The Transition into Adulthood Study
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The Child Development Supplement
Transition into Adulthood Study 2007
User Guide

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Chapter 1 – An Introduction to the TA study

Bridging a Gap

The "CDS Youth's Transition into Adulthood" (TA) study is part of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) and its Child Development Supplement (CDS). The TA study was initiated to bridge a gap between the data collected in the PSID, primarily on adults who have started their own families, and the data collected in the CDS supplement on co-resident children up to age 18.

Although the PSID collects some information about all co-resident members of PSID families, the greatest detail is collected on the head and wife (or "wife," a female cohabiter of at least a year). Data include education, income, employment, health, fertility, household expenditures, and more. The CDS collects information on the children of PSID families up to age 18, looking at health, well-being, cognition, relationships, and early human capital formation. Without the Transition to Adulthood study, this configuration would result in a large gap in information about offspring between their last CDS interview in adolescence and their first interview as a PSID head or wife, a loss of significant information about early adult transitions.

Unlike 42 years ago when the PSID first started, many transitions into adulthood are made while the young adults are still dependent on their parents. In the past several decades in particular, the U.S. and other countries have seen a pronounced prolongation of young adulthood, with youth no longer moving quickly from secondary education into the labor force and independent economic living. For today's young adults, the years from age 18 to 24 are critical for life span development. It is during this period that they make major investments in education, and plan and initiate their careers. For the PSID, this means that important educational and occupational transitions are often made while young adults are too old to be included in the CDS, and many years before they become eligible to be interviewed as PSID family heads and wives.

In fact, based on data from the PSID, less than half of young adults will become heads or wives of their own PSID family before they reach 24 years of age.

The launching of the TA study was motivated by recognition that these years of young adulthood are marked by choices, changes, and transitions that have profound life-long consequences. The TA study was first conducted in 2005, was collected again in 2007, and will be collected biennially in parallel to the PSID data collection until at least 2011.

The TA study was designed to build on the information collected from children when they were interviewed as adolescents in the CDS-II, and to ensure the data complement the information that will be collected when these 18 to 24 year olds are interviewed in future waves of the core PSID. Therefore, understanding the Transition into Adulthood study requires, familiarity with the design and content of the core PSID and CDS data collection projects, brief descriptions of which are provided below.

Overview of PSID and CDS

The Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) is a longitudinal survey of a nationally representative sample of U.S. families. Since 1968, the PSID has collected data on family composition changes, housing and food expenditures, marriage and fertility histories, employment, income, wealth, time spent in housework, health, expenditures, philanthropy, and more. Over 60,000 people have ever participated in the panel, which includes up to four generations within a family. The PSID is the longest running panel on family dynamics and is considered one of the most important data archives in the world.

The PSID follows adults through the full life course. Children born to an original-sample member are classified as sample members and are eligible for tracking as separate family units when they set up their own households.

The PSID now is conducted every other year by telephone, with data collection commencing in March and ending by December of odd years.

In 1997, PSID initiated the Child Development Supplement (CDS) to collect additional data on children, age 0-12, and their parents. The objective of this supplement was to allow researchers to study the dynamic process of early human capital formation. The CDS-I collected data on 2,394 PSID families and their 3,563 children. In 2002-2003, CDS-II re-contacted these families, and successfully re-interviewed 2,017 of them (91%), which provided data on 2,908 children/adolescents aged 5-18 years. The data collection activities for CDS-I, II, and III were quite extensive. Within the context of family, neighborhood, and school environments, CDS gathered information about a broad array of developmental outcomes including (but not limited to) physical health, emotional well-being, cognitive abilities and academic achievements, and social relationships with family and peers. Each CDS target child could have up to eight modules of data collected from three different family members (primary and secondary caregivers and target child) and a school resource (teacher and/or school administrative data).

Because the CDS is a supplement to the PSID, the study takes advantage of an extensive amount of family demographic and economic data about the CDS target child's family, providing more extensive family data than any other nationally-representative longitudinal survey of children and youth in the U.S.

It is anticipated that many of these CDS youth will eventually become the future 'active panel' of the core PSID when they move from their parents' home and establish households of their own. Under the current design, data will be collected on these youth at up to three points in time until age 18, then biennially from age 18 to 24 under the TA study, and then at around age 25 or whenever independence is established, by the core PSID. This rich and broad set of data will provide information on family background, early human capital development, investments in education and careers in early adulthood, transitions into adult family formation.

Chapter 2 – An Overview of TA File Structures

The TA questionnaire is separated into 12 sections, each of which refers to a specific section of interview content. A summary of each section is provided below.

<u>Section A: Time Use</u>

In Section A, we measure the time respondents spent on a select number of leisure and social activities. The items that ask about involvement in organized arts and sport, TV watching, reading, and computer use are items repeated from the CDS, permitting time-series analysis of activity patterns in these areas. In other sections we ask about time spent in additional activities, as well as time spent with friends, family, and romantic partners. The questions in this section ask about frequency of participation in the previous 12 months.

<u>Section B: Responsibilities</u>

In this brief section, we assess the level of responsibility that the respondent assumes for living arrangements and money management, including earning their own living, paying rent or mortgage, paying their bills, and managing their money. Respondents are asked to rate their abilities to manage their money and solve day-to-day problems.

In addition, information about living arrangements during a typical school year and summer is collected. For respondents who spent most of their time living at their parents' home, we ask about the expected timing of moving out. For those living at college or on their own we ask questions about the likelihood of moving back in with their parents.

<u>Section C: Self</u>

Section C consists of self-rated levels of skill in areas such as leadership, intelligence, independence, confidence, and problem solving, as well as self-rated psychosocial measures on worries and discouragement.

