

# ECON 220 - Data Science for Economists (Lab)

## Guide to Signing Up for IPUMS and Exporting Data as CSV

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October 24, 2025

### 1 Introduction

This document provides step-by-step instructions on how to sign up for IPUMS and download data in CSV format. IPUMS provides access to various demographic and economic datasets for research purposes.

### 2 Signing Up for IPUMS

- Go to the [IPUMS website](#).
- Choose the dataset you are interested in (e.g., IPUMS USA, IPUMS International).
- Click on the “Register” or “Create an Account” button.
- Fill out the required information, including:
  - Name
  - Email address
  - Institution affiliation
  - Research purpose
- Agree to the terms of use.
- Submit the registration form.
- Check your email for a confirmation link and activate your account.

### 3 Selecting and Extracting Data

Once you have an account, follow these steps to extract data:

- Log in to your IPUMS account.
- Navigate to the dataset you want to work with.
- Use the variable selection interface to choose the variables needed for your research.
- Click “Add to Cart” for each selected variable.
- After finalizing the selection, go to the “Extracts” page.
- Click on “Create an Extract” and configure the extract format.
- Select **CSV** as the output format.
- Choose the preferred sample(s) and submit the extract request.

- Wait for the extract to be processed. You will receive an email when it is ready for download.
- Download the ZIP file containing the CSV file and extract it.

## 4 Reading the CSV File in Python

Once you have downloaded the dataset as a CSV file, you can read and analyze it in Python using pandas:

```
1 # Import packages
2 import pandas as pd
3
4 # Replace 'yourfile.csv' with the actual filename
5 df = pd.read_csv("yourfile.csv")
6
7 # Display the first few rows
8 print(df.head())
9
10 # Save it with a different name if needed
11 df.to_csv("processed_data.csv", index=False)
```

## 5 Conclusion

By following these steps, you can successfully sign up for IPUMS, extract relevant data in CSV format, and load it into Python for analysis. For further assistance, visit the [IPUMS user guide](#).

## 6 Video tutorials

[IPUMS Channel \(YouTube\)](#)