Documentation for the nurses web tool

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Introduction

This web tool allows you to explore trends in union membership and union contract coverage for registered nurses in the United States. You can use the tool to generate trend plots and chloropleth maps showing how these quantities change over time, filtered and/or grouped according to a variety of demographics (detailed below). The tool uses data derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS) public use microdata. For background information on the CPS, see [ADD REFERENCE].

Details of the data

The tool operates on data derived from the Current Population Survey (CPS) public use microdata (see [ADD REFERENCE] for information on the raw CPS data). Each entry in the data used by the tool corresponds to an individual interviewed as part of the CPS, and includes various demographic data on that individual, as well as flags indicating whether the individual is a union member or covered by a union contract. Each entry also includes the year in which the individual was interviewed, and a statistical weight used to calculate union membership and union contract coverage proportions.

The following are descriptions of the variables in the data used by the tool, including the possible values or levels that a particular variable can assume:

year   The year the individual was interviewed.

sex   The individual's sex. This is derived from the CPS variable `PESEX`.

            Levels: `Male, Female`

`member`	Union membership flag. `TRUE` if the individual is a union member, and `FALSE` otherwise.
`covered`	Union contract coverage flag. `TRUE` if the individual is covered by a union contract, and `FALSE` otherwise.
`age`	The individual's age. This is derived from the CPS variable `PEAGE` or, if that is unavailable, the CPS variable `PRTAGE`.
`age_group`	The individual's age group (16-24, 25-54, or 55 and over). This is derived from `age`. **Levels:** `16-24`, `25-54`, `55 and over`
`race`	The individual's race. This is derived from the CPS variable `PTDTRACE`. It has levels for some of the more common races, and a level `Other` for other races. The levels of this variable are less fine-grained than those of `PTDTRACE` (see the CPS documentation for details). **Levels:** `White`, `Black`, `American Indian (Alaskan Native)`, `Asian`, `Hawaiian/Pacific Islander`, `Other`
`hisp`	Whether or not the individual is Hispanic. This is derived from the CPS variable `PEHSPNON`. **Levels:** `Hispanic`, `Non-Hispanic`
`educ`	The individual's level of education. This is derived from the CPS variable `PEEDUCA`. The levels of this variable are less fine-grained than those of `PEEDUCA` (see the CPS documentation for details). **Levels:** `No high school`, `Completed high school`, `Some college`, `Associate degree`, `Bachelor's degree`, `Graduate degree`
`citizen`	The individual's US citizenship status. This is derived from the CPS variable `PRCITSHP`. The levels of this variable are less fine-grained than those of `PRCITSHP` (see the CPS documentation for details). **Levels:** `US native`; `Foreign-born, citizen`; `Foreign-born, non-citizen`

state   The US state (including DC) where the individual resides. This is derived from the CPS variable `GESTFIPS`.

                 Levels: (The two letter abbreviations for each of the 50 states, including DC)

weight   Statistical weight. Used to calculate union membership and union contract coverage proportions.