<u>Section D: Marriage, Family, and Relationships</u>

This section measures the current marital and cohabitation status of the individual and subjective evaluations of all romantic/intimate relationships, asking questions about living arrangements,relationship satisfaction, time spent with partner, future expectations, and the likelihood of marriage and/or divorce. Information is collected on past and present pregnancies and fertility expectations, gender roles, child rearing and family values, and parenting skills and experiences. Respondents are also asked about their relationship with their own parents to provide repeated measures from the CDS.

Respondents living at home or away at college are asked all questions in this section; respondents living on their own as PSID heads and/or wives are not asked questions about the timing of any spousal death or divorce, or when they began living with their current partner, as these are covered in their main PSID 2007 interview.

Section E: Employment

This section collects detailed information on current employment status and all types of employment and money-earning activities for the previous two years. Data are collected on salary/wages, work hours, experience, size and nature of the employer, service in any armed forces branch, reasons for being unemployed and/or not working, and methods and frequencies of job hunting. Self-rated satisfaction measures are also obtained.

A new question series was added in 2007 (E30C-E32) to capture information about the rate of health insurance coverage among young adults.

Respondents living at home or away at college are asked all questions in this section; however, those living on their own are asked only questions on participation in the armed services, as other employment information is obtained in their main PSID 2007 interview.

Sections F and W: Income and Wealth

In Section F, we collect information on income earned in the previous year from non-employment sources, including workers and unemployment compensation, dividends, interest, trust funds, child support, welfare, and gifts. We also ask about financial help received from parents and other relatives. A short series of questions measures estimated net worth in automobiles, stocks and bonds, checking and savings accounts, life insurance policies, and any other assets and investments. Information on student loans, credit card balances, and other debts is also collected.

Respondents living with their parents or away at college are asked all questions in this section; respondents living on their own are only asked the questions pertaining to wealth, as their income and business holdings information is gathered in their main PSID 2007 interview.

Section G: Education and Career Goals

In Section G, we gather information about the amount and dates of education, starting with high school completion or GED attainment, high school GPA, and experience with college entrance exams. We ask if the respondent ever attended or is currently attending college. For those who have had some college experience, we ask about vocational education, or any training, including on-the-job, that results in skills and certification for employment. For those currently involved in vocational education, we ask about the amount of time spent per week in training, type of training, and reason for training in four categories: job advancement, job requirement, licensing or certification, or future job.

In this section, as well as in the military sequence in Section E, we ask how education, vocational training, military training, or current work experiences fit into the respondent's overall career plans, with four questions on respondent's satisfaction with current schooling/training/work, and views on the expected usefulness of the schooling/training/work in fulfilling long-term career plans, obtaining employment or another job, or having greater job success.

Toward the end of Section G, we focus on future expectations. We assess respondents' expectations for getting stable, well-paying jobs in the future; we ask them if they think life for them will be more difficult than it was for their parents at their age; and we ask them to describe the job they would like to have at age 30, including what type of work it involves, why they aspire to it, how successful they feel they will be at this job, and the likelihood of actually attaining it.

Finally, the respondent is asked to describe his or her strengths and weaknesses in a number of job skills and characteristics of desirable jobs.

Pathing for Section G is fairly straightforward: respondents living at home and those away at college are asked all questions in this section; respondents living on their own are not asked the questions pertaining to their secondary education or graduation from high school, since these items are already queried in the main PSID interview.

Section H: Health

This section begins with a self-rated measure of the individual's overall health and determines if he or she has or has ever been diagnosed with any chronic illnesses/conditions such as asthma, diabetes, hypertension, cancer, or mental health condition. For each condition, we ask age first diagnosed and limitations on normal daily activities that result from the condition. We then ask a short series of questions about psychological distress both in the past 30 days and past 12 months. These questions are parallel to those asked in the main PSID instrument.

Section H also asks about routine visits to the doctor and dentist, body weight, and lifestyle practices such as exercising, diet and nutrition, smoking, binge drinking, use of illegal drugs, and misuse of prescription medicines.

This section includes 13 questions (H50-H53F) about sexual relationships and practices.

Respondents living on their own skip the first part of the section, since the questions are collected in the main PSID interview, and start with health behaviors.

Section K: Social Environment

Section K includes five series of questions addressing everyday discrimination, peer influence, assault, risky behavior, and encounters with the law.

Day-to-day encounters with discrimination are measured by asking about frequency of experiencing various discriminatory situations. If a respondent indicates one or more, we ask about the perceived reason for the discriminatory experience.

Peer influence is examined through a set of questions about characteristics of friends at school and work, family and interpersonal relationships, community involvement, and general outlook or attitudes about the future.

We ask about whether ever assaulted, and age at which the event happened.

The items concerning dangerous and risky behaviors include fighting, damaging property, drunk driving, and unprotected sex. We ask how often the respondent engaged in each behavior in the prior six months. Incidences of arrest, probation, and jail time are measured separately through questions on when and why the offense(s) occurred.

All respondents, whether living at home, away at college, or on their own, get the same set of questions in this section.

Section L: Religiosity/Race & Ethnicity

In this brief section, we ask about current religious preferences and the importance of religion and spirituality. Standard race and ethnicity items from the Census are also asked. Two religion questions in this section are not asked of respondents living on their own, as these are covered in the PSID main study interview.

Section M: Outlook on Life

The TA interview ends with a short series of questions tapping into subjective evaluations regarding one's self and society.

