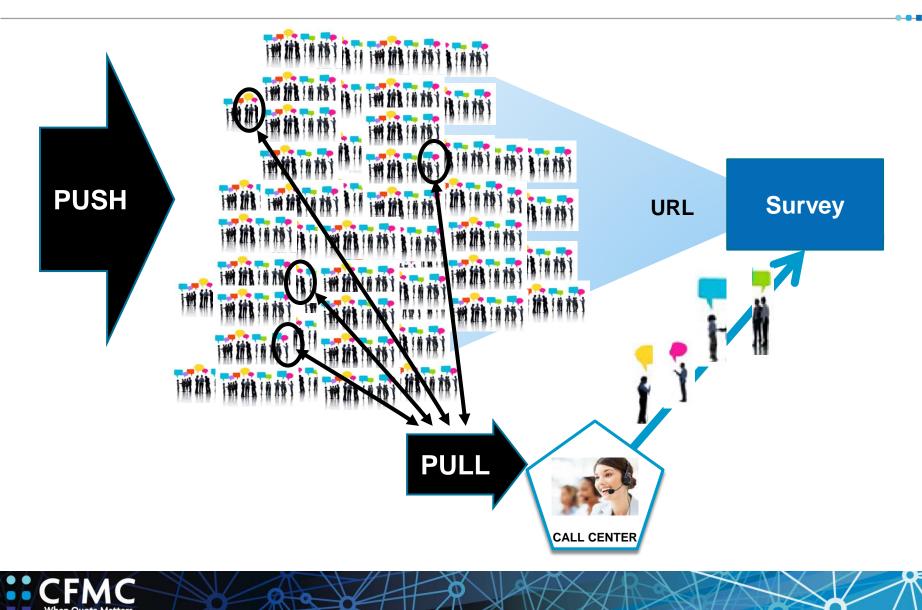
Walidate identities better

**Target** under-quota segments to complete study faster

Reach the right people Fill quota & minimize weighting Complete projects faster



#### **Choice of Data Collection Modes**



## **Online Audience**

#### 14% adults are not online

...but 98% have access to phones.

- Who are they?
  - Non-white
  - Over 65
  - Under \$30,000
  - No high school degree
  - Rural

# Yet they pay taxes, vote & consume public services

#### Non-internet user demographics

% of all adults within each group who do not use the internet

	Do not use internet 14%		
All adults (n=6,010)			
a Men (n=2,733)	14		
b Women (n=3,277)	15		
a White, Non-Hispanic (n=4,223)	13		
b Black, Non-Hispanic (n=664)	<b>20</b> <sup>a</sup>		
c Hispanic (n=682)	17 <sup>8</sup>		
a 18-29 (n=945)	2		
b 30-49 (n=1,590)	6a		
c 50-64 (n=1,842)	17 <sup>ab</sup>		
d 65+ (n=1,526)	41 <sup>abc</sup>		
a No high school diploma (n=454)	44 <sup>bcd</sup>		
b High school grad (n=1,667)	22 <sup>cd</sup>		
c Some college (n=1,627)	7 <sup>d</sup>		
d College+ (n=2,225)	3		
a Less than \$30,000/yr (n=1,682)	25 <sup>bcd</sup>		
b \$30,000-\$49,999 (n=1,030)	12 <sup>cd</sup>		
c \$50,000-\$74,999 (n=787)	5 <sup>d</sup>		
d \$75,000+ (n=1,644)	3		
a Urban (n=1,850)	13		
b Suburban (n=2,980)	13		
c Rural (n=1,180)	<b>21</b> <sup>ab</sup>		

Pew Research Center's Internet Project survey, July 18 – September 30, 2013. Note: Percentages marked with a superscript letter (e.g., <sup>a</sup>) indicate a statistically significant difference between that row and the row designated by that superscript letter, among categories of each demographic characteristic (e.g., age).

