Transition into Adulthood Study
Panel Study of Income Dynamics
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PSID Transition into Adulthood Study 2011
User Guide

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Chapter 1 – An Introduction to the TA study

In the past several decades, the U.S. and other countries have seen a lengthening of the period between childhood and adulthood—the "transition into adulthood." Youth no longer move quickly from secondary education into the labor force and independent economic living. Based on data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), less than 50% of individuals will become a head of their own PSID family (or the spouse of a head—henceforth called the "wife") before they reach their mid-20's.

Scientists are becoming increasingly aware that the period between the ages of 18 and 28 years are critical for life span development. It is during this period that major investments are made in education, crucial decisions are made regarding partnering and childbearing, 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 and official join the PSID sample as primary respondents.

The "Transition into Adulthood" (TA) study is part of PSID and a follow-on to the PSID Child Development Supplement (CDS). Although PSID collects some information about everyone who is a co-resident member of each family in the study, the greatest detail is collected on the head and wife. Without the TA study, this design would result in a large gap in information about the youth experiences of the CDS cohort between their last CDS interview in adolescence and their first interview as a PSID head or wife. In other words, there would be a major gap in information about early adulthood transitions. The launching of the TA study was motivated by recognition that these years are marked by choices, changes, and transitions that have profound life-long consequences, but would be missed by the sample design of the PSID prior to 2005. To bridge this gap, the TA study was initiated in 2005 when the oldest CDS respondents reached 18 to 20 years of age. The TA study has subsequently been conducted in 2007, 2009, and 2011, and will be conducted biennially in parallel with the core PSID until 2015 when the youngest individuals in CDS will have reached adulthood.

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

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 core PSID and the CDS is provided here.

The Panel Study of Income Dynamics is a longitudinal survey of a nationally-representative sample of U.S. families. Since 1968, 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. PSID is the longest running panel on family dynamics, and is considered one of the most important data archives in the world.

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

In 1997, PSID supplemented its main survey with collection of additional data on a sample of 0-12 year-old children in the study and their parents. The objective of this supplement—the Child Development Supplement—was to provide researchers with a comprehensive, nationally representative, and longitudinal data base of children and their families with which to study the dynamic process of early human capital formation. Two additional waves of CDS were conducted in 2002-2003 (CDS-II), when the children were 5-17 years of age, and in 2007-2008 (CDS-III) for children in the cohort who were under 18 years of age.

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, achievement, and social relationships with family and peers. Each CDS child could have up to eight modules of data collected from three different family members (primary and secondary caregivers and the target child) and a school information source (teacher and/or school administrative data).

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

Bridging the Gap

Across the three waves of CDS, the study has collected data on children and youth aged 0-18 years. CDS youth will eventually become the future "active panel" of the core PSID when they move out of (or "split-off") from their parents' home and establish an independent household of their own. Under the current design of the TA study, CDS youth will participate in TA data collection until they reach age 26 years, regardless of whether they have become members of the core PSID. Whey they join the core PSID, they will participate in that study every other year from that point forward.

The Transition into Adulthood (TA) Study thus serves as a "bridge of information" between the rich data collected in the CDS on the years between birth and age 18 years, and the rich data collected in the PSID in the years after economic independence is established.

Chapter 2 – An Overview of TA File Structure

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

Section A: Time Use

As individuals move from adolescence into adulthood, they are confronted with new choices about how to use their discretionary time. In addition, the concept of community takes on a broader meaning and provides opportunities for greater integration into a larger social context. In Section A, we measured time spent on a selected number of leisure activities, computer use, and community engagement. Certain items from the CDS were repeated, permitting time-series analysis of activity patterns in organized arts and sport, TV watching, reading, and computer use. In other sections we asked about time spent in other activities, as well as time spent with friends, family, and romantic partners. The questions in this section asked about frequency of participation in the past 12 months.

Section B: Responsibilities

In this brief section, we assessed the level of responsibility that the respondent assumes for living arrangements and money management including earning their own living, making rent or mortgage payments, paying their bills, and managing their personal finances. Respondents were 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 during the summer was collected. For those respondents who spent most of their time living at their parents' home, we asked about the expected timing of moving out. Conversely, those living away at college or living on their own were asked questions about the likelihood of moving back in with their parents.

Section C: Self

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 about worries and discouragement.

Section D: Marriage, Family, and Relationships

This section obtained information about the current marital and cohabitation status of the individual and subjective evaluations of all romantic/intimate relationships through questions about living arrangements, general satisfaction with relationships, time spent with partner, future expectations of relationship duration, and the likelihood of marriage and divorce. Information was collected on past, present, and future childbearing and fertility expectations, gender roles, child rearing/family values, and parenting skills and experiences. The individual's relationship with his or her parents was assessed, continuing the collection of measures from the CDS.