Chapter 3 – The TA 2007 Sample

Eligibility criteria for participants in the TA 2007 sample are listed below and explained in more detail thereafter:

1. they are at least 18 years old
2. they no longer attend high school
3. they participated in the CDS-I or CDS-II interview (1997 or 2002/2003)
4. their family participated in the PSID 2007 interview

Education and Age

For the TA study, the transition into the adulthood developmental period is defined as commencing once high school education ends and the individual reaches age 18. Former CDS participants turning 18 within calendar year 2007 were contacted for an initial screening to determine if they were willing to complete a CDS or a TA interview. Those who agreed and were still in high school became part of the CDS-III sample, and those who had graduated were interviewed as part of the TA study.

Member in the CDS Cohort

All TA sample members had a completed family-level baseline interview at CDS-I in 1997. This means that at least the primary caregiver of the TA sample member completed an interview about that child. The TA sample members may have also participated in an educational assessment and interview, but it was not required.

About 90% of the TA sample members also had a family-level interview completed in 2002/2003 for CDS-II. For these participants, we have at least a second primary caregiver interview, and for about 80%, we have their participation in an assessment, interview, and/or a time diary as well.

Response in PSID 2007

Individuals were included in the TA 2007 sample if their family provided a completed PSID family interview in 2007. This approach differed from the strategy followed in the first wave of the TA study in 2005, in which sample members were considered eligible for the TA 2005 sample even if their families were non-response in PSID 2005.

Based on the sample definition, a total of 1,312 individuals were identified for the TA 2007 survey. Due to the concurrent data collection period for PSID 2007 and TA 2007, 40 individuals who were initially deemed ineligible because of nonresponse on the main PSID 2007 family interview were found to be eligible after the interviewing period had ended.

The fielded sample size for the TA 2007 was 1,259, released in four replicates as shown in Table 1 below. During data collection, 11 cases were determined to be ineligible (incarcerated or deceased respondents), and 1,118 were ultimately completed as interviews, resulting in a

90% response rate for the field effort.[1] Following the editing process for the main PSID 2007, 3 additional TA 2007 interviews were invalidated, bringing the final count associated with data released to 1,115. Table 2 provides the final disposition for the total sample of 1,312 cases, whether released for field work or not.

Table 1. Sample Releases

Sample Size	Description
798	Replicate 1 was released in August 2007. It contained TA-eligible participants 19+ years of age, culled from PSID 2007 completed interviews.
202	Replicate 2 was released in mid-October 2007. It contained TA-eligible participants 19+ years of age, culled from PSID 2007 completed interviews.
145	Replicate 3 was released in mid-December 2007. It contained 36 from PSID 2007; 109 from Screener.
70	Replicate 4 was released in mid-January 2008. It contained 64 from PSID 2007; 6 from Screener.
44	Replicate 4 was released when PSID was closed out in late January 2008. It contained 27 from PSID 2007; 17 from Screener.

[1] For cumulative response rate, refer to the technical report located at http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/data/weights.

Table 2. Sample Disposition

Sample Count	Description
1312	Total initial TA 2007 sample
1115	Interview with eligible sample individual
73	Refusal by the sample individual; partial/passive refusal; deliberate avoidance of interviewer (e.g., always too busy, repeated broken appointments, or failure to return calls)
13	Sample individual lost; tracking efforts exhausted
6	Sample individual incapacitated, had a permanent health condition, or institutionalized for health or mental reasons
1	Sample individual deceased after PSID interview completed but before TA interview
23	Some household member contacted, but eligible respondent not available to do interview; appointment broken, but no evidence of deliberately avoiding interview
14	Refusal by someone other than the sample individual
5	Sample individual away on military leave, in job corps, or in a non-detention facility
1	Sample individual resided outside the US or in a remote area and was uncontactable (e.g., no telephone)
9	Sample individual incarcerated or in a youth, group, or detention home/center
40	Sample individual initially thought to be ineligible because of nonresponse, but discovered to be a resident in a response sample family after the interviewing period had ended
12	Office error -- insufficient or inappropriate calls made, no mention of refusal

Chapter 4 – The TA 2007 Sample Weight

To account for differential probabilities of selection due to the original PSID sample design and subsequent attrition, the 2007 Transition to Adulthood (TA 2007) data are provided with a sample weight. The construction of the TA 2007 sample weight is described in the document.

Sample Transition from CDS-I to TA 2007

The young adults interviewed for the TA 2007 study were originally part of the sample of PSID families with young children (age 0-12 years) that were interviewed for the first wave of the Child Development Supplement (CDS-I). Data collection for CDS-I was completed in 1997, when most of the TA-2007 young adults were between 8 and 12 years old.

Of the 3,563 children who participated in the original CDS-I interview in 1997, 1,472 would have been projected to be eligible for participation in TA 2007.[2] Table 3 provides the disposition of these 1,472 cases in the TA 2007 sample. Of the projected eligible participants, which excludes deceased (n=9) and non-sample individuals (n=24), 1,115 resulted in completed interviews, resulting in a cumulative response rate of 77%.[3] See Chapter 5 for a description of the TA 2007 wave-specific response rate (90%) and data collection procedures and outcomes.

Table 3. TA 2007 Sample Disposition

		N
No longer eligible	Not a sample person	24
	Deceased	9
	Subtotal	*33*
Non-response	Non-response before the 2007 interview	126
	Non-response in 2007	181
	Difficult to access/outside of the US	17
	Subtotal	*324*
Response		1115
	Subtotal	*1115*
Total		*1472*

[2] For specific eligibility criteria for TA 2007 refer to Chapter 3 of the User Guide (http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/CDS/TA07-UserGuide.pdf).
[3] Here, cumulative response rate is defined as a ratio of the number of cases that were successfully interviewed in 2007 to the number of cases that were projected to be eligible for TA 2007 as of 1997, excluding deceased and non-sample individuals.

