

Read Me File

Dägg and Janné, "Money, Happiness and the Midlife Crisis"

The replication documentation that this Read Me file accompanies was constructed according to the Specifications of the TIER Protocol (version 3.0).

The data management and analysis for this paper were conducted with Stata SE, 64 bit, version 14, on a Windows operating system. Minor modifications may be required to run the do-files on a Mac or Linux operating system.

The content and organization of the replication documentation:

The documentation for the paper is stored in folders that are organized as illustrated below:

“Replication Documentation” (the main folder)

“Documents” (sub-folder of the of the “Replication Documentation” folder)

ReadMe.pdf: This document.

Midlife-Crisis-paper.pdf: The research paper for which this replication documentation has been prepared.

data-appendix.pdf: Documentation of the processed data files used for the analysis reported in the paper.

“Original Data” (sub-folder of the of the “Replication Documentation” folder)

original-pew.sav: Data file formatted for SPSS.

importable-pew.dta: Data file identical to *original-pew.sav*, except that it has been converted to Stata format.

original-wdi.xlsx: Data file formatted for Excel.

“Metadata” (sub-folder of the of the “Original Data” folder)

metadata-guide.pdf: Information about the sources, content and format of the files in the “Original Data” folder.

Pew-GAP-Survey-details-1.1.pdf: Codebook for the original data file *original-pew.sav*.

“Command Files” (sub-folder of the of the “Replication Documentation” folder)

import-pew.do

import-wdi.do

processing.do

analysis.do

data-appendix.do

“Analysis Data” (sub-folder of the of the “Processing and Analysis” folder)

country-analysis.dta: Processed data file used for the country-level analysis reported in the paper.

individual-analysis.dta: Processed data file used for the individual-level analysis reported in the paper.

Notes on the importable data file:

The file *importable-wdi.csv* is a modified version of *original-wdi.xlsx*. The original file was modified in the following ways:

--explanatory notes were deleted from the bottom of the original spreadsheet

--missing values that were represented by two dots in the original spreadsheet were changed to single dots

--the file was saved in comma-separated values (.csv) format

The file *importable-pew.dta* is a modified version of *original-pew.sav*. The original data file was stored in the proprietary .sav format of SPSS; it was converted to the proprietary .dta format of Stata using StatTransfer software (version 11). (Information about the StatTransfer program is available at www.stattransfer.com).

To reproduce the tables, figures and statistical results reported in the text of the paper:

1) Copy the “Replication Documentation and Analysis” folder, and all of its contents, onto the hard disk of the computer you are working on.

2) Launch Stata, and set the working directory to the “Command Files” folder.

Note: Throughout the entire process of replicating the results of the paper, Stata’s working directory should remain set to the “Command Files” folder. Commands that save or open files specify the path to the directory where the file is to be saved or opened relative to the “Command Files” folder.

3) Execute the *import-wdi.do* command file.

This command file:

--opens the data in the *original-wdi.csv* file

--modifies the data

--saves the modified data in the “Command Files” folder, with the name *wdi.dta*.

4) Execute the *import-pew.do* command file.

This command file:

--opens the data in the *importable-pew.dta* file

--modifies the data

--saves the modified data in the “Command Files” folder, with the name *pew.dta*.

5) Execute the command file named *processing.do* (which is in the “Command Files” folder).

This command file:

--opens the *pew.dta* file (which was created by the *import-pew.do* command file and saved in the “Command Files” folder)

--merges *pew.dta* with *wdi.dta* (which was created by the *import-wdi.do* command file and saved in the “Command Files” folder)

--saves the merged data file in the “Analysis Data” folder, with the name *individual-analysis.dta*. This is the data set used for the individual-level analysis reported in the paper.

--converts the individual-level dataset into a country-level dataset, in which the value of each individual-level variable is transformed to the mean value for all individuals in the same country, and saves this converted data file in the “Analysis Data” folder, with the name *country-analysis.dta*. This is the data set used for the country-level analysis reported in the paper.

--erases the data files *pew.dta* and *wdi.dta* that were created by *import-pew.do* and *import-wdi.do* command files and saved in the “Command Files” folder.

6) The command file *analysis.do* contains commands that generate all the results reported in the paper. Comments in the *analysis.do* command file indicate which commands generate which of the results.

7) The command file *data-appendix.do* contains commands that generate all the summary statistics and figures presented in the Data Appendix (*data-appendix.pdf*). Comments in the *data-appendix.do* command file indicate which commands generate which of the summary statistics and figures.

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