Respondents living at home or away at college were asked all questions in this section; respondents living on their own were not asked questions about when they were widowed, when they were divorced, and when they started living with the current partner because these questions were asked in their 2011 core PSID interview.

Section E: Employment

This section collected detailed information about current employment status and all types of employment and money-earning activities for the previous two years. Measures included salary/wages, hours, experience, and size and type of the employer, reasons for being unemployed and/or not working, as well as the methods and frequencies of job hunting. Moreover, detailed information was collected about service in any branch of the Armed Services, and self-rated satisfaction with military service was obtained.

Respondents living at home or away at college were asked all questions in this section; however, those living on their own were only asked the latter questions pertaining to involvement in the Armed Services because information about their past and present work status was obtained in their 2011 core PSID interview. Specific question objectives are provided on the next page.

Sections F and W: Income and Wealth

In Section F, we attempted to identify income earned during the previous calendar year from a number of other sources, including unemployment compensation, workers' compensation, dividends, interest, trust funds, child support, welfare, and gifts. We also asked about financial help received from parents and other relatives. A short series of questions that estimated the net value of automobiles, stocks and bonds, checking and savings accounts, life insurance policies, and any other assets and investments was asked. Information was also collected about student loans, credit card balances, and other debts.

Respondents living with their parents or away at college were asked all questions in this section; respondents living on their own were only asked the latter questions pertaining to wealth because their income and business holdings information was gathered in their 2011 core PSID interview.

Section G: Education and Career Goals

A key marker of the transition into adulthood is attainment of post-secondary educational degrees, which, in turn, feeds into work plans and career aspirations. Some young adults, however, may choose an alternative route to a traditional college track, such as a military career (see Section E) or vocational training.

In Section G, we gathered 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 asked if the respondent had ever attended or is currently attending college. For those who have had some college experience, we asked the following questions:

Starting at G19 and G20, we gathered details about vocational education or any other training that results in skills and certification for jobs. We asked if the respondent ever received vocational education (in our definition, this includes on-the-job training) and if the respondent is currently enrolled. For those currently receiving vocational education, we asked about the amount of time spent per week in training, type of training—whether through a vocational or business school, vocational rehabilitation, or on-the-job training—and why the respondent enrolled in the training. Reasons for enrollment were coded on the spot into four basic categories: for job advancement or promotion, as a job requirement, for licensing or certification, or to help with obtaining future job.

In this section, as well as in the military sequence in Section E, we asked how education, vocational training, military training, and current work experiences fit into overall career plans. We asked a series of four items in each of the scenarios just mentioned that focused on:

(a) Satisfaction with current schooling/training/work;

(b) Whether the schooling/training/work was part of a long-term career plan;

(c) If the respondent thinks that the schooling/training/work will help in getting a/another job; and

(d) If the respondent thinks that schooling/training/work will help in succeeding in a/another job.

Toward the end of Section G, beginning at G30, we turned to a focus on future expectations in these areas as well as work. We assessed expectations for getting stable, well-paying jobs in the future and if life for them will be more difficult than it was for their parents when their parents were their age. We asked respondents to identify the job they would like at age 30—what type of work it involves, why they aspire to that job, how successful they feel they will be at this job, and the likelihood of actually attaining it.

At G40 and G41, the respondent described his or her strengths and weaknesses in a number of job skills and characteristics of desirable jobs.

The path through Section G was fairly straightforward: respondents living at home and those away at college were asked all questions in this section; however, those respondents living on their own were not asked questions pertaining to their secondary education or graduation from high school, such as "when did you receive your GED" or "what was the last grade you attended" because these items were already collected in the core PSID interview.

<u>Section H: Health</u>

This section began with a self-rated measure of the individual's overall health and asked if he or she had, or had ever been diagnosed with, a series of chronic illnesses/conditions such as asthma, diabetes, hypertension, cancer, and any mental health condition. For each condition, we asked age when first diagnosed and limitations on normal daily activities that resulted from the condition. We then asked 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 core PSID instrument.

In young adulthood, individuals begin to take on more responsibility for maintaining their own health. This task involves both routine visits to the doctor and dentist, maintenance of a healthy body weight, and engagement in a number of lifestyle practices such as exercising, eating balanced meals, and abstinence from smoking, binge drinking, and use of illegal drugs or misuse of prescription medicines. In Section H, we asked about all of these activities.

The path through Section H was more complicated than for other sections. Some, but not all, of the questions in the TA interview are the same as those in the core PSID. For respondents living on their own as PSID heads or wives, we skipped the first part of the section and started with health behaviors to avoid repeating questions that are collected in the core PSID interview.

Section K: Social Environment

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

Day-to-day encounters with discrimination were measured by asking about frequency of experiencing specific types of discrimination. If one or more situations were endorsed, we asked the perceived reason for the discriminatory experience.

