

Quick Guide to Variables in the 2024 GSS Cross-section (Release 2)

Background on Released Variables

The 2024 GSS was implemented using the 2022 experimental design to continue supporting the transition from a traditional face-to-face study to a multimode approach, incorporating web-based data collection tools and collect data more cost effectively. Continued forward from the 2022 GSS, this design made the 2024 GSS data collection more efficient and allowed respondents to have more flexibility in how they preferred to complete the survey. The experimental design is described in detail in the [2024 GSS Codebook](#).

All of the variables that users might consider standard for a complete GSS data release based on the GSS Replicating Core are below. Additionally, all variables from topical modules in the 2024 GSS Cross-section are displayed. Variables appear in one of three forms: bolded, regular, or as strike text.

- Bold variables (e.g., **EXAMPLE**) are included in the 2024 GSS Cross-section Release 2 (R2).
- Regular variables (e.g., EXAMPLE) are not included in the 2024 GSS Cross-section R2 but will be included in a future release.
- Strike variables (e.g., ~~EXAMPLE~~) will not be released in the 2024 GSS Cross-section data, as they were not part of the 2024 GSS Cross-section. Variables were excluded because of survey mode changes, decisions by the GSS Scientific Advisory Board, or other reasons. Variables which are not available on the 2024 GSS Cross-section may be included in future rounds of the GSS.

Additionally, some variables are colored red (e.g., **EXAMPLE**). These variables are new to the GSS as of 2024 GSS.

Finally, an asterisk (*) denotes variables where response categories have been coarsened or changed from earlier cross-sections and a dagger (†) denotes variables which were collected in 2024 but will only be released through a restricted file. For more details on this change, please see the [2024 GSS Codebook](#).

GSS Replicating Core

Items appearing on Ballots A, B, and C

Demographic, Household Characteristics, Paradata, and Process Data

Demographic and life-course data

- Age: **AGE** (recode from date of birth), ZODIAC[†] (recode from date of birth)
- Birth cohort: **COHORT**
- Sex: **SEX**, **SEXBIRTH1**, ~~SEXNOW1~~, **SEXNOW2**
- Race: **RACE**, **RACECEN1***, **RACECEN2***, **RACECEN3***, **RACEACS1-RACEACS10**, **RACEACS11-RACEACS13[†]**, **RACEACS14***, **RACEACS15**, **RACEACS16**

- Ethnicity: **ETHNIC**, **ETH1**, **ETH2[†]**, **ETH3[†]**, **ETHWORLD1-ETHWORLD9**, **ETHREGION1-ETHREGION95[†]**
- Hispanic Origin: **HISPANIC***
- Siblings: **SIBS***
- Marital status or cohabitation status: **MARITAL**, **WIDOWED**, **DIVORCE**, **MARTYPE**, **POSSLQ/Y**, **MARCOHAB**
- Number of children: **CHILDS**
- Age at birth of first child: **AGEKDBRN***
- Geocoded variables: **REGION***, **XNORCSIZ**, **SRCBELT[†]**, **SIZE[†]** (recode from respondent address)
- Education: **EDUC** (recode from a series of education questions), **DEGREE** (recode from a series of education questions), **MAJOR1***, **MAJOR2***, **DIPGED***
- Religious affiliation: **RELIG**, **DENOM***, **OTHER[†]**, **JEW[†]**, **RELITEN**, **RELITENV**, **RELITENNV**, **FUND** (recode from a series of religion questions), **RELTRAD** (recode from a series of religion questions), **NORELGSP**
- Household income: **INCOME**, **INCOME16**, **CONINC** (recode from INCOME16, base 2000 dollars), **REALINC** (Recode from INCOME16, base 1986 dollars)
- Citizenship status: **USCITZN***, **USCITZNV[†]**, **USCITZNNV[†]**, **FUCITZN[†]**, **FUCITZNV[†]**, **FUCITZNNV[†]**, **MNTHSUSA[†]**, **YEARSUSA**
- Language: **OTHLANG**, **OTHLANG1***, **OTHLANG2***, **BETRLANG**, **SPKLANG**
- Sexual orientation: **SEXORNT**