Methodological Approach

Sample survey data are typically provided with weights designed to compensate for unequal probabilities of sample selection and non-response or data that is missing at random (MAR; Little and Rubin, 2002).[4] These weights are inversely proportional to the probability that each observation is selected and, conditional on selection, that individuals respond to the survey questions. With longitudinal data, this joint probability at time *t*, where the study has started at *t-1* or earlier, can be expressed as the following

$$P(S_t=1)=P(S_{t-1}=1)*P(R_t=1|S_{t-1}=1) \qquad (1)$$

where S_t is an indicator of participation in a study at time *t* and R_t is an indicator of response at time *t.* The probability of being a participant at time *t* is a product of the probability of participating in the previous period and the conditional probability of response in the current period. As the first term on the right hand side of *(1)* is proportional to the reciprocal of the weight in the previous period, the weight in the current period is a product of the weight in previous period and the inverse of probability of response (the second term on the right hand side of *(1)*). We will refer to $1/ P(R_t=1|S_{t-1}=1)$ as the attrition adjustment factor.

TA 2007 Individual Weight

The TA 2007 individual weight is designed to account for the differential attrition between CDS-I (in 1997) and TA 2007, that is: *t*=2007 and *t-1*=1997. Thus, the TA 2007 weight is a product of the CDS-I weight – the individual-level primary caregiver/child weight (i.e., the weight variable named 'CH97PRWT') – and the attrition adjustment factor.[5]

To obtain the attrition adjustment factor, the probability that a sample person was non-response in the TA 2007 was estimated from the logistic regression model using observations from the Response and Non-response strata (see Table 3. The obtained estimates are reported in Table 4. The results indicate that attrition was higher among immigrants and those who resided in non-metropolitan areas at the time of the CDS-I interview. The resulting attrition adjustment factor is an inverse of the predicted probability of successful re-interview, which is 1 minus the estimated probability of non-response.

[4] Little, R.J.A. and Rubin, D.B. (2002). Statistical Analysis With Missing Data, 2nd Edition. John Wiley & Sons, New York.
[5] For the description of the 1997 CDS weights construction see http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/CDS/weightsdoc.html

Table 4. Logistic Regression Estimates of Non-response in TA 2007, Conditional on CDS-I Characteristics

	Estimate		Std. Error
Intercept	1.6362	***	0.6059
SRC sample* (0/1)	-0.3044		0.3336
SEO sample* (0/1)	-0.3159		0.3432
Child is Male (0/1)	0.4301	***	0.1323
Child's Age, 1997 PSID Core Interview	-0.1442	***	0.0368
Child is White (0/1)	-0.8251	***	0.2942
Child is Black (0/1)	-0.8645	***	0.2943
Age of Head <= 30 (0/1)	-0.236		0.2585
Age of Head= 31-45 (0/1)	-0.3581	**	0.1789
Head is Male (0/1)	-0.6158	***	0.1829
Head Has No High School Degree (0/1)	0.5404	**	0.2482
Head Has High School Degree (0/1)	0.7673	***	0.2243
Head Has Some College (0/1)	0.2609		0.2387
Head Is Employed (0/1)	-0.5148	***	0.1889
Family Income 1st quartile (0/1)	-0.5394	**	0.2672
Family Income 2nd quartile (0/1)	-0.3365		0.2257
Family Income 3rd quartile (0/1)	-0.0869		0.1966
Northeast Region (0/1)	0.2569		0.2579
North Central Region (0/1)	0.1095		0.2381
South Region (0/1)	0.2389		0.2207
SMSA (0/1)	-0.0513		0.1429
Summary statistics			
N:	1439		
Response profile:			
Non-response	324		
Response	1115		
Likelihood Ratio:			
Chi-squared	94.18		
DF	20		
P-value	0		

* The initial 1968 PSID sample was drawn from two independent samples: a nationally representative sample of about 3,000 households designed by the Survey Research Center (the "SRC sample") and an over-sample of about 2,000 low income families from the Survey of Economic Opportunity (the "SEO sample").

As the final step in the weight development, the newly constructed TA 2007 weight was censored to reduce the influence of extreme weight values on the variances of sample estimates of population statistics. The cases with the weight values in the top percent and in the bottom percent of the weight distribution were assigned values corresponding to the 99th and 1st percentiles of the weight distribution, respectively. Table 5 reports key summary statistics for the final TA 2007 individual weight.

Table 5. Summary Statistics

	TA 2007 Individual Weight
N	1115
MIN	1.02
MAX	82.1
MEAN	18.5
STD	16.2

To examine the properties of the TA 2007 weight, we compared weighted estimates for some basic demographic, geographic, and socioeconomic variables in CDS-I data – based on the CDS-I sub-sample that satisfies the eligibility requirements for TA 2007, and weighted with the CDS I weight – to the estimates derived for the same variables measured in 1997, but based on the smaller TA 2007 interview sample and weighted with the TA 2007 weight. The results provided in Table 6 show that the distributions of the selected characteristics are similar in the TA 2007 eligible sub-sample of CDS-I and in TA 2007 interview sample, suggesting that the attrition adjustment for the TA 2007 weight compensates for potential attrition bias for variables included in the analysis. It is important to note, however, that this comparison does not necessarily rule out the possibility of selection bias associated with other characteristics of the respondents.

The final TA 2007 weight is stored in the variable TA070937.