Peer influence was assessed through a set of questions about characteristics of friends with respect to school and work-related activities, family and interpersonal relationships, community involvement, and general outlook or attitudes about the future.

We asked about prior assaults, and the age at which an assault happened.

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

Respondents living at home, away at college, and living on their own all received the same set of questions in this section.

Section L: Religiosity/Race & Ethnicity

In this brief section, we asked about current religious preferences and the importance of religion and spirituality in the respondent’s life. The last two questions are asked of respondents living at home with their parents (those living on their own received these two questions in their 2011 core PSID interview). Standard race and ethnicity items from the Census are asked.

Section M: Outlook on Life

The TA interview ended with a short series of questions tapping into subjective well-being. Respondents were asked 14 questions which comprehensively assessed adult well-being in terms of emotional, psychological, and social well-being.

Chapter 3 – The TA Sample

The TA-2011 sample is defined by four basic components:

1. Age 18-28 years;
2. No longer attending high school;
3. Participation in a CDS interview (1997, 2002/2003, or 2007); and
4. Family participation in the 2011 core PSID interview (either through their own interview as Head or Wife/"Wife" or by identification as an "other family unit member" in a household interview).

Age and High School Attendance

The transition into adulthood developmental period is defined for this study as spanning the ages 18 to 28. All potentially-eligible TA respondents were identified and screened in the core PSID interview. During the TA interview, respondents were asked to confirm their date of birth, whether they were attending school (and, if yes to attending school, what grade they were attending). If, during the TA interview, the interviewer learned that the respondent was under the age of 18 or that the respondent was still in high school, the interviewer was instructed to code-out the case as non-sample (age or grade ineligible).

Member in the CDS Cohort

All TA sample members had a completed family-level baseline interview in CDS. This means that each TA sample member had information from the primary caregiver interview about the TA individual when they were a child. The TA sample members may have also participated in an educational assessment and a child interview, but this was not required to consider the family-level information as being complete.

Response in PSID 2011

Individuals were included in the TA-2011 sample if they completed a 2011 core PSID 2011 interview.

Based on the sample definition, a total of 2,219 individuals were identified for the TA-2011 survey.

The TA-2011 sample of 2,219 cases was released to the field for interviewing in four replicates, which are described in Table 1. During data collection, 136 cases were determined to be ineligible, bringing the total eligible to 2083, and 1,907 were completed as interviews. This yielded a 92% response rate for the TA-2011 fieldwork effort.[1] Table 2 provides the final disposition for the total sample of 2,219 cases, whether released for fieldwork or not.

[1] For cumulative response rates, see the technical report at http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/data/weights.

Table 1: Sample Releases	
Sample Count	**Description**
1,862	Replicate 1 was released at the beginning of fieldwork in early September 2011. It contained TA-eligible individuals aged 18-28 years from 2011 core PSID completed interviews.
176	Replicate 2 was released in early December 2011. It contained TA-eligible individuals aged 18-28 years from 2011 core PSID interviews.
180	Replicate 3 was released in early January 2012. It contained TA-eligible individuals aged 18-28 years from 2011 core PSID completed interviews.
1	Replicate 4 was released in early February 2012 and consisted of one case to replace an existing case that was coded-out.

Table 2: Sample Disposition	
Sample Count	**Description**
2,219	Total TA-2011 sample
1,907	Completed interview with an eligible TA-2011 sample individual
100	Grade ineligible: still enrolled in high school
27	Sample individual incarcerated or in a youth, group, or detention home/center: ineligible for interview contact
4	Sample individual away on military leave, in job corps, or in a non-detention facility
1	Sample individual incapacitated, had a permanent health condition, or institutionalized for health or psychological reasons
4	Other non-sample
43	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)
30	Refusal by someone other than the sample individual
1	Sample individual lost; tracking efforts exhausted
36	No contact made with eligible respondent throughout the field period
66	Some household member contacted, but eligible respondent not available to do interview; appointment broken, but no evidence of deliberately avoiding interview

Chapter 4 – The TA-2011 Sample Weight

To account for differential probabilities of selection due to the original PSID sample design and subsequent attrition, the TA-2011 data are provided with a sample weight. The construction of the TA-2011 sample weight is described in this chapter.

Sample Transition from CDS-I to TA-2011

The TA-2011 respondents were all originally selected for CDS-I in 1997 when they were 8–12 years of age. In 1997, of the 3,563 children who participated in the original CDS-I interview, 2,358 would have been projected to be eligible for participation in TA-2011. For these 2,358 cases, Table 3 summarizes their disposition in TA-2011.

Among the projected eligible sample, which excludes deceased (n=6) and non-sample individuals (n=23), a total of 1,907 interviews were completed, resulting in a cumulative unweighted response rate of 81.9% (i.e., 1,907 / (1,907+422) = 0.819).[2] See Chapter 5 for a description of the TA-2011 wave-specific response rate (92%) and data collection procedures and outcomes.

