Component Description

The Occupation Questionnaire section (variable name prefix OCQ; questions OCD150 to OCD395) contains Sample Participant interview data on employment and variables relating to the work environment.

OCQ section Topics:

* Data for Sample Participant’s Current Job (OCD230-OCD270): weekly hours worked, public vs. private sector, industry and occupation group, and duration of employment.
* Data for the Sample Participant’s Longest Job (OCD390G-OCD395): industry and occupation group, duration of employment.

Eligible Sample

The OCQ was administered to a full sample of survey participants aged 16 years and older.

Interview Setting and Mode of Administration

These questions were asked, in the home, by trained interviewers using the Computer-Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) system. Persons 16 years of age and older were interviewed directly.

Quality Assurance & Quality Control

The CAPI system is programmed with built-in consistency checks to reduce data entry errors. CAPI also uses online help screens to assist interviewers in defining key terms used in the questionnaire. During the data collection cycle, periodic QC checks were performed on the OCQ data being collected; and interviewer specific feedback and retraining was performed as appropriate.

Data Processing and Editing

Questionnaire responses were entered into a pentop computer and then uploaded into a computerized database in the same manner as other sections of the NHANES Sample Person Questionnaire. The data was then edited for completeness, consistency, and illogical values.

Analytic Notes

In general, analysts are advised to carefully review the question wording in the OCQ codebook to make sure they understand question skip patterns and the definitions employed for occupation-related variables. Some OCQ questions need to be considered as an integral part of data collection for other questionnaire sections, exam components, and laboratory components.

Please note that military occupations are not permissible entries for NHANES current job data because for NHANES, only the civilian, non-institutionalized population is eligible to participate in the survey. However, civilian employees of the armed forces are included in the NHANES survey sample and military occupations are valid entries for the survey participant’s longest job data.

Current Job Information:

The primary focus of the OCQ is data collection for the participant’s work within the previous week, i.e., the participant’s Current Job. The participant’s Current Job is defined as the main paid job worked within the last week, including work on a family farm. When the participant currently worked multiple jobs, he/she was asked to designate one main job for the interview. Data collected included:

* The number of hours worked last week- all jobs;
* Whether participant usually works 35 or more hours/week;
* Sector of employment (private, public);
* Number of months worked on the current, main job; and
* The main reason the participant did not work last week (if not currently working).

Longest Job Information:

In NHANES 2013-14, both industry and occupation data and duration of employment were collected for the participant’s longest job. Industry information is also available in instances where the longest job is the same as the current job (OCD390G=2), or was the armed forces (OCD390G=3).

The OCQ data were collected as part of the household questionnaire and, therefore, the full sample NHANES interview weights WTINT2YR should be used for statistical analysis. However, if the OCQ data are merged with the MEC exam or laboratory data, then the NHANES examination sample weights WTMEC2YR should be used for analyses.

Please refer to the [NHANES Analytic Guidelines](https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/analyticguidelines.aspx) and the on-line [NHANES Tutorial](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/tutorials/) for further details on the use of sample weights and other analytic issues.

Related NHANES 2013-14 Data:

There are occupation-related items in the NHANES Physical Functioning questionnaire (PFQ: PFQ049 and PFQ051) and a question on veteran's status/military service in the Sample Person Demographics data file (DEMO: DMQMILIT).

Codebook and Frequencies

SEQN - Respondent sequence number

**Variable Name:**

SEQN

**SAS Label:**

Respondent sequence number

**English Text:**

Respondent sequence number

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

OCD150 - Type of work done last week

**Variable Name:**

OCD150

**SAS Label:**

Type of work done last week

**English Text:**

(SP Interview Version) In this part of the survey I will ask you questions about {your/SP's} work experience. Which of the following {were you/was SP} doing last week . . . (Family Interview Version) The next questions are about {your/NON-SP HEAD'S/NON- SP SPOUSE'S} current job or business. Which of the following {were you/was} {NON-SP HEAD/NON-SP SPOUSE} doing last week . . .

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Working at a job or business, | 3345 | 3345 | OCQ180 |
| 2 | With a job or business but not at work, | 98 | 3443 | OCQ210 |
| 3 | Looking for work, or | 200 | 3643 | OCD390G |
| 4 | Not working at a job or business? | 2816 | 6459 | OCQ380 |
| 7 | Refused | 0 | 6459 | OCD390G |
| 9 | Don't know | 0 | 6459 | OCD390G |
| . | Missing | 5 | 6464 |  |

OCQ180 - Hours worked last week at all jobs

**Variable Name:**

OCQ180

**SAS Label:**

Hours worked last week at all jobs

**English Text:**

How many hours did {you/SP} work last week at all jobs or businesses?