Table 6. Comparison of CDS-I Estimates Based on CDS-I Sub-sample Using the CDS-I Weight with Estimates Based on TA 2007 Sample Using the TA 2007 Weight

		CDS-I Weight		TA 2007 Weight		
		N	Percent	N	Percent	Ratio
		[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[2]/[4]
Total		1472	100	1115	100	1.00
Region	Northeast	204	17.7	155	17.6	1.01
	North Central	355	23.9	278	24.2	0.99
	South	686	34.7	511	34.2	1.01
	West	227	23.8	171	24.0	0.99
Immigrant sample	Non-IMM	1349	85.6	1034	84.9	1.01
	IMM	123	14.4	81	15.1	0.95
MSA	Non-MSA	643	48.3	488	48.5	1.00
	MSA	829	51.7	627	51.5	1.00
Education of Head	No High School Diploma	323	18.9	229	19.1	0.99
	High School Diploma Only	546	33.6	394	32.3	1.04
	Some College	326	21.7	258	22.1	0.98
	College or More	277	25.8	234	26.5	0.97
Age of Head	30 or younger	145	7.9	95	7.7	1.03
	31-45	1075	75.1	839	75.0	1.00
	46 or older	252	17.0	181	17.2	0.99
Gender of Head	Female	447	22.7	314	22.6	1.00
	Male	1025	77.3	801	77.4	1.00
Race of Head	Non-Black	840	83.4	644	83.9	0.99
	Black	632	16.6	471	16.1	1.03

Chapter 5 – Data Collection Procedures

This chapter provides an overview of the data collection protocols for the TA 2007 collection year.

Contacting Respondents

A sample management system was used to collect information on selected eligible participants for the TA 2007 study. Pre-notification letters announcing the study and a respondent booklet was sent to all eligible sample members. The respondent booklets were not always used if the respondent was reached to do an interview and the respondent booklet was not available (either had not arrived, or was misplaced).

Busy schedules, caller ID, and cell phones were the main obstacles in reaching and scheduling interviews with these young adults. To maximize our chances of making contact, we amended our field procedures in several ways. We offered a cell phone reimbursement of $10 to offset the cost of extra minutes used to complete the interview by cell phone. We authorized calls beyond the end of the last call window (9:00 pm) to reach respondents who were not available until later in the day, assigning a "night owl" interviewer in the Eastern Time zone to make late calls to the Mountain and Pacific zones. Finally, interviewers enlisted contact persons (usually parents) to help determine the best time to reach respondents. In some instances, parents called respondents to let them know we were trying to reach them so they would recognize and answer the call when viewed on Caller ID.

Quality Control

The Quality Control Plan for the TA data collection consisted of three components: Certification, Verification, and Evaluation. Certification consisted of interviewer training immediately followed by a practice interview. This ensured that all field staff received appropriate training on the TA interview instrument and were able to complete the interview professionally and according to the study protocol. Verification of interview data was conducted by comparing answers obtained from respondents in follow-up telephone calls to answers received in the original interview. Evaluation of the field interviewers' adherence to general interviewing techniques and study-specific protocols was conducted via review of taped interviews by data collection staff.

Respondent Payments

All respondent payments were handled by project staff using an internal system. Participants were either paid by check or money order. Each respondent received $40 for the completion of an interview and could also be reimbursed an additional $10 if their interview was done via cell phone.

Results of Data Collection Effort

- Data Collection Response Rate: 90%
- Completed Interviews: 1,118 of 1,248 released sample cases
    - Sample who still resided with main PSID family as an “other family unit member” but lived at college: 180
    - Sample who still resided with main PSID family as an “other family unit member” living with parents: 668
    - Sample who formed independent PSID family units as Head/Wife/”Wife”: 270
- Average interview length: 62.08 minutes

Chapter 6 – TA 2007 Interview Content

As in TA 2005, the interview content for TA 2007 was sub-divided into sections. Sections A (Time Use), E (Employment), and H and L (Health) were all updated for 2007. This chapter highlights all new content.

Section A – Time Use

The variable A14OS was added to the group of time use questions as follows:

> A14OS - Which types of organizations have you been involved with in your volunteer or community service work in the last 12 months?

This allows for the respondent to add an answer if they do not find an appropriate response among the choices provided for this type of activity.

Section E – Employment

Four new questions ask about the duration and type of unemployment. E7B and E8B ask respondents how much of 2006 they spent unemployed, and how they split their time between looking and not looking for work. E9B and E9G are the same questions, but in reference to 2005. Since the interview was conducted before the end of 2007, the information about 2007 and 2008 will be collected during the TA-09 interview.

A new line of questions (E30A-E30G) on employer-provided health care coverage was also added in 2007, asking about the availability and types coverage, and the respondent's participation.

Also added in 2007 were work duration questions. Variables E40_1, E43_1, E58, and E60 ask about the specifics of work schedules including average hours worked per week, and number of weeks worked per year. These questions were asked of 2005 and 2006, the years passed since the last TA collection during 2005.

Section H – Health

A more comprehensive assessment of sexual activity was collected in the TA 2007 interview with the following questions, emanating from a positive answer to H50:

H50 - Have you ever had sexual intercourse?

H51A - In what year and month did you have sexual intercourse for the first time?

H51B - In what month did you have intercourse for the first time?

H51C - Have you had intercourse more than once?

H51D - About how many times have you had sexual intercourse in the past four weeks?

H51E - How many partners have you EVER had intercourse with? This includes any person you had intercourse with, even if it was only once, or if you did not know him or her well.

H52 - Thinking of all the times you have had sexual intercourse, about how often have you and your partner used a condom?

Relatedly, respondents who answer H50 in the affirmative are subsequently asked about birth control pill use (for female respondents) as well as sexually transmitted diseases (testing and diagnosis) in questions L53-L53F.

For full information on these new variables, please see the TA 2007 codebook.

