Documentation for the nurses web tool

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1 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].

2 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 cov-

ered 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

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.

3 Working with the tool

3.1 Working with trends

3.2 Working with maps