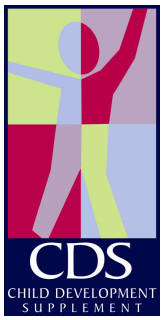

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The Panel Study of Income Dynamics' Child Development Supplement Transition into Adulthood 2005

User Guide

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Preface

In 2005, the PSID began a new supplemental study called "Transition into Adulthood" (TA). This study was designed to collect information from all children who had participated in the Child Development Supplement (CDS) who had turned age 18, had completed or left high school and were members of families still active in the PSID. The study collects data on young adult developmental pathways and outcomes, filling a gap between the detailed information about development from early and middle childhood through adolescence (as measured in CDS-I, CDS-II, and CDS-III), and the comprehensive information on adulthood once these youths assume the role of economic independence and become PSID heads and wives/"wives". This Guide documents this first TA wave.

Staff

Frank P. Stafford is the Principal Investigator of the CDS-TA. Co-Principal Investigators are Jacquelynne Eccles, Robert Schoeni, Wei-Jun Yeung, and Katherine McGonagle. Tina Mainieri led project management activities for TA-2005. Eva Leissou of the University of Michigan Survey Research Operations led field operations. The data were processed and documented by Tecla C. Loup, April Beaule, Barbara Browne, Mary Dascola, Katy Wortman, Jill Bugay, Jay Schlegel, and Mohammad Mushtaq. Ofelia Purkayastha was responsible for respondent payments. Dennis Kloska tested the data collection application. Steven G. Heeringa of SRC's Survey Methodology Program and PSID Research Investigator Elena Gouskova developed the sample weights.

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Section I: History and Background

The Transition into Adulthood (TA) supplement supports the continued collection of data on families in the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) who participated in the 1997 Child Development Supplement (CDS) by adding new content for youth in their transitions from adolescence into young adulthood. To fully understand the TA study, one must be familiar with the core PSID and CDS data collection projects. Therefore, a brief description of the design and content of the PSID and the CDS is provided. For additional information, please see the PSID codebooks and the CDS user guides located here:

http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/CDS/wavesdoc.html

Panel Study of Income Dynamics: Begun in 1968, the PSID is a longitudinal study of a representative sample of U.S. individuals and the family units in which they reside. It emphasizes the dynamic aspects of economic and demographic behavior, but its content is broad, including sociological, psychological, and physical health measures. The PSID is the longest running panel on family and individual (including child) dynamics and has consistently achieved unprecedented wave-to-wave reinterview response rates of 96-98%.

The original 1968 PSID sample was drawn from two independent samples: a nationally representative sample of 2,930 households designed by the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan (the "SRC sample") and an over-sample of 1,872 low income families subset from the 1967 Survey of Economic Opportunity (the "SEO/Census sample"). From 1968 to 1996, the PSID interviewed and re-interviewed individuals from families in these two samples every year, whether or not they were living in the same dwelling or with the same people. Adults have been followed through the full life course, and a confidentiality-protected mortality data file includes information on nearly 5,000 PSID sample members who have died since 1968. Children have been interviewed as their own family unit after they have left their parents' household. This unique self-replacing design implies that for many PSID families, the data include self-reported information on three (and occasionally now, four) generations within the same family at various points in their life course. Through multiple waves collected over long time periods on a national population, the PSID is the only data set ever collected on life course and multigenerational economic conditions, well-being, and health in a long-term panel representative of the full U.S. population. Comparisons of PSID data with simple cross-sectional benchmark studies—the March Current Population Survey for income (Gouskova and Schoeni, 2002a), Survey of Consumer Finances for wealth, National Health Interview Survey for health status and health behaviors (Gouskova and Schoeni, 2002b), and the Consumer Expenditures Survey for expenditures (Charles et al., 2004)—support the claim that the sample, with weights, remains representative of the U.S. population for a given temporal snapshot.

Child Development Supplement: The CDS examines multiple developmental outcomes in the areas of psychological well-being, social relationships with family and peers, cognitive development, physical health, and education. These developmental domains can be studied within the context of family, neighborhood, and school environments over time. The multi-level, multidisciplinary, and longitudinal nature of the research design facilitates analysis of the relationships between developmental measures mentioned above and changes in family structures and living arrangements, neighborhood economic and social conditions, and school resources and programs.