Coding of Variables

The 2000 Census Occupation/Industry codes (3-digit) were applied to the occupation and industry reported by TA respondents in all completed interviews. There was an average of 2.2 instances of jobs per respondent. Check coding was conducted on 10% of cases by a PSID staff member. The application used for coding was developed and maintained by PSID staff.

Chapter 7 – PSID Data Resources

As described in Chapter 1, the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) is a longitudinal survey of a nationally representative sample of U.S. families. The PSID data archive, spanning more than four decades of data collection, contains nearly 50,000 variables on a diverse set of topics, including the dynamics of family composition change, marital and birth histories, housing, income, wealth, welfare participation, health status of family members, expenditures, philanthropy, and more. Over 60,000 people have ever participated in the panel, which includes up to four generations within a family. The PSID is the longest running panel study on family and individual (including child) dynamics and has consistently achieved wave-to-wave re-interview response rates of 96-98%. More information about the study and its instruments can be obtained from the PSID website: http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/. The PSID bibliography provides references to studies using the data for many research topics (key word index provided): http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Publications/Bibliography/default.aspx .

Users of TA data will find the rich source of family data from the main PSID provides an incredible opportunity to explore family environmental factors in your analyses of child outcomes. In this chapter, our goal is to provide TA data users with some basic information about the PSID sample, interview content, public and sensitive data contract file, and data structure.

The PSID Sample

The original 1968 PSID sample was drawn from two independent samples: a nationally representative sample of roughly 3,000 households designed by the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan (the "SRC sample") and an over-sample of roughly 2,000 low income families from the Survey of Economic Opportunity (the "SEO 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. Since 1997, interviewing has taken place every other year. Also in 1997, the PSID added an immigrant refresher sample that was intended to bring the sample up to representativeness of immigration into the U.S. since 1968.

The PSID follows adults through the full life course. Children born to an original-sample member are classified as sample members and are eligible for tracking as separate family units when they set up their own households. Adult sample members who move out of the PSID family units are tracked to their new family units. This procedure replicates the population's family-building activity and produces a dynamic sample of families each year. New PSID families form when children grow up and establish separate households. The unique self-replacing design implies that for many PSID families, the data include self-reported information on three, and sometimes four, generations within the same family at various points in their life course.

The PSID has collected a unique data set covering economic conditions, family composition changes, well-being, and health over multiple generations in a sample representative of the full U.S. population. More information on what constitutes a 'sample member' and their 'follow status' can be found here: http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Guide/FAQ.aspx#95.

PSID Content

As touched on above, the PSID contains a large number of variables that have been measured wave after wave in much the same, if not the identical, manner. Table 7 below gives a general idea of the data collected but is by no means comprehensive. Years are provided when data were collected for only some, but not all 36 waves of the PSID. Keep in mind that this table is by no means exhaustive of the PSID content. Please see: http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu documentation for more details on the PSID measures.

Table 7.Highlights of the PSID Interview Content

Topic	Detail
Family Composition	Status and Change over Time Extended Family Identifiers Marriage, Divorce, and Widowhood Fertility History
Employment Head/Wife	Current Employment Status Time Away From Work Not Working • Unemployed and not looking for work • Unemployed and looking for work Employed • Start and end dates • Employer name • Occupation and industry • Number of employees • Salary or wage • Hours per week • Overtime hours and pay • Number of weeks worked overall • Looking for work or another job in past four weeks • Military service Unemployed • Ever worked for money • Looking for work in past four weeks • Military service
Income Detail Head/Wife	Earned Income • Business income • Wage and salary • Bonus, overtime, tips and commissions Asset Income • Rent • Dividends and interest • Trust funds and royalties Transfer Income • Unemployment compensation • Worker's compensation • Help from relatives and others not living in family unit • Supplemental Security Income • TANF • Child support
Program Participation	Food Stamps WIC

Topic	Detail
Program Participation	Welfare Programs Home Heating Assistance Public Housing Help or Support from: church, community group, family/friends
Wealth & Active Savings 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999-2009	Real Estate Personal Vehicles: Cars, trucks, a motor home, trailer, boat Stocks, Mutual Funds, Investment Trusts Checking or Savings Accounts Other Assets Gifts and Inheritances Debt Carryover Credit Card and Store Balances Student Loans Medical or Legal bills Loans from Relatives
Philanthropic Giving & Volunteering Head/Wife 2001-2009	Donations • Amount • Type of organization (arts, religious, helping, educational, youth/family services, improving neighborhoods, environmental, international aid, research) • How decision to support made in marital pair If Volunteer • Volunteer activity (religious, children/youth, senior, helping for people in poor health or in need, social change, Tsunami) • Hours spent in volunteer activities in previous year
Education 1985 – 2009	Month, year of HS graduation (H, W[6]) Whether GED (H, W) • If GED, number of grades finished (H, W) • If GED, month/year of last grade attended (H, W) If no HS or GED (H, W) • Number of grades finished • Month/year of last grade attended Whether college degree (H, W) • Month/year of last college attended • Highest college year finished • Month/year of college degree • Name of college • City, state of college Highest grade or year of school completed (OFUM) Whether other degree/vocational certificate/training (H, W) • School or apprenticeship: up to 2 mentions • Type of degree/certificate • Field of training • Name of institution/organization • Month/year of degree If non-US born (H, W) • Years of school outside US • Highest degree/certification outside US
Physical and Mental	General Health Status

[6] H: "Household Head"; W: "Wife of Head"