Table 3: TA-2011 Sample Disposition

Sample Count	Description
2,358	Total projected eligible
1,907	Completed TA-2011 interview
	Non-response
196	Non-response before the 2011 interview
186	Non-response in 2011
40	Difficult to access/outside of the U.S.
422	Subtotal
	No longer eligible
23	Not a sample person
6	Deceased
29	Subtotal

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

[2] The cumulative response rate is defined as a ratio of the number of cases that were successfully interviewed in TA-2011 to the number of cases that were projected to be eligible for TA-2011 in 1997, excluding deceased and non-sample individuals.

Rubin, 2002).[3] 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 the 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 being response in the current period. Because the first term on the right-hand side of Equation *(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 the probability of response (the second term on the right hand side of Equation *(1)*). We will refer to $1/ P(R_t=1|S_{t-1}=1)$ as the attrition adjustment factor.

TA-2011 Individual Weight

The TA-2011 individual weight was designed to account for the differential attrition between CDS-I (in 1997) and TA-2011, i.e. t=2011 and t-1=1997. Thus, the TA-2011 weight is a product of the CDS-I weight, i.e., the individual-level primary caregiver/child weight (i.e., the weight variable named 'CH97PRWT'), and the attrition adjustment factor.[4]

To obtain the attrition adjustment factor, the probability that a sample person was non-response in TA-2011 was estimated using a logistic regression model with observations from the response and non-response strata (see Table 3). The obtained estimates are reported in Table 2. The results indicate that attrition was higher among males, those in the South, older children, and those whose head of household had a high school education. 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.

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

Table 4: Logistic Regression of Non-Response in TA-2011 Conditional on CDS-I Characteristics				
Predictor in 1997	**Estimate**		**Standard Error**	**P Value**
Intercept	-2.4528	***	0.4626	<.0001
SRC sample (0/1)	-0.1566		0.3081	0.6114
SEO sample (0/1)	0.0143		0.3213	0.9644
Child is Male (0/1)	0.5516	***	0.1128	<.0001
Age of child at 1997 core PSID	0.1657	***	0.0223	<.0001
White (child race) (0/1)	-0.1578		0.2643	0.5504
Black (child race) (0/1)	-0.5239	*	0.2696	0.0520
Age of Head <= 30 (0/1)	-0.0270		0.2108	0.8980
30< Age of Head<=45 (0/1)	-0.2086		0.1568	0.1835
Head is male (0/1)	-0.4334	**	0.1567	0.0057
No high school degree (Head) (0/1)	0.3019		0.2053	0.1415
High school degree (Head) (0/1)	0.3710	**	0.1810	0.0404
Some college (Head) (0/1)	0.2662		0.1886	0.1582
Head is employed (0/1)	-0.3392	**	0.1612	0.0353
Family income 1st quartile (0/1)	-0.4187	*	0.2249	0.0626
Family income 2nd quartile (0/1)	-0.3134		0.1933	0.1049
Family income 3rd quartile (0/1)	0.1269		0.1601	0.4282
Northeast Region (0/1)	0.4083	*	0.2168	0.0596
North Central Region (0/1)	0.3115		0.1996	0.1185
South Region (0/1)	0.3879	**	0.1911	0.0424
SMSA (0/1)	-0.1802		0.1203	0.1340

Reference groups: Not SRC or SEO sample, Female, Not White or Black, Age > 45 Years, Female Head, College or Higher, Head Not Employed, Family Income 4th quartile, West Region, and Not SMSA.

Sample = 2329 observations.

Testing Global Null Hypothesis: BETA=0			
Test	**Chi-Square**	**DF**	**Pr > ChiSq**
Likelihood Ratio	120.1843	20	<.0001
Score	116.2319	20	<.0001
Wald	109.8198	20	<.0001

As the final step in weight development, the newly constructed TA-2011 weight was censored or trimmed 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 one percent and in the bottom one 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-2011 individual weight.

Table 5: Summary Statistics for the TA-2011 Sample Weights	
Description	**Value**
N	1,907
Minimum	1.00
Maximum	68.05
Mean	17.33
Standard Deviation	14.73

To examine the properties of the TA-2011 weight, we compared weighted estimates for selected demographic, geographic, and socio-economic variables in CDS-I data—based on the CDS-I sub-sample, that satisfy the eligibility requirements for TA-2011 and weighted with the CDS I weight—to the estimates derived for the same variables measured in 1997—but based on the smaller TA-2011 interview sample and weighted with the TA-2011 weight. The results are provided in Table 6, and show that the distributions of the selected characteristics are similar in the TA-2011 eligible sub-sample of CDS-I and in the TA-2011 interview sample, suggesting that the attrition adjustment for the TA-2011 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-2011 weight is stored in the variable TA111143.