The CDS embarked on its first data collection in the spring of 1997. Collecting data on as many as two randomly selected children aged from birth through 12 years in PSID families, the first wave successfully completed interviews for 3,563 children in roughly 2,400 families for an 89% response rate. In the fall of 2002, CDS fielded its second wave of data collection with the same children originally interviewed in CDS-I who were 5 through 18 years of age at the time of the second wave. Much of the same information from CDS-I was collected from parents, teachers, and the children, as well as new modules addressing issues relevant to the adolescent stage. The CDS-II resulted in a 91% response rate. A third and final wave of the

CDS in 2007/2008 will collect data from caregivers and approximately 1,677 children from 1,397 families who will be aged 10-18 at the time of the interview.

Section II: Scientific Motivation

In the past several decades, the U.S. and other countries have experienced a prolongation of the transition into adulthood. Youth are no longer moving quickly from secondary education into the labor force and independent economic living. Scientists are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that the years from 18-24 are critical for life span development. It is during this period that major investments are made in education, and careers are planned and initiated. For the PSID, this means that important educational and occupational transitions are often made while young adults are still dependent on their parents, many years before they become family heads and wives themselves.

Based on the 2003 wave of the PSID, less than 50% of individuals become heads or wives/"wives" of their own PSID family before they are 24 years of age.

Although the PSID collects some information about everyone who is a member of the co-resident PSID family, the greatest detail is collected on the head and wife/"wife". For the CDS cohort, without the TA study, this would result in a large gap in information about their youth between their last CDS interview in adolescence and their first interview as a PSID head or wife/"wife", meaning a gap in information about their early adult transitions. The launching of the Transition into Adulthood study was motivated by recognition that these years are marked by choices, changes, and transitions that have profound lifelong consequences, but would be missed by the sample design of the PSID prior to 2005. The TA study was implemented in 2005 to bridge this gap.

Based on current literature and theories guiding research on the adult transitional years, we designed an interview that built on the information collected from these children when they were interviewed as adolescents in CDS-II and, at the same time, harmonized and coordinated with the data that will be collected on them when they are interviewed as adults in future waves of the core PSID.

Section III: Study Design

In 2005, the Child Development Supplement (CDS) launched a new data collection for the oldest members of its sample (18 years and older) with the goal of capturing information about life changes and experiences during the "transition into adulthood" years. This period in the life course is often marked by the events of completing one's education, engagement in full-time, career-track employment, and starting a family of one's own. It is also characterized by changes in self-identity, evolving personal values and goals, new achievements, and shifts in time use.

Part 1: Sample

The CDS young adults interviewed for the Transition into Adulthood (TA) study were initially selected and interviewed for CDS in 1997 when they were in middle childhood and may have been re-interviewed as adolescents in 2002-2003 for the second wave of CDS, as well. Eligibility requirements for the TA interview were as follows:

- CDS sample member, i.e., response in the initial wave of the CDS in 1997 and a PSID sample member;

- Eligible for PSID 2005, i.e., associated with a response PSID family in 2005 (in a few cases the child and his or her PSID family was non-response in 2003 but response in 2005);

• At least 18 years of age during the data collection period; and

• If 18 years old and living with parents or other caregivers, graduated from or no longer attending high school.

During sample development, we learned that one CDS youth had a severe health condition that prevented his ability to participate in the interview, per parental report in the 2005 PSID, and two CDS youths were incarcerated (IRB prohibits interviewing in prisons). Eighty-eight out of 309 (28.5%) CDS youths who were 18 years old and living at home with their parents were still in high school.

The sample was released in two batches (one at the start of the production period and the other, three weeks into production), as the PSID sample lines were finalized. The staggered release also aided in the mailings of respondent booklets.

Just prior to sample release for TA production, we reviewed all TA cases for which the main family had a non-interview result for PSID 2005. The purpose of the review was to exclude any TA sample members for whom the PSID family was highly upset or hostile during their own 2005 interview. The majority of the final PSID family refusals in 2005 were excluded from TA (n=10).

Part 2: Questionnaire Development and Mode

The TA question schedule built on measures from the adolescent module in CDS-II, relevant domains in the PSID main study, and new content appropriate for the subjects' developmental stage. Jacquelynne Eccles, Frank Stafford and Bob Schoeni led the development of the content, with input from special contributors such as John Schulenberg and Connie Flanagan. The questionnaire was programmed in Blaise. We conducted one pretest, in early July, 2005, to test the Blaise application functionality, questionnaire length, and the wording and flow of the questionnaire.