Health	• Current status 1984-2009 • Status since last interview 2003-2009 • Status birth – 16 years old 1999-2009 • Height & Weight 1986, 1999-2009 • Birth weight ADL-type Measures • 7 activities, consistently asked 1992-96, 1999-2009 IADL-type Measures • 6 activities, consistently asked 1992-96, 1999-2009 Specified Health Conditions • 12 conditions, w/onset, duration 1999-2009 Death Activity Limitations • Health limits work 1968-2009 • Employment status – disabled 1976-2009 • Days missed work for sickness 1976-2009 Depression/Anxiety • 6 item, non-specific distress scale (K6) 2001-03 2007-2009 • 2 item, clinical depression screener (CIDI) 2003 Health Behaviors • Smoking: current, ever, # packs, when start, when stop 1986, 1999-2009 • Alcohol: ever, quantity, binge 1999-2009 • Physical activity: light/heavy 1999-2009
Housing Detail	• Characteristics of housing: type of dwelling, number of rooms, air conditioning, type of heating, monthly payments for utilities • Rentals – monthly payment • Home ownership – value of home, whether have mortgage, amount of remaining principle on mortgage, monthly mortgage payment amount, Interest rate on loan, year obtained loan/refinanced, remaining years to pay on the loan, second mortgage, amount of property taxes, homeowner's insurance premium • Mortgage distress and foreclosures • Neighborhood characteristics: amount of property taxes, homeowner's insurance premium
Expenditures	• Food: Food at home, delivered, and eaten out • Health Care: nursing, hospital, doctor, Rx, insurance • Housing: mortgage, property tax, insurance, rent, utilities • Transportation: loan, lease, insurance, repairs, gas, parking, fares • Education: tuition, supplies, room and board (2005-2009) • Home repairs and maintenance • Household furnishings and equipment • Clothing and apparel • Trips and vacations • Recreation and entertainment • Child care

Family-Level and Individual-Level Variables in the PSID

PSID variables can be categorized as family-level and individual-level. Most of the data collected are family-level variables, including not only information that applies to the family unit as a whole, but also almost all information about the head and wife/“wife”. Individual-level variables are wave-specific data as well as time-invariant information that may span many years. These variables cover basic demographic and economic data about an individual in the family unit (FU). If the individual was head or wife,much of the information in these variables is available among the family level variables, often in substantially greater detail.

The Building Blocks to Using PSID Data on Families and Individuals

Because of the complexity of the PSID data structure and its long-panel nature, knowing a few key PSID concepts will help users get the most from the rich data archive. This section of the chapter attempts to give you some background on these concepts.

The PSID definition of Family Unit (FU) is a group of people living together as a family. “As a family” means that the individuals are generally related by blood, marriage, or adoption, although unrelated persons can be part of a FU if they are permanently living together and share both income and expenses.

The Household Unit (HU) is defined as the physical boundary, such as a house or apartment, where members of the PSID FU reside. Not everyone living in a HU is automatically part of the FU. The PSID survey is about FU members only.

Families change from year to year. Each family unit in a specific data collection wave is assigned a unique Family ID, sometimes called an Interview Number. The most critical Family ID is the one assigned in 1968 to families in the original sample. According to our following rules, we follow “split-offs” – children and other FU members – as they set up their own households. One family in 1968 can become three, four, or more families by 2009. All of these families will have the same 1968 ID, since they originated from the same family in 1968, but will have different Family ID’s in 2009, since they are separate family units in 2009.

For each family, the Family ID number will most certainly vary from year to year. For example, a 1968 Family ID of 1234 will not likely be 1234 in 1969 or any other year for that matter. Yearly IDs are assigned based on receipt of the interview—the first interview in from field is numbered 1, the second 2, and so on. In the example on the next page, the fictional Smith Family in 1968 had a Family ID of 0100 and included five FU members: Jason and Andrea, and their three children Julie, Anne, and Todd:

The Smith Family in 1968 (fictional)

Family Unit Member	Age	1968 Family ID
Dad (Jason)	36	0100
Mom (Andrea)	35	0100
Julie	12	0100
Anne	10	0100
Todd	8	0100

By 2007, Jason and Andrea's children had moved out on their own, thus creating four families out of this original 1968 Smith Family. Notice each family kept their original 1968 ID, but also was assigned a unique 2007 Family ID/Interview Number:

Families	1968 ID	2007 Family ID or Interview Number
Jason (Dad) & Andrea (Mom)	0100	0834
Julie, her husband and son	0100	1004
Anne	0100	0971
Todd, his wife and daughter	0100	2202

The PSID collects information about the individuals of each FU. In the online Data Center (http://simba.isr.umich.edu/), each individual is uniquely identified by their combined 1968 ID (labeled as ER30001 in the Data Center) and Person Number (labeled as ER30002). At the time of data release for each wave of the PSID, updates to Person Numbers are made. This is important to remember since it will require updating of data files downloaded at a previous time.

The most information is collected about the Head of the household, the second most about the wife (or "wife" in the scenario of a cohabiter for one year or more), and the least amount of detail is collected about other family unit members (OFUMs), who are oftentimes the children in the FU, but can also be boy/girlfriends, grandparents, etc. All of the individuals in an FU have a coded Relationship to the Head in the data files.

Within each wave of data, each FU has only one current Head. The person designated as Head may change over time as a result of other changes affecting the family. When a new Head must be chosen, the following rules apply:

- The Head of the FU must be at least 16 years old and the person with the most financial responsibility for the FU.
- If this person is female and she has a husband in the FU, then he is designated as Head.
- If she has a boyfriend with whom she has been living for at least one year, then he is Head.
- If her husband or boyfriend is incapacitated and unable to fulfill the functions of Head, then she is designated as Head.