Table 6: Comparison of CDS-I Estimates Based on the CDS-I Sub-Sample using the CDS-I Weight with that B on the TA-2011 Sample using the TA-2011 Weight						
		CDS-I Individual Weight		TA-2011 Individual Weight		Ratio
		Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 2/4
		N	Percent	N	Percent	
Total		2358	100	1907	100	1.00
Region	**Northeast**	321	18	255	18.27	0.99
	North Central	585	23.77	474	22.82	1.04
	South	1067	33.72	850	33.81	1.00
	West	385	24.51	328	25.1	0.98
Immigrant sample	**Non-immigrant**	2162	85.39	1747	85.15	1.00
	Immigrant	196	14.61	160	14.85	0.98
Metropolitan	**Non-MSA**	1011	47.71	799	47.95	0.99
Statistical Area	**MSA**	1347	52.29	1108	52.05	1.00
Education of Head	**No high school diploma**	516	18.66	412	18.17	1.03
	High school diploma only	872	32.9	696	33.16	0.99
	Some college or more	521	22.29	420	22.39	1.00
	College or more	449	26.15	379	26.29	0.99
Age of Head	**30 or younger**	395	13.45	325	13.65	0.99
	31-45	1618	72.54	1316	72.24	1.00
	46 or older	345	14.01	266	14.12	0.99
Gender of Head	**Female**	724	22.95	575	22.72	1.01
	Male	1634	77.05	1332	77.28	1.00
Race of Head	**Non-black**	1351	83.19	1091	83.04	1.00
	Black	1007	16.81	816	16.96	0.99

Chapter 5 – Data Collection Procedures

This chapter provides an overview of the data collection procedures for TA-2011.

Contacting Respondents

The selected respondent was preloaded into a computer-based sample management system. Pre-notification letters announcing the study and a respondent booklet were sent to all eligible sample members. The respondent booklets were not always used—for example, the respondent booklet was not used if it was unavailable (either had not arrived or was misplaced).

Busy schedules, caller ID, cell phones, and gatekeepers were the main obstacles in reaching and scheduling interviews with these young adults. If the Respondent expressed concern about their cell phone minutes used, interviewers offered an additional $10 incentive to offset the cost of extra minutes used to complete the interview by cell phone. Interviewers enlisted contact persons (usually parents) to help determine the best time to reach respondents. In some instances, parents contacted respondents to let them know to expect a call from the study.

Quality Control

The Quality Control Plan for TA-2011 consisted of three components: certification, verification, and evaluation. Certification, in the form of a practice interview, was completed immediately following the Interviewer training and ensured that all field staff received appropriate training on the TA-2011 interview instrument and were able to complete the interview professionally and according to the study protocol. Verification of interview data was conducted via telephone calls to respondents who were re-asked questions that were included in the original interview so that the responses could be compared. And evaluation of the interviewers' adherence to general interviewing techniques and study-specific protocols was based on the 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 $50 for the completion of an interview and could also be paid and additional $10 as a reimbursement if their interview was done via cell phone. If a contact person was used to help find a participant they were offered between $10 and $20.

Results of Data Collection Effort

- Data collection response rate: 92%
- Completed interviews: 1,907 of 2,219 released sample cases
    - Sample members who still resided with core PSID family as an "other family unit member" but lived at college: 213
    - Sample members who still resided with core PSID family as an "other family unit member" living with parents: 1,105
    - Sample members who had formed independent PSID family units as Head/Wife/"Wife": 901
- Average interview length: 61.13 minutes

Chapter 6 – TA Interview: Topical Guide

This chapter highlights all new content in the TA-2011 instrument. As in TA-2005, TA-2007, and TA-2009, the interview content was subdivided into sections. For TA-2011, Sections A (Time Use), E (Employment), F (Income), W (Wealth), G (Education), H (Health), and L (Religiosity) were all updated. The details of all of the updates are listed here.

Section A - Time Use

The variable A10E was added. This question was asked for respondents of TA-2011 who have used the Internet.

A10E - In the last 12 months, how often did you use the Internet for visiting social networking websites like MySpace or Facebook? Would you say: Less than once a month, at least once a month, once a week, several times a week, almost every day, or every day?

Section E - Employment

Questions were added to the TA-2011 questionnaire regarding current job title and commuting time, as well as information regarding the most desired job and the three most recent jobs applied for by the respondent. The ending date of military service and the reason for leaving the military were also new for TA-2011.

E21A – What is the official title of your job?

E21B – On a typical day, how many minutes is your round trip commute to and from work?

E67A – Please tell me about one job you would most like to find in your current or recent search. What sort of work would you do on this job?

E67B – In the last four weeks, how many jobs did you apply for?

E67C – What sort of work would you do on the first/second/third job you applied to? What would be your most important activities or duties?