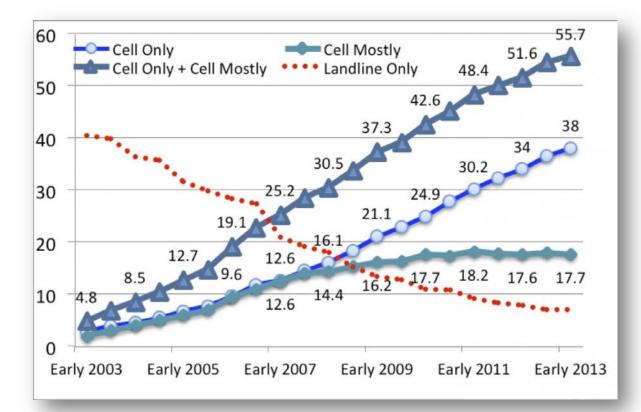
#### PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## Phones | Landlines are dying

#### Cell phone research is not optional.

40% cannot be reached by landline

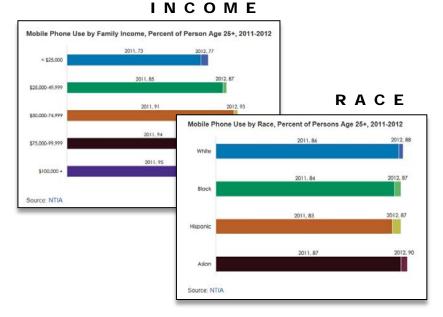
56% prefer to be reached by cell phone



The Future of Election Forecasting | Landlines are dying Scientific American Oct 14, 2014 | By Regina Nuzzo

## **Cell Phones | Ubiquitous**

#### 90% of us have cell phones



# Adoption similar across demographic segments

When Ouota Matters

#### Cell owners in 2014

Among adults, the % who have a cell phone

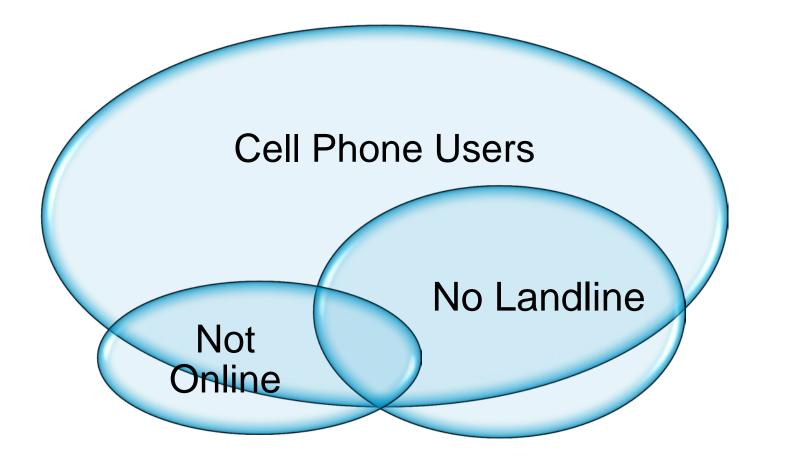
All adults	Have a cell phone 90%
Sex	
Men	93 <sup>b</sup>
Women	88
Race/ethnicity*	2- 2-
White	90
African-American	90
Hispanic	92
Age group	
18-29	98 <sup>cd</sup>
30-49	97 <sup>cd</sup>
50-64	88 <sup>d</sup>
65+	74
Education level	
High school grad or less	87
Some college	93 <sup>8</sup>
College+	93 <sup>8</sup>
Household income	
Less than \$30,000/yr	84
\$30,000-\$49,999	90
\$50,000-\$74,999	99 <sup>ab</sup>
\$75,000+	98 <sup>ab</sup>
Community type	÷
Urban	88
Suburban	92
Rural	88

Source, Pew Research Center Internet Project Survey, January 9-12, 2014, N=J,006 aduts. Note: Percentages marked with a superscript Iter (e.g., <sup>1</sup>) indicate a statistically significant difference between that row and the row designated by that superscript letter, among categories of each demographic haracteristic (e.g., eg)e). \* The results for race/ethnicity are based off a combined sample from two weekly onnibus survers, January 9-12 and January 23-26, 2014. The combined total in for these survers was survers. January 9-12 and January 23-26.

surveys, January 9-12 and January 23-26, 2014. The combined total n for these surveys v 2,008; n=1,421 for whites, n=197 for African-Americans, and n=236 for Hispanics.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