A new Head is selected in situations such as:

- Last year's Head moved out of the HU (household unit), died, or became incapacitated
- A female Head has gotten married

An individual or group of individuals split-off to form a new FU

Much of the information collected in the PSID about Heads is also collected about the Wives and "Wives."

Continuing with our fictional Smith Family example, Julie was one of the original sample members in 1968. She was the daughter of Jason (Head) back then. In 2007, she was living in her own FU, Family ID 1004, with her husband and their child. Her relationship to Head is now Wife. Her husband is Head and their son is Child of Head.

Julie's Family in 2007 (fictional)

2007 Family ID	68 ID	Individuals	Relationship to Head
1004	0100	Julie (original 1968 sample member)	20 (Wife to Head)
1004	0100	Husband	10 (Head)
1004	0100	Son	30 (Child of Head)

Generally, the PSID main interview provides some individual-level data on the Other Family Unit Members (OFUMs), including data each wave about their:

- Demographic information, such as birth month and year, sex, date of death, family unit status, wave-specific response status
- Marital and fertility histories, and cohabitation status
- Work status, number of jobs, occupation, weeks worked on job, during which months of previous year, hours per week
- Other income sources (interest, TANF, SSI, welfare, social security, unemployment compensation, worker's compensation, child support, help from relatives)
- For OFUMs 16 years and older, highest grade or year of school completed
- For OFUMs 16-49 years of age, date last attended school and whether currently enrolled as part-time or full-time student
- Health insurance coverage

Note that CDS "children" are OFUMs in the PSID data collections and are considered PSID individuals. Data about them in the main PSID interviews can be merged onto CDS data files.

In the CDS, the Primary and Secondary Caregivers (PCGs and OCGs) are defined in relationship to the child (variables "RELPCG07" and RELOCG07" in 2007). If you are interested in merging data from PSID about the Caregivers, it is helpful to know the Caregivers' relationships to Head. In some situations, the data you are interested in may have been collected only for Heads and Wives. This accounts for the majority of the PCGs and OCGs.

If you are interested in constructing, for example, the PCG average work hours, you will find that PSID asks for this information and stores it in three separate variables depending on the PCG's relationship to Head:

ER36170 BC43	On average, how many hours a week did you work on this job in 2006?--CURRENT OR MOST RECENT MAIN JOB (HEAD)
ER36428 DE43.	On average, how many hours a week did she work on this job in 2006?--CURRENT OR MOST RECENT MAIN JOB (WIFE)

At the beginning of this chapter, we described the PSID's self-replacing sample design whereby children or adult family members from PSID families who leave their family households are subsequently interviewed once they have established their own economically independent family unit. With this design, at any wave, the PSID has both main
(or re-interview) Family Units (FUs) – families that were interviewed in the prior wave – and split-off FUs consisting of a person or group of people who left the main family household to form a new family unit since the prior wave's interview.

Several criteria must be met for a split-off to occur. The split-off person or group:

- must have moved out since the prior wave,
- must be 'followable' (i.e., have an original 1968 family identification),
- must not have not moved to an institution such as college or prison or to another family unit within the PSID,
- must be economically independent (i.e., they must be paying their own living expenses) from the family unit from which they split off.

Information used to decide whether the split-off criteria have been met is gathered in primarily in Section G of the main family interview and in the interviewer observations. It should be noted that the above are general rules and that sometimes unique situations arise that determine whether a person or group of persons becomes a split-off. For example, while moving to an institution, such as college, does not generally meet the criteria for becoming a split-off, if the person is working, paying their own living expenses, and paying their own educational expenses in addition to attending school, then this person would be considered a split-off. The living situation and interview data for each and every possible split-off case are reviewed before split-off status is granted.

Family Composition Change

The Sequence Number can be of help in understanding wave-to-wave change in family composition., Found in the individual file, the Sequence Number identifies an individual's status with regard to the family unit at a given wave of data collection. It is coded as follows:

1-20	indicates that the individuals were in the family at the time of the current wave interview.
51-59	indicates that the individuals were in institutions at the time of the current wave interview.
71-80	indicates that the individuals moved out of the FU or out of institutions and established their own households between the prior and current wave interview.
81-89	indicates that the individuals died by the current interview but were living at the time of the prior wave interview.

PSID also has a variable, Whether Moved In/Out, to indicate whether the individual moved in or out of a family unit in a given wave of data. The 2007 codebook definition below helps illustrate the detail of this variable.

1	Moved in or born between the 2005 and 2007 interviews; split-off in 2007
2	Appeared; moved in by the time the 2005 interview was taken but not included in FU for 2005 (i.e., listing error)

5 Moved out of FU or out of an institution between the 2005 and 2007 interviews and was not included in a 2007 panel FU

6 Moved out of FU and into an institution between the 2005 and 2007 interviews

7 Living in 2005 but died by the time of the 2007 interview

8 Disappeared; moved out prior to the 2005 interview, but included in FU for 2005 (usually a listing error)

PSID Data Center Files

Most of the family and individual-level data on all waves of the PSID and CDS are housed in the online PSID Data Center. Tutorials provide a guided overview to using the data and creatingcustomized data sets and codebooks. More information on using the Data Center is provided in Chapter 14.

Data Groupings

In the Data Center, you will find the data grouped by PSID main study data and CDS data. Within the PSID data group, the data are clustered by individual-level files and family-level files. The individual-level files include both wave-specific and time-invariant data, mentioned earlier in this chapter. The family-level files include not only “raw” interview data but also complex generated variables on income, work, wealth, sample weights, and other measures. Data by study wave, are provided as the next level within each of the data groupings. In the CDS data group, the data are clustered by child-level files, which include all of the interview modules, and by time diary activity files, which are at the activity level.