E67D – Would you have to move from your current residence in order to take this job?

E67E – How many minutes would it take you to get from home to the location of this job?

E67F – How did you hear about the opening for this job?

Options include: through a public employment agency, through private employment agency, through current employer directly, through one or more other employers directly, through friends or relatives, ads or job postings, through school/university employment centers, through job training program/courses, other-specify.

E67G – Were you offered this job?

E67H – What wage were you offered for this job?

E67K – What was the outcome of this job offer?

E67M – Did you receive any other job offers in the last two months?

E67P – How many job offers did you receive?

E67R – What sort of work would you do on the first/second/third job you applied to in the last two months (other than the job offers we just talked about)? What would be your most important activities or duties?

E67S – What wage were you offered for this job?

E67T – How did you hear about the opening for this job when you applied for it?

Options include: through a public employment agency, through private employment agency, through current employer directly, through one or more other employers directly, through friends or relatives, ads or job postings, through school/university employment centers, through job training program/courses, other-specify.

E67W – What was the outcome of this job offer?

E72AM and **E72AY**– In what month and year did your most recent term of service end?

E72B – Why did you leave the military?

<u>Section F – Income</u>

One item was added to the TA-2011 income section which ascertains the amount of other financial help the respondent might have received during the prior year from parents or other relatives.

F56A7 – What was the value of that (other financial help)?

<u>Section W – Wealth</u>

In TA-2011 a question was added to determine who provided the respondent with or was the source of their student loans.

W45A – Who provided you with or was the source of your loans?

Options include: Stafford Loan, Perkins Loan, other federally-subsidized loan, other state-subsidized loan, bank or credit union, employer, college or university, parents, other relative, or other-specify.

<u>Section G – Education</u>

In TA-2011, respondents were asked about additional education received since their last interview.

G8_1 – Have you received more education since then? Please do not include vocational or training schools, apprenticeship programs, or certification trainings – we will talk about that later.

G8_2MO and **G8_2YR** – In what month and year did you last attend school?

G8_3 – What is the highest grade or year of school that you have completed?

G8_4 – Did you graduate from high school, get a GED, or neither?

G8_5 – Did you receive a college degree?

If the respondent is not currently attending college they are asked:

G11B – Are you currently attending graduate or post-graduate college or university, including nursing school, medical school and law school?

If the respondent is currently in vocational or technical training they are asked:

G22A – From what type of institution or organization [is/was] that?

Options include: vocational/trade school, community/junior college, business/secretarial school, armed forces, high school, hospital/health care facility or school, cosmetology/beauty/barber school, police/firefighter training program, job training through government, training by private employer, religious institution or Bible college/school, other-specify.

Section H – Health

For TA-2011, there were many new items in Section H. The first set of additional items request information about medication use.

H7D – In order to control your diabetes, are you now taking medications that you swallow or using insulin shots or a pump?

H8C – Are you now taking medication to lower your blood pressure?

H12D – Are you taking tranquilizers, antidepressants, or pills for nerves?

H13C – Are you now taking medication for this condition (other chronic condition)?

The next set of new questions asked about health insurance coverage:

H20B – Are you covered by any health insurance now?

H20C – What kind of health insurance or health care coverage do you have now?

Options include: Employer provided health insurance, Private health insurance purchased, Medicare, Medi-Gap/Supplemental, Medicaid, Military Health Care/Tricare (active duty), Tricare/Champus/Champ VA (Dependents, veterans), Indian Health Insurance, Other state-sponsored plan, Other government program, other-specify.

If employer provided insurance:

H20D – Whose employer provides your health insurance?

If private health insurance:

H20E – Who is the policy holder on your private health insurance?

The TA-2011 respondent was asked about all birth control methods used, which are listed on a page in a respondent booklet:

> **H53C1** – For this next question, look at page 51 of your booklet and just tell me the letters that correspond to your responses. Have you or your sexual partner used one of these methods of birth control in the past 4 weeks? Please tell me about all the methods that were used. [Female: Remember to include methods that men use, such as condoms, vasectomy, and withdrawal].
>
> Options include: condom or female condom, withdrawal, rhythm, spermicide, diaphragm, IUD, morning after pill, birth control pills, Depo-Provera or injectables, Norplant, patch or ring, cap or shield, vasectomy or tubal ligation, other-specify, none, all.

Section L– Religiosity

Two new questions in TA-2011 replaced question L1 from TA-2009.

> **L1A** – We'd like to ask you some questions about religious or spiritual beliefs. What is your religious preference?
>
> Options include: None, Catholic, Jewish, Protestant, Non-Christian/Muslim/Buddhist, Greek/Russian/Eastern Orthodox, Other-specify.
>
> If Protestant is selected:
>
> **L1B** – What denomination is that?
>
> Options include: Baptist, Lutheran, Methodist/African Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Protestant unspecified, Jehovah's Witness, "Christian", Pentecostal/Assembly of God, Other-specify.