## **Cell Phones Fill the Demographic Gap**





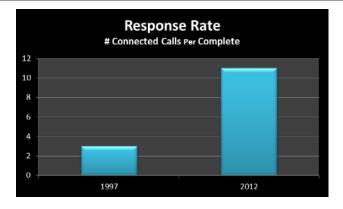
#### **Survey Call Center Economics**





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## **Response Rates | Cost per Complete**



Response Rate

(# connected calls/complete)

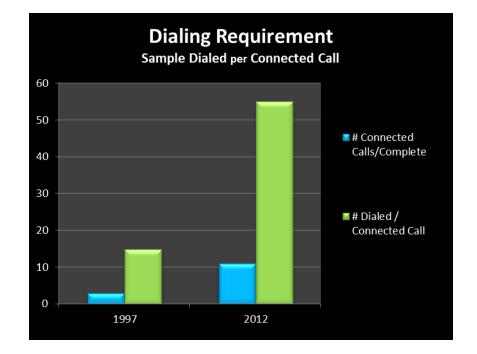
1997	1 in 3	(36%)

**2012** 1 in 11 (9%)

Lower completion rates

➔ More <u>connected</u> calls needed

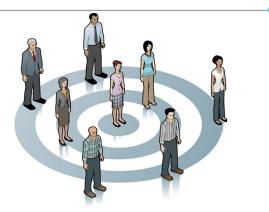
→ More <u>sample</u> dialed



#### **Phone-based Research**

#### AUTOMATION ... SIMPLY AWESOME

- Predictive Dialing boosts interviewer productivity
- Sample Management achieves quota, minimizes costs



#### LABOR RATES STEADY







**TELCO RATES DROPPING** 





# WHY are telephone survey costs increasing?





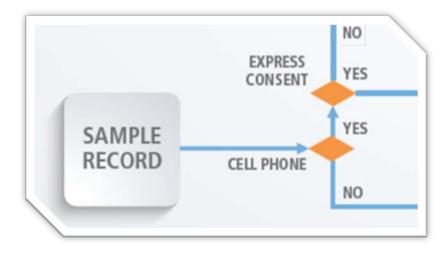
## **TCPA** TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT - 1991



TCPA prohibits automated dialing of cell phone numbers without express prior consent\*

## **What Compliance Means to Researchers**

Determine if the number is a cell phone or landline



For each cell phone number, did owner express consent?

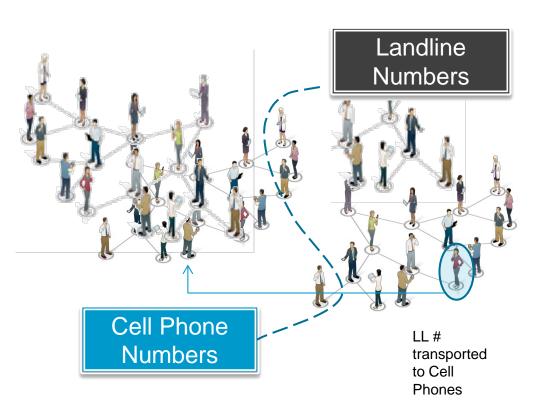
GRAPHIC SOURCE: ALERT! MAGAZINE FOURTH QUARTER 2014 COMPLIANCE AND THE TRUE COST OF CELL PHONE DIALING By Mary McDougall



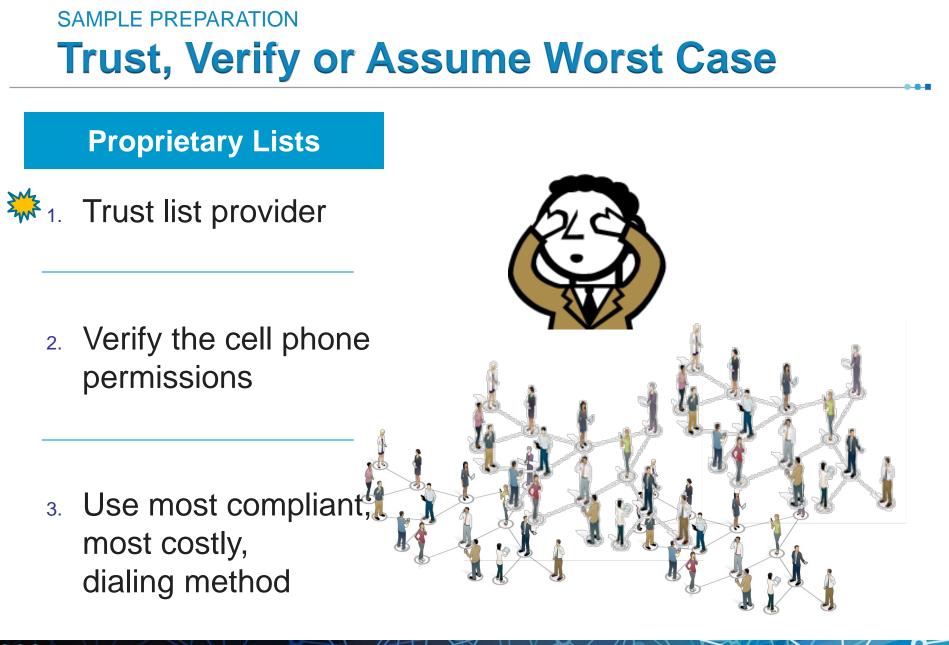
# SAMPLE PREPARATION **Differentiate Cell Phones From Landlines**