The TA data collection was designed as a computer-assisted telephone interview, conducted in the centralized interviewing facility at the Survey Research Center (SRC) at the University of Michigan. The sample management system in the SRC Telephone Facility offered advantages that were attractive to studies like TA that have hard-to-reach samples. The system provides easily accessible data on productivity by interviewer and by calling times, allowing us to make staffing and sample priority decisions on a weekly and sometimes daily basis. Sample could be prioritized based on sample characteristics or call attributes, which helped not only in juggling cases based on progress in PSID 2005 data collection and on late-year birthdays for the 18-year-old participants, but also based on contact outcomes during the TY data collection. Interviewers could be monitored in real-time, helping us to ensure that questions were read and probed properly, and that the respondent booklet was correctly used. The face-to-face meetings with interviewers at any time during production were invaluable, especially in helping to maintain morale during difficult periods of the study.

Part 3: Interviewing

In early September, 2005, we trained 14 interviewers from SRC's Telephone Facility on all aspects of the questionnaire and survey protocols. The ensuing data collection period spanned 19 weeks, from September 12, 2005 through February 2, 2006. The Facility was closed during most of the week of Thanksgiving (4 days), and for nearly two weeks (13 days) around the Christmas and New Year holidays. We were able to interview during one of the closed days in November and during four of the 13 closed days in December by making special arrangements.

Generally, the TA participants were contacted at the address obtained from the main PSID 2005 interviewing effort. At the end of the PSID main family interview, we asked the PSID respondent (who, about 10% of the time, was also the targeted TA sample member) if the TA-eligible individual could be reached at the PSID current main family address, and about 90% reported in the affirmative. During production,

this information proved very advantageous to our contact efforts; only 7% of the TA cases required tracking, and just a little over half of those were finalized as lost.

Among the 10% of TA individuals who would not be at the main PSID address in the fall of 2005, the PSID respondent was able to provide an address for approximately a third. Almost half of these required tracking, and contact was eventually made with all of them.

Overall, the contact information gathered in the PSID interview proved useful for TA 2005 and will be used for future TA data collections.

Based on family composition information collected in the main PSID interview, we were able to identify CDS youth living away at college. Just prior to the September interviewer training, a Research Assistant called these individuals to verify and/or collect an address and telephone number for the Fall of 2005. This effort allowed us to make contact directly with the youth prior to their moves and to avoid some gate-keeping and additional calls to the parents during production.

Section IV: Questionnaire Content

As Table 1 illustrates, the TA instrument provides a focus on traditional markers of the transition into adulthood: work, schooling, and family formation, as well as future occupational and educational expectations and values, key changes in responsibilities, time use, and life goals, peer groups, and psycho-social well-being. The domains are listed below.

TABLE 1: Measurement Domains in the 2005 Transition into Adulthood Supplement

Measurement Domain	Questions
Education	Current educational attainment; college preparation and entrance exams, college history (name/location of colleges attended, dates, degrees earned and worked towards, GPA, major); vocational training (details on training and dates); evaluation of college and vocational training experiences
Work & Wages	Current labor market details and prior work experiences in the past two years (occupation and industry, dates, work hours, earnings, benefits); experiences with job searches; military experiences (dates, MOS, college savings plan, career military); evaluation of current employment and training experiences
Income & Wealth	Income from transfer and asset income; financial assistance from parents and other relatives; value of personal vehicles, stocks, mutual funds, other investments, checking and savings accounts; credit card and student loan debt
Expectations	Efficacy for professional, public and performing arts careers, job values, career orientation, expectations for future work and schooling; negative economic expectations; achieved occupational certainty; achieved occupational identity; expected age for marriage or long-term committed relationship; chances for divorce; fertility expectations
Responsibilities	Self-rated level of responsibility for financial independence; ability to solve own problems; self-evaluation of skills in these areas

