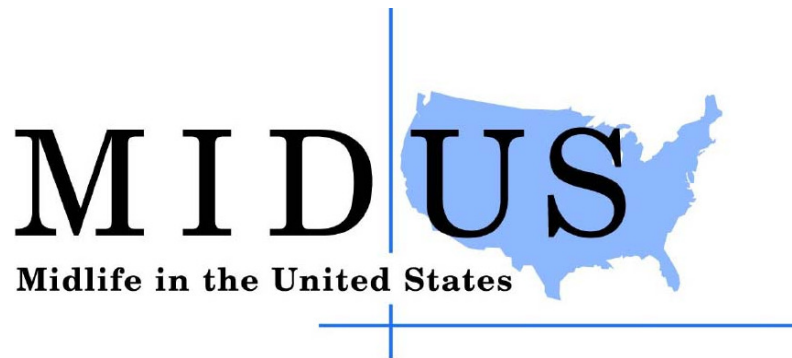


MIDUS 2 PROJECT 3: README

General Introduction to the Cognitive Test Battery

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This document serves as a general introduction for the reader to the cognitive testing data in MIDUS 2. Cognitive testing was carried out using the Brief Test of Adult Cognition by Telephone (BTACT). Documentation includes two main parts: (1) the basic BTACT, which includes accuracy data for 6 subtests and a composite measure, and (2) the Stop & Go Switch Task (SGST), which is a dual executive-function reaction time test producing both accuracy and latency data.

This document also outlines a number of revisions, improvements, and updates that have been made to the MIDUS 2 Project 3 (M2P3) BTACT data since the last version published in 2012.

A. Files associated with Project 3 current release include:

1. Data File Notes: Gives an overview of the BTACT and Stop & Go Switch Task (*M2_P3_BTACT_DataFile_Notes_20211122*)
2. Variable Naming Document: Lists for each measure the specific variable name, ranges, and computational formula, if applicable (*M2_P3_BTACT_VariableNaming_20211124*)
3. BTACT Protocol (*M2_P3_BTACT_Protocol_20211122*)
4. Codebook (*M2_P3_BTACT_Codebook_20211201*)
5. Data file (*M2_P3_BTACT_N4512_20211123*)

B. Revisions in the Updated M2P3 Dataset

- a. The age (B1PAGE_M2) variable has been updated with new versions (B1PRAGE_2019). Both the previous and updated versions of these variables are included in the updated M2P3 dataset.
- b. To be consistent with MIDUS administrative variable updates for all projects, variable B1PGENDER has been renamed B1PRSEX, and the value label for SAMPLMAJ has been updated.
- c. Comprehensive updates made to variable labels, removed all special characters and symbols, such as '#’.
- d. Removed stimuli from value labels for word list recall variables.
- e. The values and codes for missing values (DON’T KNOW, REFUSED OR MISSING, INAPP) have been updated for many variables.
- f. Family ID (M2FAMNUM) updates:
 - Two pairs of twins who shared the same family ID (M2FAMNUM) were discovered to be related by marriage but not by biology. One pair of the twins was given a different family ID to reflect this relationship (M2FAMNUM changed from 120166 to 120967).
 - Another two pairs of twins were discovered to be related by marriage but not by biology. One pair of the twins was given a different family ID to reflect this relationship (M2FAMNUM changed from 120188 to 120968).

C. Notes about the sample

1. Note that the data file contains the M2ID numbers for all participants who completed

any of the cognitive tests, even if they did not have complete data for all tests. Thus, the total N may vary slightly from test to test.

2. For some analyses, it may be appropriate to exclude cases who report speaking only a language other than English (a1se5=4), or who report a stroke (b1pa6a=1), Parkinson's disease (b1pa6c=1), or other neurological disorder (b1pa6d=1).
3. The following 35 cases terminated the telephone interview during the cognitive testing. We have included them in the dataset to provide the largest possible sample for each specific test. If you would like to analyze the sample for those who completed the cognitive interview, you should omit the following cases from your analyses: 10727, 11379, 11774, 12039, 12815, 12854, 13668, 14456, 14573, 14963, 15489, 16309, 16497, 16855, 19052, 12044, 12176, 12678, 12736, 12765, 12913, 13236, 13456, 15066, 15221, 15365, 15377, 15593, 15760, 16237, 16874, 17876, 17910, 18096, 19133.

D. References

For more information about the BTACT instrument see:

- Lifespan Lab Website: <http://www.brandeis.edu/projects/lifespan/btact.html>
- Recent references:

Lachman, M. E., & Tun, P. A. (2008). Cognitive testing in large scale surveys. Assessment by telephone. In S. Hofer & D. Alwin (Eds.), *Handbook of cognitive aging: Interdisciplinary perspective* (pp. 506–522). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Lachman, M. E., Tun, P. A., Murphy, C. L., & Agrigoroaei, S. (2009). Cognition in Midlife: Findings from the Brief Test of Adult Cognition by Telephone (BTACT) with the MIDUS National Sample. Working Paper, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. [<http://www.brandeis.edu/projects/lifespan/btact.html>]

Tun, P. A., & Lachman, M. E. (2006). Telephone assessment of cognitive function in adulthood: The Brief Test of Adult Cognition by Telephone (BTACT). *Age and Ageing*, 35, 629–633.

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