#### RDD Samples & Purchased Lists

- Analyze each number against cell phone number ranges
  - Cell Phone #
  - Landline #
- 2. Scrub Land Line list for numbers ported to cell phones









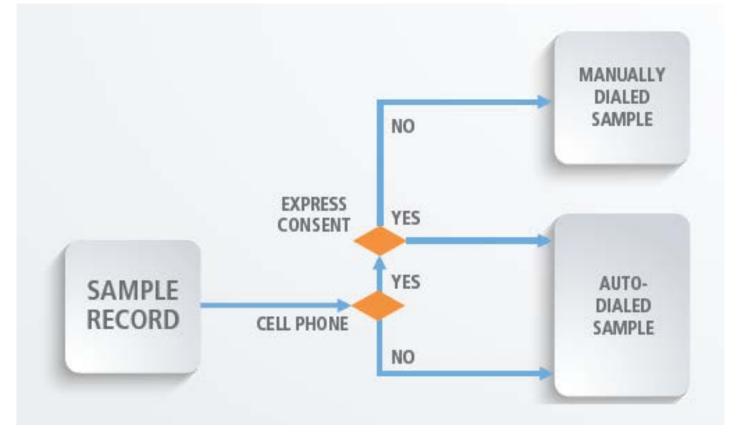
#### **Sample Management**

- Cell Phone Sample w/o Consent vs. all other sample
  - 1. Separate two or more files -- Each file is handled differently OR
  - 2. Combine in a single file
- Technology Enablement
  - Call Center sets dialing rules for each record type
  - Dialing method is executed for each record according to rules
  - For call backs to cell phones
    - A. Cell phone numbers can be entered, if different from recorded number
    - B. Consent is secured by the respondent agreeing to be called back on that number
    - c. Call back record type changed to now allow for automated dialing



## **Identifying the Dialing Method**

GRAPHIC SOURCE: ALERT! MAGAZINE FOURTH QUARTER 2014 COMPLIANCE AND THE TRUE COST OF CELL PHONE DIALING By Mary McDougall



- Without consent, the number has to be manually dialed
- With consent, the number can be treated like a landline