Measurement Domain	Questions
Skills and Abilities	Self-rated skills and abilities in: analytic thinking, problem solving, leadership, decision-making, working with others, math and science
Marriage, Cohabitation, and Dating	Current relationship status, (for married respondents) age at first marriage; (for non-married respondents) dating experiences—age at first date, frequency of dating, number of people dated, (for married/cohabitating/dating) subjective evaluation of relationships, self-rated importance of marriage
Child Rearing	Current parenting experiences and practices; self-evaluation of parenting abilities; expectations for parenthood and parenting abilities, gender role beliefs
Relationships with Parents	Closeness to, identity with, and time spent with own father and mother
Peer Influence	Characteristics of peer group, measured as deviant, instrumentally motivated, conventional, and socially involved peers
Discrimination	Daily experiences of and perceived reasons for discrimination
Psychological and Social Well-being	Flourishing; self-confidence; social integration; social identity; depression; worry; social anxiety; binge eating; thrill seeking behaviors; experiences of abuse; use of drugs and alcohol; experiences with illegal activities, arrests, and incarcerations
Health and Health Behaviors	Self-rated health; chronic conditions-whether have, age of onset, limitations related to the condition; obesity; health care utilization; nutritional habits, frequency of exercise, amount of sleep, tobacco use
Time Use	Participation in organized sports, arts, community-based volunteer activities, and religious activities; time spent reading, TV watching, using the Internet; time spent with family, friends, and romantic partners
Religiosity	Religious affiliation, spirituality, religious service attendance, importance of and comfort derived from religious identity and spirituality

Section V: Response Rates, Calling Effort and Interview Length

From the main PSID, 860 potentially eligible persons were selected for the TA supplement. Of those, 21 non-sample cases (i.e., the incarcerated and those on active military duty) reduced the base to 839 for a response rate of 88.8%. We found no rate differential across sample releases, and response was fairly consistent by age of respondent as well.

Case dispositions went through a final review process after data collection in order to determine the end-result for each case. The review, or "sample check", followed the same procedures used on the PSID main study, and codes were coordinated with the PSID disposition codes. In total, there were 745 interviews and 115 non-interview cases. Refusers comprised the largest share of the non-response cases (39 or 4.5%), followed very closely by sample members who were unable to be reached during the data collection period (38 or 4.4%). Most of the refusals experienced

during data collection were from the sample members themselves, although we did have parental gatekeepers. These parents were mainly unhappy PSID respondents and did not want their children "enlisted" in a life-long survey.

In summary, Table 2 delineates case counts of sample members who fell into each of the final status scenarios.

TABLE 2: Reasons for Non-Interview of TA Sample Members

	Non-Interview						Non-Sample		
Completed Interview	Refusal by R	Refusal By Family Member	Contact with Family Member but R Unavailable	Lost	Physical Condition	Office Error and Other	Incarcerated	Military	**TOTAL**
745	32	7	6	32	5	12	13	8	860

Part 1: Response Rate by Sample Type

Eligible TA youth were classified in the 2005 main PSID interview as either living at home with their parents or caregivers, still dependent on their parents or caregivers but living away at college, or living in their own family unit. We experienced very small response variability by sample type: 89.8% of CDS youth still living with their parents participated in the study, 90.4% of CDS youth living away at college took part, and 87.2% of CDS youth living on their own (PSID Heads/Wives/"Wives") responded.

Part 2: Response Rate Comparisons with Other Studies

Prior to the data collection period, we raised several concerns about the response rate feasibility for interviews with young adults. Concerns were as follows: (a) in the CDS-II, the adolescent cooperation rate was 84%, and potential continued interest and cooperation in young adult interviews could be even less; (b) making contact with young adults would be a challenge due to the likelihood of increased variability in their schedules compared to when they were tied to a secondary school calendar; (c) PSID splitoff experience has suggested a potential for gate-keeping by parents, making direct contact with the young adults difficult, especially those living away at college; (d) high geographic mobility, as suggested by CPS data, could pose tracking challenges; and (e) the newness of the study itself may hinder cooperation rates—initial waves typically result in lower response rates than subsequent data collections. Some of these a priori hypotheses were supported during data collection, but overall the response rate for TA was strong, particularly in comparison to other successful large scale surveys of young adults and in comparison to PSID splitoff response rates for the past four waves.

TABLE 3: Response Rates for Comparable Data Collections

Reference Samples	***Response Rates***
NLSY '79 Initial Young Adult	.83
NLSY '79 Young Adult Subsequent Waves	.83 - .88
Add Health Initial Young Adult	.76
PSID 2005 Split-Off Sample	.88
PSID 2003 Split-Off Sample	.83
PSID '99 – '01 Split-Off Sample	.82

Part 3: Calling Effort and Interview Length

The 2005 TA study experienced a high call level effort. A total of 3,355 interviewer hours were used to fully work all 860 sample cases.

