

Great Plains ADA Center Research Plan

	What do we need to know?	Why do we need to know this?	What kind of data will answer the questions?	Analysis plans	Validity threats	Possible strategies for dealing with validity threats	Rationale for strategies
1	How can we improve our delivery of ADA Center services in our region?	Our mission is to deliver the most effective and relevant educational, knowledge transfer, capacity building and support services possible.	OMS periodic reports; staff input; review of ADA Symposium evaluations; random survey of SILS; analysis of study findings; pilot outcomes	Analyze title II Entities reports of current accessibility needs; Quantify reported past categories of training: TA; KT; guidance; capacity building .	Loss of control of distribution of instruments to respondents via the Leagues; Symposium Evaluation validity	Instructions to Leagues introducing the research; instructions to participants to distribute the research to the most appropriate employee.	After review of multiple data sources, a comprehensive plan can be developed for use at the national level; the ADANN researchers across all 10 ADA offices sharing data, methods and ideas using teleconferencing and emails.
2	What is the impact of rural vs urban demographics in local government's endorsement and application of the ADA Title II regulations?	Literature review suggests rural areas less likely to have or to dedicate resources toward compliance.	Quantitative questionnaire sent to City and County Leagues; qualitative follow-ups (interviews/semi structured focus groups TBD possibly at Symposium; review of available data of noncompliance using DOJ PCA, corelative to community population?	Analysis of quantitative data using multivariate analysis; analyze qualitative data for themes until reach saturation	Interviews and focus groups will have potential for lack of variability. Defining exact categories of concentration of population groupings. Self reporting of whether respondent is urban, rural, etc.	Triangulation between survey responses and qualitative responses. Collection and application of outside data from US Census, USDA for rural areas, and volunteered zip codes. Maslow hierarchy	Defining urban or rural is a moving target, depending on the needs of the agency weighting the differences. Establish a third category - a 25 mile buffer - around the named major cities in each stat will enrich the data and provide deeper insight into the differences of urban v rural

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3	How can the ADA responsiveness of a jurisdictional government affect the 'livability' of the community?	Literature review suggests accessibility impacts quality and longevity via recreation, sports, access to goods and services, access to governmental programs. This is useful information to NIDLLR	Quantitative questionnaire sent to City and County officials; qualitative follow-ups (interviews/semi structured focus groups) possibly at Symposiums.	Analysis of quantitative data using multivariate analysis; analyze qualitative data for themes until reach saturation	Interviews and focus groups will have potential for lack of variability	Triangulation between survey responses and qualitative responses. Maslow hierarchy	Build on literature of Flora, Fey Et.Al.; build on the pilot project completed in Nebraska to get ordinal and interval data
4	How can the findings inform the direction, topics and content of the educational modules offered annually at our National ADA Symposium?	Optimizing the usability and the impact of content at the National ADA Symposium for attendees in positions pivotal to advocacy; improving the lives of citizens, employees and relatives of PWD through better design; improved program access, enhanced legal remedy; stronger emergency preparedness; reduced risks.	Evaluation research utilizing Symposium program evaluations	Possible formalization of research frameworks in our Symposium course evaluation forms.	The roles and jobs of Symposium attendees are constantly shifting. The location of the Symposium changes.	Maslow hierarchy. Quantitative, narrative and qualitative review of evaluations and Dr. Diane Smith's study of Symposium participants.	nearly 100% of Symposium evaluation respondents indicate they apply the KSA's learned at Symposium in their work.