#### **Operational Constraints**



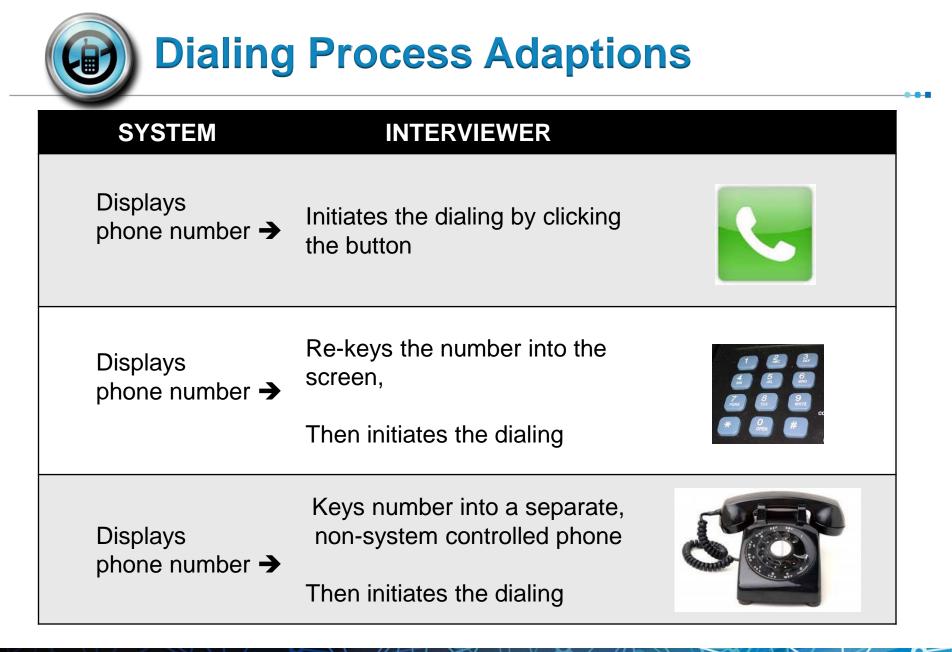
#### COST-EFFECTIVE OUTBOUND IVR (no labor costs)





#### PREDICTIVE DIALING

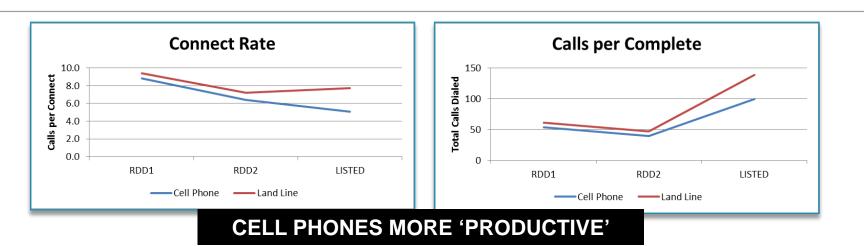
(high labor productivity & ROI)





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#### **Case Studies: RDD & Listed**



Call dialed by the Interviewer by re-keying the number	Cell Phone	Land Line	Call dialed by a Predictively Dialer as a background process; no labor required
DIRECT LABOR TIME PER COMPLETE	22.70	1.88	12x Difference in Minutes
Dialing Time to get Live Caller	3.20	0.25	Minutes the Interviewer is dialing and/or waiting before reaching a live person
DialingTime to get a Complete	19.50	1.63	Minutes to connect before finding someone to complete the survey

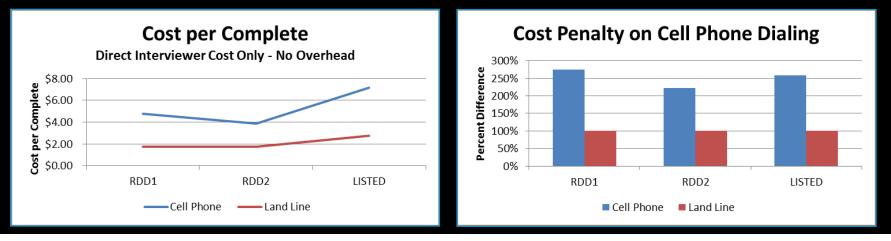
#### **CELL PHONES DIALING MUCH SLOWER**



## Where's The Tipping Point?

#### **COMPLETES from CELL PHONE SAMPLE**

2 - 2.5X cost penalty



#### 25% - 100% premium

#### CUSTOMERS REPORT only CHARGING CLIENTS

TODAY: CELL PHONES <30% SAMPLE → PROFIT MARGINS ARE BEING SQUEEZED

TOMORROW: CELL PHONE > 50% SAMPLE → STUDY COSTS RISE DRAMATICALLY



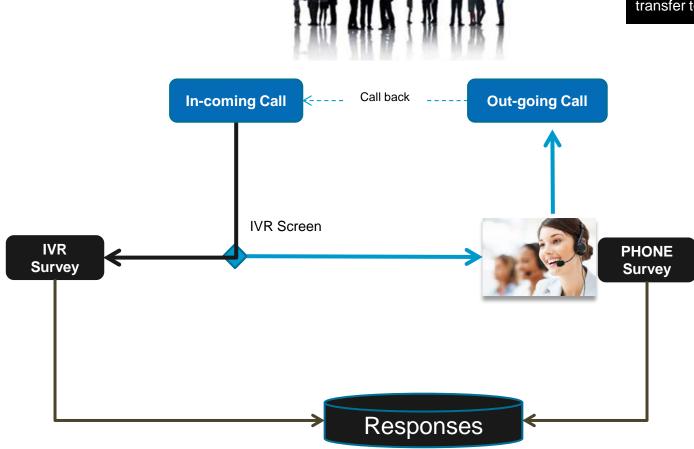
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## HOW is research adapting?