Completed cases required an average (median) number of 9 calls per interview. Non-response cases, on the other hand, resulted in an average (median) number of 35 call attempts per case. The main contributor to the call effort was the number of contact attempts needed to reach the study participant at home. Unlike the completed cases, a larger discrepancy among sub-samples emerged for the non-response. Interviewers made approximately 5 times as many calls for the CDS youth who had established their own households or were living with parents, in comparison to those youth away at school.

Just under 10% of the cases went through "advanced tracking"—location efforts conducted by a special tracking team during production. Those tracking flagged sample lines had a tendency to recidivate—the team conducted repeated tracking throughout production with an approximate 50% success rate.

Resistance, on the other hand, was fairly low: the interviewers flagged 40 cases during the production period as providing some level of resistance. All resistant cases received a tailored letter, resulting in 32% conversion (for reference, the PSID splitoff conversion rate was 32%-37%).

The interview length, defined as the amount of time spent reading the voluntary participation statement, administering questions A1 through M14, and collecting address and contact information, averaged 57.3 minutes overall, although it varied significantly by sample type.

TABLE 4: Interview Length by Sample Type

OFUMs Away at College	62.0 minutes
OFUMs Living at Home	58.6 minutes
PSID Heads/Wives/"Wives"	43.8 minutes

This variation in length was partly due to questionnaire design (fewer questions were asked of the CDS youth living on their own), and partly due to differences in life experiences, which impacted questions asked about work and school histories.

Participants received $40 for a completed TA interview. Interviewers reported that the incentive was well-received, and did not suggest an increase in the incentive amount.

Section VI: Using TA Data

The TA data are freely accessible in the PSID web-based Data Center at http://simba.isr.umich.edu/

The data file contains 745 data records, one record for each response TA sample member.

Each record on the file has a unique, sequential identification number (TA050002). A total of 955 variables are included (TA050001-TA050955).

Part 1: Linking TA with Main PSID Data

The unique TA identification number mentioned in the preceding paragraph (TA050002) is ***not*** to be used for any linking with PSID data; it simply contains sequential values ranging from 1 through 745 based on the order in which the TA interviews were completed.

To link with 2005 PSID family data, match TA variable TA050003, the 2005 PSID Family Interview Number, with ER25002 on the main file. To link with the cross-year individual file, match TA variables TA050003 and TA050004, the 2005 Individual Sequence Number, with their counterparts on the individual file, ER33801 and ER33802.
To link to other waves of the PSID, match to the individual data as described immediately above. Since the individual file contains identifiers for all family data for each

individual, these values can be used to match with any year's family data. For example, to find information about the family in which the TA respondent was living in 2001, select ER33601, his or her 2001 Family Interview Number from the individual file, and match that with ER17002 on the 2001 family file.

Part 2: TA Heads/Wives/"Wives" and TA OFUMs

TA sample members belong to one of two main groups. The first, TA Heads/Wives/"Wives", is comprised of respondents who had become PSID heads/wives/"wives" by 2005. The second, TA OFUMs, were also PSID "Other Family Unit Members", individuals who had not established their own households by 2005 and still resided with parents or other relatives or were away at college or in the military. The variable TA050011 indicates the TA's position in the main PSID family unit in 2005.

Ninety-five TA respondents (12.8%) had become PSID heads, wives or "wives" by 2005. To minimize the burden of completing multiple interviews within weeks of each other, their TA questionnaires bypassed the domains of employment (Section E), income (Section F), a significant share of health (Section H) and a few other items, all recently provided by these respondents during the main PSID interview. That is to say, data on employment, income, health, etc. for these TA respondents was collected using the PSID instrument, but for the other 650 TA respondents (all of the TA OFUMs), the TA instrument was used.

Information for the TA heads, wives and "wives" was transferred from the main PSID interview to the equivalent TA variables. See Table 5 for a complete list of transferred items.

It is important to note that there are differences in the questions and codes used in these domains across the two instruments, and in some instances recoding for compatibility was impossible. In that case, the similar items were transferred to a separate set of variables in the TA data file (see Table 6 for a summation). Where recoding could produce identical items, codebook descriptions contain the details.

