

1. TITLE:

“How Michiganders Talk in the Upper Peninsula”

2. RESEARCHERS:

Dr. Wil Rankinen (lead researcher)

Dept. of Comm. Sciences and Disorders, Grand Valley State University

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to understand how English is spoken in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. In this study we are particularly interested in your pronunciation of English and how it has been influenced by the speech of other Michiganders around you. We are not at all interested in “right” and “wrong” pronunciations, and we would never refer to the results of this research that way. We are fascinated by the way language is used and in the potential the study of that use has for bettering our scientific understanding and our ability to advise people who must take language into consideration in education, the law, and other public domains. I would be happy to discuss these objectives further with you before your decision to participate or during or after the interview if you agree to participate.

4. REASONS FOR INVITATION:

You are being invited to participate in the study because you are and have been a permanent resident of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.

5. HOW PARTICIPANTS WILL BE SELECTED:

In order to participate in this study, you must meet the following requirements:

- I have been born and raised in the following towns or surrounding areas of Michigan: Marquette, Houghton, Ironwood, Iron Mountain, Newberry and Sault St. Marie;
- I have never lived outside the area for more than five years;
- I have obtained minimally a high school diploma (or equivalent); maximally a four-year degree;
- I have no history of a language and speech disorder.

6. PROCEDURES:

Your participation in this study will involve five steps and take approximately one to two hours.

- i) In an audio-recorded interview, you will be asked questions related to your background and your place in the community.

- ii) You will be audio-recorded and asked to read a passage, a word list, and a series of paired rhyming/non-rhyming words.
- iii) You will be asked to:
 - listen to a series of individual speech recordings, and, for each one, you will be asked to indicate from set of options what you think you heard heard.
 - listen to a series of paired speech recordings, and, for each one, you will be asked to indicate if you think they are the same or different.
- iv) You be presented two different geographical maps, one of the United States and the other of Michigan, and then you will be asked to indicate where you think people speak differently from you.
- v) In an audio-recorded exit interview, you will be asked questions related to your attitude and opinions about language spoken in and outside your community.

7. RISK:

We do not think there is any risk to you from participating in this research.

8. COMPENSATION FOR HARM:

If you are harmed from participating in this research emergency first aid will be provided to you, and you will be referred to an appropriate medical care center. Any costs for additional medical care that may be required are your responsibility and that of your medical insurance company.

9. POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO YOU:

Your participation in the research study will result in no known personal benefit.

10. POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO SOCIETY:

By participating in this research study, your contribution will help to improve our scientific understanding of how language is spoken in Michigan's Upper Peninsula and improve our ability to advise people who must take language into consideration in education, the law, and other public domains in this community and others like it.

11. VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION:

Your participation in this research study is completely voluntary. You do not have to participate. You may quit at any time without any penalty to you.

12. PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY:

Your name will not be given to anyone other than the research team. All the information collected from you or about you will be kept confidential to the fullest extent allowed by law. In very rare circumstances specially authorized university or government officials may be given access to our research records for purposes of protecting your rights and welfare.

13. RESEARCH STUDY RESULTS:

If you wish to learn about the results of this research study you may request that information by contacting Dr. Wil Rankinen, the lead researcher on the study.

515 Michigan St. NE, Suite 300 ♦ Grand Rapids, MI 49503-5721 ♦ Phone: 616.331.5540 ♦ Fax: 616.331.5544

This research protocol has been approved by the Human Research Review Committee at Grand Valley State University.
File No. 17-165-H Expiration: March 15, 2019.

14. PAYMENT:

There will be no payment for participation in the research.

15. AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPANT:

By signing this consent form below you are stating the following:

- The details of this research study have been explained to me including what I am being asked to do and the anticipated risks and benefits;
- I have had an opportunity to have my questions answered;
- I am voluntarily agreeing to participate in the research as described on this form;
- I may ask more questions or quit participating at any time without penalty.

Print Name:

Sign Name (in ink):

Date Signature:

16. FOR FURTHER QUESTIONS:

If you have any questions about this study, please contact the lead researcher, Dr. Wil Rankinen, at 515 Michigan St. NE, Suite 300, Office 309, Grand Rapids MI, 49503. Phone: 616-331-5541. E-mail: wil.rankinen@gvsu.edu.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact the Office of Research Compliance & Integrity at Grand Valley State University, 1 Campus Drive, Allendale, MI. Phone: 616-331-3197. E-mail: rci@gvsu.edu.