#### **IVR to Convert Call-Backs**

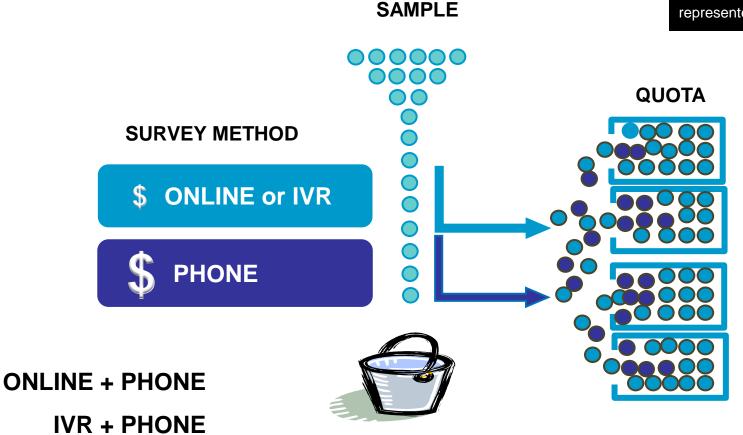
IVR, when integrated into call center workflows, can effectively handle inbound calls to capture a response either via an IVR survey or transfer to an interviewer.





#### **Multiple Modes to Manage Costs**

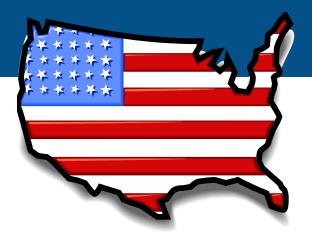
Researchers may first use lower cost methods to gather data and then add phone interviewing to target underrepresented segments.





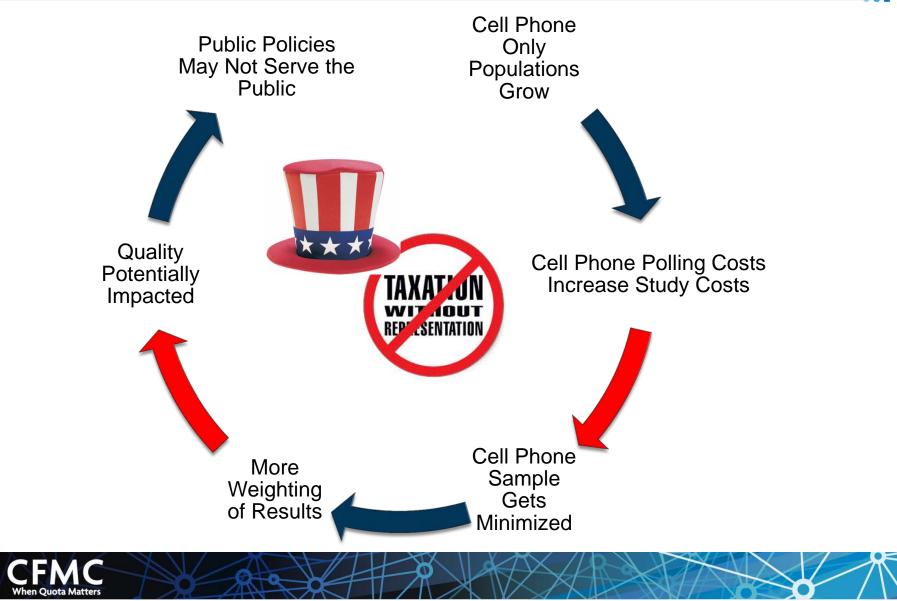
## **TCPA | Representative Data Collection**

#### HOW DO YOU CAPTURE THE VOICE OF AMERICA WHILE COMPLYING WITH TCPA GUIDELINES?





## **Is Democracy Being Served?**







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