A very few questions in Sections E and H were neither asked of heads, wives, and "wives" in the TA interview nor included in the main PSID interview. An example is question E66 (TA050390). Values for heads, wives and "wives" were coded 9 if they otherwise fit the question sequence (i.e., if E64 was answered "yes"). Similar omissions also received values of 9 in lieu of 0.

Table 5: Equivalent Items Transferred from Main PSID for Head/Wife/"Wife" TAs

	TA question reference (variable name)	Transferred from
Section D beginning and ending marriage dates	D2-D3 (TA050070-TA050071 and TA050073-TA050074)	Most recent marriage record from the 1985-2005 Marriage History file (MH12-MH13 and MH9-MH10)
Section E employment status	E1-E3a (TA050127-TA050131)	Main PSID 2005 family file questions BC1, BC3-BC3a (ER25104-ER25106, ER25108-ER25109) for heads or questions DE1, DE3-DE3a (ER25362-ER25364, ER25366-ER25367) for wives/"wives"
Section E unemployment or out of labor force last year	E7-E8 (TA050132-TA050157	Main PSID 2005 family file questions BC7-BC8 (ER25306, ER25313-ER25325, ER25332-ER25343) for heads or questions DE7-DE8 (ER25564, ER25571-ER25583, ER25590-ER25601) for wives/"wives"
Section E unemployment or out of labor force year before last	E9 (TA050158-TA050183)	Unreleased PSID data for heads/wives/"wives"

Section E jobs	E6, E16-E46 for up to five jobs (TA050184-TA050364)	Main PSID 2005 family file questions BC6, BC16-BC46 (ER25110-ER25269) for heads or questions DE6, DE16-DE46 (ER25368-ER25527) for wives/"wives" for first four jobs; fifth job from unreleased PSID data
Section E employment history and job-seeking	E62-E64, E67 (TA050368-TA050371, TA050391-TA050393)	Main PSID 2005 family file questions BC62-BC64, BC67 (ER25346-ER25349, ER25358-ER25360) for heads or questions DE62-DE64, DE67 (ER25604-ER25607, ER25616-ER25618) for wives/"wives"
Section F prior-year income components	F38-F55d (TA050411-TA050558)	Main PSID 2005 family file questions G44a-G46c (ER26165-ER26212) and G25b-G27g (ER26000-ER26098) for heads or G53-G58 (ER26284-ER26315) and G59b-G60d (ER26333-ER26447) for wives/"wives"
Section G high school completion date	G2-G7 (TA050574-TA050583)	Main PSID 2005 family file questions K38-K43 (ER27307-ER27316) for wives/"wives" or L45-L50 (ER27403-ER26412) for heads
Section H health level	H1-H3 (TA050676-TA050678)	Main PSID 2005 family file, questions H1, H2, H4, (ER26990, ER26995, ER26997) for heads or H25, 26, 28 (ER27113, ER27118, ER27120) for wives/"wives"
Section H health conditions	H4-H13b (TA050679-TA050723)	H5d-H7e, H5g-H7g, H5k-H7m (ER27010-ER27017, ER27022-ER27025, ER27038-ER27055) for heads or H290d-H31e, H29g-H31g, H29k-H31m (ER27133-ER27140, ER27145-ER27148, ER27161-ER27178) for wives/"wives"
Section H nights in hospital	H20-H20a (TA050739-TA050740)	H8-H8a (ER27056-ER27058) for heads or H32-H32a (ER27179-ER2727181) for wives/"wives"
Section H weight and height	H21-H22 (TA050741-TA050743)	H22-H23 (ER27109-ER27111) for heads and H46-H47 (ER27232-ER27234) for wives/"wives"
Section H cigarette and alcohol use	H29-H39 (TA050757-TA050769)	H13-H21c (ER27098-ER27108) for heads or H37-H45c (ER27221-ER27231) for wives/"wives"
Section L hispanicity and race	L6-L7 (TA050883-TA050886)	K33a (ER27296-ER27299) for wives/"wives" or L39a (ER27392-ER27395) for heads

Table 6: Similar but not Equivalent Items Added to TA Data from Main PSID Data for Heads/Wives/"Wives"