Work/employment data

- Employment status: **WRKSTAT**, **EVWORK**, **WRKSLF**, **WRKSLFFAM**, **WHATSLF2**
- Industry: **INDUS10** (recode from open-ended variable)
- Private or public sector: **WRKGOVT1**, **WRKGOVT2**
- Number of employees: **NUMEMPS***
- Labor supply: **HRS1**, **HRS2**, **WEEKSWRK**, **PARTFULL**
- Occupation: **OCC10** (recode from open-ended variable)
- SEI and Prestige: **PRESTG10**, **PRESTG105PLUS**, **SEI10**, **SEI10EDUC**, **SEI10INC** (recode from OCC + other variables)
- Income from occupation: **RINCOME**, **RINCOM16**, **CONRINC** (recode from RINCOM16, base 2000 dollars), **REALRINC** (recode from RINCOM16, base 1986 dollars)
- Size of workplace: **LOCALNUM**
- Superiors/subordinates in workplace: **WKSUB**, **WKSUBS**, **WKSUP**, **WKSUPS**, **WKSUB1**, **WKSUBS1**, **WKSUP1**, **WKSUPS1**, **YOUSUP**, **SPWKSUP**, **COWKSUP**

Military data

- Veteran Status: **VETYEARS**
- Eligibility for Vietnam draft: **VIETDRAFT**

Spouse/partner data

- Education: **SPEDUC**, **SPDEG**, **COEDUC**, **CODEG** (recode from a series of education questions)

- Employment status: SPWRKSTA, SPEVWORK, SPWRKSLF, SPWRKSLFFAM, SPWRKSLF2, WHATSP2, COWRKSTA, COEVWORK, COWRKSLF, COWRKSLFFAM, COWRKSLF2, WHATCO2
- Industry: SPIND10, COIND10 (recode from an open-ended variable)
- Labor supply: SPHRS1, SPHRS2, COHRS1, COHRS2
- Occupation: SPOCC10, COOCC10 (recode from an open-ended variable)
- SEI and Prestige: SPPRES10, SPPRES105PLUS, SPSEI10, SPSEI10EDUC, SPSEI10INC, COPRES10, COPRES105PLUS, COSEI10, COSEI10EDUC, COSEI10INC (recode from OCC + other vars)
- Religious Preference: SPREL, SPDEN*, SPOTHER†, SPJEW†, SPFUND, SPNORELGSP, COREL, CODEN*, COOTHER†, COJEW†, COFUND (recode from a series of religion questions), CONORELGSP

Parental/social origin data (many of these measures are proxy reports referring to time while respondent was growing up, or when respondent was age 16)

- Birthplace: BORN
- Relative family income: INCOM16
- Family Type: FAMILY16 (slight recode for clarity), FAMILY16SEX, FAMDIF16/Y
- Father's (or oldest same-sex parent's) education: PAEDUC, PADEG (recode from a series of education questions)
- Mother's (or youngest same-sex parent's) education: MAEDUC, MADEG (recode from a series of education questions)
- Father's (or oldest same-sex parent's) work status: PAWRKSLF, PAWRKSLF2, PAWRKSLFFAM, WHATPA2, PAWRKGRW
- Father's (or oldest same-sex parent's) occupation: PAOCC10 (recode from an open-ended variable)
- Father's (or oldest same-sex parent's) industry: PAIND10 (recode from an open-ended variable)
- Father's (or oldest same-sex parent's) SEI and Prestige: PAPRES10, PAPRES105PLUS, PASEI10, PASEI10EDUC, PASEI10INC (recode from OCC + other vars)
- Mother's (or youngest same-sex parent's) work status: MAWRKGRW, MAWRKSLF, MAWRKSLF2, MAWRKSLFFAM, WHATMA2
- Mother's (or youngest same-sex parent's) occupation: MAOCC10 (recode from an open-ended variable)
- Mother's (or youngest same-sex parent's) industry: MAIND10 (recode from an open-ended variable)
- Mother's (or youngest same-sex parent's) SEI and Prestige: MAPRES10, MAPRES105PLUS, MASEI10, MASEI10EDUC, MASEI10INC (recode from OCC + other vars)
- Parental birthplace: MABORN, PABORN, PARBORN
- Grandparents' birthplace: GRANBORN
- Region of residence: REG16*
- Type of residence: RES16
- Geographic mobility since age 16: MOBILE16 (recode)

- Religious affiliation growing up: **RELIG16**, **DENOM16***, **OTH16[†]**, **JEW16[†]**, **FUND16** (recode from a series of religion questions), **NORELGSP16**

Household variables (many of these are collected as part of the Household Enumeration Form, Household Relationships module (new in 2020) or derived from data contained in either module)