**English Instructions:**

ENTER NUMBER OF HOURS

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 to 120 | Range of Values | 3339 | 3339 |  |
| 77777 | Refused | 2 | 3341 |  |
| 99999 | Don't know | 4 | 3345 |  |
| . | Missing | 3119 | 6464 |  |

OCQ200 - CHECK ITEM

**Variable Name:**

OCQ200

**English Instructions:**

CHECK ITEM OCQ200: IF HOURS IN OCQ180 <= 34, OR REFUSED (CODE 77777), OR DON'T KNOW (CODE 99999), CONTINUE. OTHERWISE, GO TO OCQ260.

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

OCQ210 - Usually work 35 or more hours per week

**Variable Name:**

OCQ210

**SAS Label:**

Usually work 35 or more hours per week

**English Text:**

{Do you/Does SP} usually work 35 hours or more per week in total at all jobs or businesses?

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Yes | 314 | 314 |  |
| 2 | No | 693 | 1007 |  |
| 7 | Refused | 2 | 1009 |  |
| 9 | Don't know | 2 | 1011 |  |
| . | Missing | 5453 | 6464 |  |

OCQ260 - Description of job/work situation

**Variable Name:**

OCQ260

**SAS Label:**

Description of job/work situation

**English Text:**

Looking at the card, which of these best describes this job or work situation?

**English Instructions:**

(SP Interview Version) ASK IF NOT CLEAR. HAND CARD OCQ1. (Family Interview Version) ASK IF NOT CLEAR: HAND CARD DMQ1

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | An employee of a private company, business, or individual for wages, salary, or commission. | 2846 | 2846 |  |
| 2 | A federal government employee | 55 | 2901 |  |
| 3 | A state government employee | 122 | 3023 |  |
| 4 | A local government employee | 211 | 3234 |  |
| 5 | Self-employed in own business, professional practice or farm. | 199 | 3433 |  |
| 6 | Working without pay in family business or farm | 6 | 3439 |  |
| 77 | Refused | 4 | 3443 |  |
| 99 | Don't know | 0 | 3443 |  |
| . | Missing | 3021 | 6464 |  |

OCD270 - Number of months working in the main job

**Variable Name:**

OCD270

**SAS Label:**

Number of months working in the main job

**English Text:**

About how long {have you/has SP} worked for {EMPLOYER} as a(n) {OCCUPATION}?

**English Instructions:**

NUMBER OF MONTHS.

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 to 720 | Range of Values | 3358 | 3358 |  |
| 0 | Less than 1 month | 79 | 3437 |  |
| 77777 | Refused | 6 | 3443 |  |
| 99999 | Don't know | 0 | 3443 |  |
| . | Missing | 3021 | 6464 |  |

OCQ380 - Main reason did not work last week

**Variable Name:**

OCQ380

**SAS Label:**

Main reason did not work last week

**English Text:**

(SP Interview Version) What is the main reason {you/SP} did not work last week? (Family Interview Version) What is the main reason {you/NON-SP HEAD/NON-SP SPOUSE} did not work last week?

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Taking care of house or family | 466 | 466 |  |
| 2 | Going to school | 449 | 915 |  |
| 3 | Retired | 1113 | 2028 |  |
| 4 | Unable to work for health reasons | 210 | 2238 |  |
| 5 | On layoff | 84 | 2322 |  |
| 6 | Disabled | 354 | 2676 |  |
| 7 | Other | 139 | 2815 |  |
| 77 | Refused | 1 | 2816 |  |
| 99 | Don't know | 0 | 2816 |  |
| . | Missing | 3648 | 6464 |  |

OCD390G - Kind of work you have done the longest

**Variable Name:**

OCD390G

**SAS Label:**

Kind of work you have done the longest

**English Text:**

Thinking of all the paid jobs or businesses {you/SP} ever had, what kind of work {were you/was s/he} doing the longest? (For example, electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer.)

**English Instructions:**

GATE QUESTION

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Enter occupation | 3397 | 3397 |  |
| 2 | Same as current occupation | 2442 | 5839 | End of Section |
| 3 | Armed forces | 46 | 5885 |  |
| 4 | Never worked | 563 | 6448 | End of Section |
| 7 | Refused | 7 | 6455 | End of Section |
| 9 | Don't know | 4 | 6459 | End of Section |
| . | Missing | 5 | 6464 |  |

OCD395 - Duration of longest job (months)

**Variable Name:**

OCD395

**SAS Label:**

Duration of longest job (months)

**English Text:**

About how long did {you/SP} work at that job or business?

**English Instructions:**

NUMBER OF MONTHS.

**Target:**

Both males and females 16 YEARS - 150 YEARS

| **Code or Value** | **Value Description** | **Count** | **Cumulative** | **Skip to Item** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 to 720 | Range of Values | 3421 | 3421 |  |
| 0 | Less than 1 month | 17 | 3438 |  |
| 77777 | Refused | 1 | 3439 |  |
| 99999 | Don't know | 4 | 3443 |  |
| . | Missing | 3021 | 6464 |  |