TA Questions	TA Variables for OFUMs	TA Variables for Heads, Wives and "Wives", Transferred from Main PSID	Main PSID Questions and Variable Names
Recent activities to find a/another job, E65	TA050380-TA050389	TA050372-TA050379	BC64 (ER25350-ER25357) for heads or DE65 (ER25608-ER25615) for wives/"wives"
Levels of physical activity, H23a-H23c	TA050744-TA050746	TA050747-TA050752	H12a-H12c (ER27092-ER27097) for heads or H36a-H36c (ER27215-ER27220)

The PSID instrument generally asks more detail in each of these domains and uses an employment history calendar to obtain information on spells of labor force participation. The TA question sequences are very slightly abbreviated; for instance, information on vacations, sick days and other time off from work is absent, as are occupation components about union membership and whether the job is for government or in the private sector. A few items are unique to the TA employment section, such as E70 (TA050394), a question for those currently out of the labor force about reasons for not seeking employment and E40-E42 (TA050314–TA050319), current-year work weeks, hours and earnings.

The TA income sequence eliminates some main PSID questions about some very unlikely sources for TAs, such as alimony and retirement income. In the health conditions area, TA does not ask specifically about strokes, heart and lung diseases, arthritis, rheumatism or memory loss—all illnesses that are much more prevalent in older people; on the other hand, TA includes a few details about asthma (H4c-H4f/TA050682-TA050685), diabetes (H7a/TA050687), and smoking behavior (H29a/TA050758) that are not part of the main PSID.

In addition, the employment, income and health data collected for the TA heads, wives and "wives" is not concurrent with the time of collection of the remainder of their TA data, nor is it fully contemporaneous with the TA data of TA OFUMs. The heads, wives and "wives" provided information about employment and income between March and November 2005 and then responded to the remaining TA questions between September 2005 and March 2006, while the OFUMs answered all TA question during the latter period. To assist the user in dating these items, we include the month, day and year of the TA interview (TA050007-TA050009) for everyone and add values for the date of the main PSID interview (TA050012-TA050014) for TA heads, wives and "wives".

The PSID focuses on the entire family rather than just one individual, and respondent rules allow selection of either the head or the wife/"wife". In contrast, the TA study focuses on a targeted child from the 1997 CDS, and singles out this individual for the interview. So a TA respondent who is a PSID head, wife or "wife" may not have responded to the main PSID. In such an event, the employment, income, health, etc. data that are copied from the main PSID for TA heads, wives and "wives" may have been reported by a proxy respondent (i.e., the spouse) in PSID. For 2005, there were just three such cases.

Therefore, we caution the user to be aware of differences between data collected from the sample of heads/wives/"wives" and from OFUMs. Question text and mode (i.e., the event history calendar), timing of collection, and in some cases, the identity of the provider of the report all contribute to subtle disparities.

Section VII: Coding and Data Cleaning

After data collection was complete, open-ended questions were coded. An occupation and industry coding specialist was engaged to code job information using the 2000 Census categories. Other items, such as college majors, reasons for leaving school, activities related to the arts, and participation in political groups were coded by PSID staff.

In addition, the staff examined all responses of "other" for accompanying interviewer notes that could precipitate item recoding and perhaps even recoding of one or more related variables. A classic example is the time unit variable associated with almost every dollar amount in the questionnaire. If the time unit variable contained a value of 7, other, the solution might involve annualizing the value for the dollar amount as well as recoding the time unit value.

A value of 1 for any dollar or time amount variable is very suspicious. Because it is a rare legitimate response, PSID interviewers are instructed to enter this value and note the particulars if such an item needs computation or explanation, or doesn't fit the coding scheme. Examples might be the negative net worth of a financed car that could only sell for less than the remaining principal, or the gross receipts and expenses of a business. In the former case, we allow a negative value for the

car; in the latter case, the desired amount is the net proceeds.

PSID staff examined and resolved these values of 1 for the TA interviews. Occasionally the value was legitimate, but usually it required recoding.

Employment and non-employment spells throughout the prior calendar year were cross-checked to remove overlaps and inconsistencies with current employment status, and attempts were made to resolve job beginning and ending dates if those variables contained missing data values (entered as "don't know" or "refused" during interviewing).