- Household size and composition: **HOMPOP***, **BABIES***, **PRETEEN***, **TEENS***, **ADULTS** (derived from HEF/Household Relationships information), **UNRELAT***, **ADULTSINHH** (derived from household composition section), **CHILDSINHH*** (derived from household composition section)
- Demographics and relationships of household members:
 - **RELATE1-RELATE14[†]**, **RELHHD1-RELHHD14[†]**, **RELHH1-RELHH14[†]**, **RELS1-RELS14[†]**
 - **GENDER1-GENDER14[†]**
 - **OLD1-OLD14[†]**
 - **MAR1-MAR14[†]**
 - **AWAY1-AWAY14[†]**
 - **WHERE1-WHERE14[†]** (derived from HEF/Household Relationships information)
- Household race: **HHRACE**
- Household type: **HHTYPE[†]** (derived from HEF/Household Relationships information), **HHTYPE1** (recode from HHTYPE)
- Generations in household: **FAMGEN*** (derived from HEF/Household Relationships information)
- Respondent's relationship to Head of Household: **RPLACE** (derived from HEF/Household Relationships information)
- Presence of visitors: **VISITORS**, **RVISITOR** (derived from HEF/Household Relationships information)
- Earners in household: **EARNRS***
- Dwelling type: **DWELLING** (derived from HEF/Household Relationships information)
- Experimental versions:
 - Household size and composition: **HOMPOP_EXP***, **BABIES_EXP***, **PRETEEN_EXP***, **TEENS_EXP***, **ADULTS_EXP**, **CHILDS_EXP***
 - Household type: **HHTYPE1_EXP**
 - Generations in household: **FAMGEN_EXP***

Racial composition of neighborhood

- **RACLIVE**

Technical data and paradata

- Pre-interview: **HLTHSTRT**, **HUADD[†]**, **HUADDWHY[†]**, **DWELLPRE[†]**, **KIDSINHH**, **RESPOND**, **INCUSPOP**, **NEISAFE**
- Post-interview: **RLOOKS**, **RGROOMED**, **RWEIGHT**, **RHLTHEND**, **HUCLEAN**, **COOP**, **COMPEND**
- Consent: **CONSENT**, **ADMINCONSENT**
- Other people: **WHOELSE1-WHOELSE6**

- Interview length: **LNGTHINV** (recode from timestamps)
- Interviewer characteristics: **INTAGE**, **INTETHN**, **INTSEX**, **INTYRS**, **INTHISP**, **INTRACE1-INTRACE3**
- Respondent skin tone: ~~RATETONE~~, **PERLA**
- Interview mode: **MODE**, **MODESEQUENCE**
- Fees: **FEEUSED**, **FEELEVEL**, **TOTALINCENTIVE**
- Interview language: **SPANENG**, **SPANINT**
- Self-answered Spanish language: **SPANSELF**
- Weights: ~~FORMWT~~, ~~OVERSAMP~~, ~~WTSS~~, ~~WTSSALL~~, ~~WTSSNR~~, **WTSSPS**, **WTSSNRPS**, ~~BALLOTFORMWT~~, ~~BALLOTFORMWTNR~~, **WTSSPS_AS**, **WTSSNRPS_AS** (weighting variables are all composites from many sources of information)
- Respondent ID: **ID**
- ANES linking ID: **ANESID**
- Household informant information: **HEFINFO[†]**, **HEFINFO1[†]**
- Respondent number in Household roster: **RESPNUM[†]**, **RESPNUMH[†]**
- Year of interview: **YEAR**
- Date of interview: **DATEINTV**
- Ballot of interview: **BALLOT**, **VERSION**
- Wording form of interview: **FORM**
- Did respondent complete ISSP: **ISSP**
- Does R have telephone: **PHONE**
- Sampling information: **SAMPLE**, **SAMPCODE**, **PHASE**, **SUBSAMPRATE**, **BATCH**
- Kish data: **KISH**
- Variance estimation: **VPSU**, **VSTRAT**
- File version: **FILEVERSION**
- Survey device: **DEVTYPE**

Attitudes and Opinions

Priorities for national spending

- **NATSPAC/Y**, **NATENVIR/Y**, **NATHEAL/Y**, **NATCITY/Y**, **NATCRIME/Y**, **NATDRUG/Y**, **NATEDUC/Y**, **NATRACE/Y**, **NATARMS/Y**, **NATAID/Y**, **NATFARE/Y**, **NATROAD**, **NATSOC**, ~~NATMASS~~, ~~NATPARK~~, **NATCHLD**, **NATSCI**, **NATENRGY**

Voting and political preferences

- Voting in recent election: **VOTE16**, **VOTE20**
- Presidential vote: **PRES16**, **PRES20**
- Hypothetical presidential vote: **IF16WHO**, **IF20WHO**
- Political views: **POLVIEWS**
- Party affiliation: **PARTYID** (recode from a series of political affiliation questions)

Religious attitudes and behavior

- Attendance at religious services: **ATTEND**
- Frequency of Prayer: **PRAY**