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PANEL STUDY OF INCOME DYNAMICS
2003 SHORT TERM CO-RESIDENT FILE
Release 4 (2017)

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I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Although the PSID collects a good deal of data on cohabitators, researchers were concerned about missing information on short-term co-residents given the PSID's two-year interviewing cycle. In order to remedy the potential loss of information, the short-term co-resident sequence was piloted in the 2003 wave of data collection. Co-residents were those individuals who were related to the family unit in 2003 (not simply a roommate or housemate), but moved in and moved out between the 2001 and 2003 interviewing waves.

Especially important for researchers was the incidence of co-residency by opposite sex partners who moved in and moved out between waves of data collection.

During the pilot for this co-resident sequence, information was collected on a total of 397 co-residents across all 7822 families that were interviewed during 2003. Of the 397 co-residents, only 26 were opposite sex partners (ST4, Relationship to Head, codes 22 and 88). A significant portion of the co-residents turned out to be children, stepchildren, children of Head's cohabitor, husbands or wives of Head's children (sons-in-law or daughters-in-law) and grandchildren. A total of 156 records (39%) of the co-residents had a child or grandchild relationship.

There was a very low reporting of co-residents of any type across the sample and very few (6.5%, or 26 persons), were opposite sex partners. Subsequently, the PSID Board of Overseers decided that the co-resident series was not cost-effective to carry forward into future waves of data collection, due to budget constraints and respondent burden.

II. CHARACTERISTICS

A. Files and Format

The 2003 short term co-resident file consists of one data file with 11 variables and 397 records. The co-resident file contains one record for each person listed as a co-resident in each family interviewed in 2003.

Additionally, three files for creating SAS, SPSS or STATA datasets are included. These files are not intended to represent complete and full programs for the respective statistical program packages to run extracts, analysis, etc. You must provide all other statements needed to complete a program. Missing data statements are not provided as part of these data definition files. Since only a few variables, the months and years moved in and out (STC6-9), can contain true missing data, users should feel free supply such statements for themselves.

B. Variable Names and Generated Variables

The 2003 co-resident variable names are in the range STC1-STC11.

Each co-resident record was coded with the same 1968 Individual Interview Number as the Head (STC10) of the relevant family unit. During the processing of the co-resident file, PSID staff assigned and coded a Person Number for each co-resident (STC11). If the co-resident had ever been included or mentioned in a PSID family before, his or her Person Number was coded on this file. If the co-resident was related to the family but he or she had never been included or mentioned before, PSID staff assigned a new Person Number in the 900 series to this individual. If the co-resident was not directly related to a PSID family or PSID staff could not determine his or her relationship to the family, the individual was given a value of 998 for Person Number. Hence, more than one individual in a family may have this value, and 1968 Interview Number combined with Person Number does not constitute a unique identifier.

Unique identifiers for each co-resident on this file are ST2, the 2003 Family Interview Number, combined with ST3, the person's sequence number.

C. Documentation and Codes

The PSID website includes PDF-format box-and-arrow questionnaires and HTML versions of the computer-assisted interviewing applications at:

<https://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Guide/documents.aspx#gsc.tab=0>

Data and Documentation on supplemental files are found at:

<https://simba.isr.umich.edu/Zips/AuxiliaryFiles.aspx>

Generally, in the co-resident file, code 9 (or 99 or 999, etc.) represents "don't know", "refused", or other missing data.