If the TA individual was the head, wife or "wife" of a PSID family and data were to be copied from the main interview, cross-checking of related TA information with the main interview was needed. For example, TA question D1 (TA050069) collects marital status for everyone, but beginning and ending months and years were skipped for heads, wives and "wives" with the expectation that the main interview would supply values for these items. But since the TA interview was begun several weeks or months after the PSID interview was completed, marital status could have changed in the interval, and in more than a dozen cases it did. To rectify the inconsistency, alterations were made to the month-year variables in the TA interview. At the very least, they received missing data values of 9s, and sometimes interviewer notes and observations allowed for a full coding of dates. High school completion was treated similarly; G1 (TA050573), whether graduated from high school, got a GED, or completed neither, was asked but dates and grade levels completed were pulled from the main PSID interview. Missing data codes were assigned if the discrepancy could not be resolved with the main interview information.

Section VIII: Generated Variables and Additional Data

A number of variables that are not strictly part of the questionnaire were created for the TA data. These include location information, scales, education and marital status summaries, parental education information, earnings for the 2004 calendar year, and weights.

Location variables on the public release file consist of the state of residence (TA050005), geographical region (TA050952) and the FIPS-Beale Rural-Urban Continuum Code (TA050953) at the time of the TA interview. Confidential location data (county of residence and geocodes) are available by special contract through PSIDHELP@isr.umich.edu.

Fifteen behavioral, health and attitudinal indexes were generated. Six of them had been developed for the 1992 wave of the Michigan Study of Adolescent and Adult Life Transitions (MSALT) by Jacqueline Eccles. These are financial responsibilities (TA050931), worry and social anxiety (TA050932-TA050933), and parenting efficacy and closeness to the R's parents (TA05940-TA050942). Information about MSALT is located at http://www.rcgd.isr.umich.edu/msalt/home.htm.

Section M was comprised of questions from the Midlife in the United States (MIDUS) study that allowed creation of a Languishing-Flourishing scale (TA050934) and three subscales, emotional, social and psychological well-being (TA050935-TA050937).

Two other indexes measure mental health. One is the K6 non-specific psychological distress scale (TA050938) developed by Dr. Ronald Kessler, Professor of Healthcare Policy at Harvard Medical School, for use in the National Health Interview Survey. The remaining scale (TA050939) sums six questions from the 1997 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth regarding risky behaviors.

A single scale (TA050943) measures everyday discrimination. The questions comprising this index were taken the National Survey of American Life (NSAL) led by Dr. James S. Jackson of the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

Body mass index (TA050944) and its percentile status (TA050945) were calculated from H21 and H22, reported weight and height. The formula and details of these variables' generation are included in their codebook descriptions.

A group of five variables concerning education were built. The first concerns the TA respondent's school enrollment status in

combination with achieved educational level (TA050946). It is followed by two sets of variables about parents' education, one set for each parent.

Using the PSID's Parent Identification File (PID), parents who had ever been in the study were located on the cross-year individual file. The most recent education information available on this file was used for years of completed education (TA050947 for mother and TA050949 for father). Variables indicating the wave in which parental education was most recently asked (TA050948 for mother and TA050950 for father) were constructed for two reasons. Firstly, parents may have become nonresponse at some time during the lifetime of the TA child. And secondly, even if the parent is currently in the PSID, education is not asked in every wave for PSID heads, wives and "wives", many of whom are likely to be parents of TA sample members. Because of these time lags between the last known educational level and the present, the recency indicators highlight that the parental levels should be used with some degree of caution and may not reflect current reality.

The TA's current marital status and cohabitation situation were jointly recoded to create a combined-status variable (TA050951) that, in the absence of family listing information at the time of the TA interview, is a useful tool for deducing current living situation.

Annual earnings (TA050954) were calculated from the TA's reports of employment during the prior calendar year (2004) from amounts and time units as given at question E46 for each job (TA050220-TA050221, TA050255-TA050256, TA050290-TA050291, TA050325-TA050326, and TA050360-TA050361) and then summed. No attempts were made to impute missing amounts; if any of the earnings variables contained missing data, then the total was computed as missing.

Earnings for 2003 were not asked as part of the TA interview. Since current-year (2005) earnings are incomplete, they were not annualized; almost all of the interviews were taken during 2005, which creates a shifting time frame problem for comparison purposes.

Weights for TA 2005 (TA050955) were derived from the original 1997 CDS weights. For generation and other details, see http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/, select 'Data & Documentation', then select 'Sample Weights', select 'TA Weights', and "The 2005 PSID Transition to Adulthood Supplement (TA) Weights".