Coding of Variables

The 2000 Census Occupation / Industry codes (3-digit) were applied to the occupation and industry reported in all completed interviews. 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 Resource

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 almost four decades of data collection, contains over 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 70,000 individuals have ever participated in the panel, which includes up to four generations within a family. PSID is the longest running panel on family and individual (including child) dynamics and has consistently achieved wave-to-wave reinterview response rates of 96-98 percent. More information about the study and its instruments can be obtained from its website:

http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Studies.aspx

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/Search.aspx

For TA data users, the rich family data in the core PSID provide a valuable opportunity to explore the effects of family environmental factors in analyses of child outcomes. In this chapter, our goal is to provide users with some basic (although not comprehensive) information about the PSID sample, interview content, public and sensitive data contract files, and data structure. We will start first with an overview of the sample origins and design.

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, PSID added an immigrant refresher sample that was designed to incorporate into the PSID a representative sample of immigrants who had moved to the U.S. since 1968.

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 economically-independent 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. The unique self-propagating design implies that for many PSID families, the data archive includes 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. Additional information about sample members and follow status can be found here:

http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Guide/FAQ.aspx#95.

PSID Content

PSID contains a large number of variables that have been measured wave after wave using similar or identical questions. Table 7 provides an overview of the content areas of PSID. The table indicates the years for which variables were collected if they were not obtained in all waves. This table is not an exhaustive description of the PSID content. Please see http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Guide/default.aspx for more details on PSID measures.

Table 7. Highlights of the Core 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; Interest • Trust Funds & Royalties Transfer Income • Unemployment Compensation • Worker's Compensation • Help from Relatives and Others not Living in FU • Supplemental Security Income • TANF • Child Support

Table 7. Highlights of the Core PSID Interview Content	
Topic	**Detail**
Program Participation	Food Stamps WIC Welfare Programs Home Heating Assistance Public Housing Help or Support from: church, community group, family/friends
Wealth & Active Savings 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999-2011	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 2001-2011	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 a 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 – 2011	Month, year of HS graduation (Head, Wife) Whether GED (Head, Wife) • If GED, number of grades finished (Head, Wife) • If GED, month/year of last grade attended (Head, Wife) If no HS or GED (Head, Wife) • Number of grades finished • Month/year of last grade attended Whether college degree (Head, Wife) • 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 (other family member) Whether other degree/vocational certificate/training (Head, Wife) • 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 (Head, Wife) • Years of school outside US • Highest degree/certification outside US

Table 7. Highlights of the Core PSID Interview Content	
Topic	**Detail**
Physical and Mental Health	General Health Status • Current status 1984-2011 • Status since last interview 2003-2011 • Status birth – 16 years old 1999-2011 • Height & Weight 1986, 1999-2011 • Birth weight ADL-type Measures • 7 activities, consistently asked 1992-96, 1999-2011 IADL-type Measures • 6 activities, consistently asked 1992-96, 1999-2011 Specified Health Conditions • 12 conditions, w/onset, duration 1999-2011 Death Activity Limitations • Health limits work 1968-2011 • Employment status – disabled 1976-2011 • Days missed work for sickness 1976-2011 Depression/Anxiety • 6 item, non-specific distress scale (K6) 2001-03 2007-2011 • 2 item, clinical depression screener (CIDI) 2003 Health Behaviors • Smoking: current, ever, # packs, when start, when stop 1986, 1999-2011 • Alcohol: ever, quantity, binge 1999-2011 • Physical activity: light/heavy 1999-2011
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 • 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 (2005-2011) • Home repairs & maintenance • Household furnishings & equipment • Clothing and apparel • Trips & vacations • Recreation & entertainment • Child Care

Family and Individual Level Variables in the PSID

PSID variables can be categorized as family-level and individual-level. Most of the information from any year's data collection is categorized as **family-level variables**. The family-level variables include not only information that applies to the family unit as a whole, but also almost all information about the head and wife or "wife". **Individual-level variables** are wave-specific data as well as time-invariant information that may span multiple years. These variables cover basic demographic and economic data about an individual in the study. If the individual was head or wife / "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 & Individuals

Because of the complexity of the PSID data structure, and its long-panel nature, there are a few PSID concepts that are important to understand to effectively take advantage of the richness of the data archive. This section provides some background on these concepts.

We begin by providing the PSID definition of "family". The **Family Unit (FU)** is defined as 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 an FU if they are permanently living together and share both income and expenses. The **Household Unit (HU)**, on the other hand, is defined as the physical dwelling, 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 "**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" that occur when children and others set up their own independent households. Thus, one family in 1968 could have become 3-4 or more families by 2011. All of these families will have the same 1968 ID, because they originated from the same family in 1968, but will have different family IDs in 2011 because they are separate family units in 2011.

