

**README file for MIDUS  
PROJECT 1 MILWAUKEE  
(March 13, 2008)**

**\*\*\* It is important to read through this document carefully  
prior to using the MIDUS Milwaukee data and documentation. \*\*\***

The purpose of this memo is to provide basic information about the MIDUS Milwaukee data and documentation that are being made available via ICPSR.

The Milwaukee MIDUS project was a data collection effort focusing on African-Americans in the Milwaukee metropolitan area. Census blocks were canvassed door-to-door and individuals were screened by race, gender, age, and income. Personal in-house interviews were conducted using CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interview) and ACASI (Audio Computer Assisted Self Interview) formats. Respondents who successfully completed the in-house interviews were sent one 50-page SAQ (Self Administered Questionnaire) within two weeks. Please note: The Milwaukee SAQ is half the size of the main P1 SAQ because many of these items were added to the CAPI/ACASI interview.

(For details, see *M2\_Milwaukee Field Report\_9-12-07*)

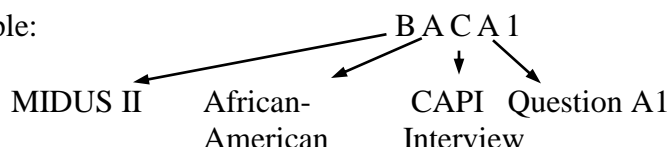
**A. What Data Files Are Available?**

The Milwaukee dataset (*M2\_MILWAUKEE\_CAPI & SAQ\_06\_3-6-08*) contains all data obtained through CAPI, ACASI, and SAQ instruments.

**B. What is the Structure of the Milwaukee Dataset?**

This is a rectangular dataset comprised of CAPI, ACASI, and SAQ data for 592 cases and nearly 2,500 variables. Variables in the Project 1 Milwaukee data have been named according to the Short Variable Name (SVN) conventions. Please note: the 2<sup>nd</sup> character in these SVNs is “A” rather than “1.” The A stands for “African American” and denotes the Milwaukee P1 data.

Example:



All variables include labels to aid interpretation. Value labels have been applied where appropriate. Discrete missing values have also been defined and the following labels applied: DON'T KNOW, REFUSED/MISSING, and INAPPROPRIATE.

(For details, see *M2\_Milwaukee\_Variable Naming and Coding Conventions\_10-29-07*)

### **C. How does the Milwaukee data relate to the larger MIDUS dataset?**

The Milwaukee data replicates all of the variables collected at MIDUS 2, including some items that were only asked at MIDUS 1 (e.g., about early life relationships with parents). Since the Milwaukee data was collected using a face-to-face Personal Interview versus Phone Interview, variables in the Milwaukee instrument and dataset follow a different order than found in the M2 data and instrument. In addition, some of the items assessed by SAQ in MIDUS 2 were assessed by CAPI in Milwaukee. Two pieces of documentation will aid significantly in navigation of the Milwaukee data:

1. A spreadsheet “map” is available (*M1M2\_Milwaukee item comparison\_8-30-07*) which records the name and location of variables across MIDUS 1, MIDUS2, and Milwaukee.
2. The data collection instruments are available and show the sequence in which the items were administered for the CAPI (*M2\_Milwaukee CAPI with SVN\_7-3-07*) and SAQ (*M2\_Milwaukee SAQ with SVN\_7-2-07*).

All Milwaukee data uses the M2ID system, so data collected on this sample by MIDUS Projects 2 through 5 (daily diary, cogbat, biomarker, neurological) can be linked at the case level.

### **D. Constructed Variables**

Roster variables. Original household roster variables in the CAPI interview have been transposed so that each individual in the household is represented by a series of variables instead of indexed by a single variable. There are 17 sets of these variables (corresponding to each of 17 potential household members).

Constructed scales and variables. Constructed scale scores (like those found in the M2 dataset) can be found immediately following the variables from which they were created. (For details, see *M2\_Milwaukee Documentation of Constructed Variables\_8-28-07* and *M2\_Milwaukee Documentation of Scales\_9-4-07*)

Occupation and industry variables. The University of Wisconsin Survey Center (UWSC) created coded Occupation and Industry variables, which were derived from verbatim responses to a series of open-ended questions about occupation, industry and careers. (Spousal occupation variables will be added later.) These constructed variables have replaced the original occupation variables included in the phone interview. Additionally, measures of occupational status are included. (For details, see *M2\_Milwaukee\_Documentation of Industry & Occupation\_7-27-07*)

\*\*\*\*\*

Please report any errors or inconsistencies you find in the data or documentation to  
bradler@wisc.edu

\*\*\*\*\*