For each family, the Family ID number will change from year to year. For example, a 1968 family ID of 1234 will not be 1234 in 1969 or any other year. Yearly IDs are assigned based on receipt-order of the interview—the first interview received from field is numbered 1, the second, 2, and so on. In the table below, the "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 "Smiths" in 1968

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 keep their original 1968 ID, but also was assigned unique 2007 Family ID:

The "Smiths" in 2007

Families	68 ID	2007 Family ID "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** in each FU. In the PSID Data Center, 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 because it will require data files that were downloaded previously to be updated.

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 **Relationship to the Head** coded 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. However, if the husband or boyfriend is incapacitated and unable to fulfill the functions of Head, then the FU will have a female Head.

A new Head is selected in situations such as:

- Last year's Head moved out of the HU, died, or became incapacitated; or
- A female Head has gotten married; or
- An individual or group of individuals split-off to form a new FU.

The **Wife** is the spouse of the head; **"Wife"** is the cohabiter of one year or more. Much of the information collected in the PSID about Heads is also collected about the Wives and "Wives".

Continuing with our Smith Family example, Julie was one of the original sample members in 1968. She is the daughter of Jason, who was then the Head. 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

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)

Other Family Unit Members (OFUMs) are the other individuals living in the family unit. Not as much information is collected about OFUMs as Heads and Wives. Generally, the PSID main interview provides individual-level data on the OFUMs as well as 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 (income from dividends and 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; and
- Health insurance coverage.

Note that CDS "children" and certain TA respondents 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 and TA data files.

In CDS, the **primary and secondary caregivers were based on the relationship to the child** (variables "RELPCG07" and RELOCG07" in 2007). To merge data from PSID about the caregivers into the CDS or TA, it is helpful to know the caregivers' relationships to Head. In some situations, the relevant data may have only been collected for Heads and Wives. Fortunately, this is the case for the majority of the PCG and OCGs.

Keeping in mind the PCG's relationship to Head, to construct, for example, the PCG average work hours, it is useful to know that PSID asks for this information and stores it in three separate variables depending on the individual'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 each wave, the PSID sample comprises of "re-interview" families and split-off families. A **reinterivew family** is a family unit (FU) that was interviewed in the prior wave. In the case of children leaving home, the main family is almost always the parental family. A **split-off family**, on the other hand, consists of a person or group of people (at least one of whom is a "followable" person of any age) who moved out from a main family since the prior wave's interview to form a new, economically independent family unit. Several criteria must be met for a split-off to occur. In addition to having moved out since the prior wave and to being "followable" (i.e., having an original 1968 family identification), the person or group of people have not moved to an institution such as college or prison or to another family unit within the panel study. Moreover, the person or group of people who have moved out and formed their own family unit must be economically independent (i.e., they must be paying their own living expenses) from the family unit from which they split off. Information that informs the criteria is gathered at the main family interview, during the household listing stage. The main family respondent provides these details. Note that these 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. Information that can inform this type of scenario is gathered in Section G of the family interview and in the interviewer observations. The living situation and interview data for each and every possible split-off case are first reviewed before split-off status is granted.

<u>Family Composition Change</u>

When looking at variables pertaining to the same person(s) over time, the variable called "Sequence Number" can be of help in understanding continuity and change in family composition from wave to wave. The **Sequence Number**, found in the individual file, identifies an individual's status within a family unit at each wave of data collection. The sequence number has the following coding scheme:

1-20 Individuals who were in the family at the time of the current wave interview

51-59 Individuals who were in institutions at the time of the current wave interview

71-80 Individuals who moved out of the FU or out of institutions and established their own households between the prior and current wave interview

81-89 Individuals who 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. The 2011 codebook definition below provides the coding for this variable:

1	Moved in or born between the 2009 and 2011 interviews; split-off in 2011
2	Appeared; moved in by the time the 2009 interview was taken but not included in FU for 2009 (i.e. listing error)
5	Moved out of FU or out of an institution between the 2009 and 2011 interviews and was not included in a 2011 panel FU
6	Moved out of FU and into an institution between the 2009 and 2011 interviews
7	Living in 2009 but died by the time of the 2011 interview
8	Disappeared; moved out prior to the 2009 interview, but included in FU for 2009 (usually a listing error)

PSID Data Center Files

Most of the family and individual-level data on all waves of the PSID, CDS, and TA are housed in the Online PSID Data Center. There are tutorials that provide a guided overview to using the data. Customized data sets and codebooks can be generated through the easy-to-use Online Data Center.

Data Files – Individual, Family, CDS, and TA

In the Online PSID Data Center, the data are grouped by PSID main study data and by CDS and TA 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 wave of the study, are provided as the next level within each of the data groupings. In the CDS and TA 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.