

Episode File

The episode file provides the detailed information on each activity episode reported by respondents. For each episode there is information on the start and end time of the activity, the duration of episode (derived from start and end time), the location of the episode, a set of variables that reflect who the respondent was with during the episode, and information on who an activity helped. Since there could be multiple contacts for an episode, the contact data is provided in the form of a set of variables, one for each type of contact.

The episode file consists of 333 654 records. The unit record for this file is the episode and not the respondent. Each record represents a single activity⁴ in a respondent's day, and all respondent's episodes must add up to twenty four hours (1440 minutes). For example, a respondent who has reported 26 different episodes for his/her reference day has generated 26 records on the Episode file. There is no information on the characteristics of the respondent. However each episode can be linked to the respondent using the RECID and characteristics can be obtained from the Main File. In addition, each episode includes information on the diary day and the total number of episodes for a respondent.

Each episode has a weight, WGHT_EPI. This is the weight to use when using the Episode File to make estimates based on episodes. When the episode file is used to derive a respondent characteristic, the person weight, WGHT_PER, should be used with the derived characteristic. To make this easier, WGHT_PER has been added to the Episode File on last episode for each respondent.

Examples using the Episode file

The episode file can be used for a number of different types of analysis. One use of the file is to consider a given activity (e.g. T.V. watching) and to analyze the distribution of episodes across time (time of day and/or day of week). The file can also be used to look at where various activities take place (e.g. paid work at home) or the social contacts for various activities. The file can also be used to look at the distribution of activities at any point in time (e.g. what is the population doing at 8:00 a.m., 11:00 p.m., 3:00 a.m., etc). More complicated analysis can be done by linking episodes for an individual and looking at the sequencing of different activities. The episode sequence number EPINO will facilitate this. Similarly by linking the episodes back to the characteristics of respondents, one can look at who in the population engages in various activities at different times during the day.

In cases where an analysis focuses on an activity, e.g. television viewing, that could have more than one episode in a day, the analyst must decide which weight to use. If, in the analysis, each episode should contribute separately to the estimate, then the episode weight, WGHT_EPI, should be used. If, on the other hand, each respondent should contribute at most once to the estimate then the person weight, WGHT_PER, should be used with a derived person level variable.

⁴ It is not uncommon to find a string of two or more episodes with the same activity codes. These would have been reported as separate episodes when the location of the activity changed or when there was a change in the social contacts present.

For instance, the average length of an episode of watching television is an episode based statistic, while the average amount of time a person spends watching television in a typical day is a person based statistic. The first would be estimated as the (weighted) average over all episodes of watching television of the length of the episode. The second would be estimated by taking the weighted average over all respondents of the total length for each respondent of all episodes of watching television.

Here are some examples of the logic and algorithms that should be used when working with the Time Use Episode File. The file should for most purposes be sorted by RECID (the respondent identifier) and EPINO (the identifier of separate episodes for the respondent).

a) A person based statistic

When weighted estimates for the average amount of time spent daily at an activity, e.g., work for pay at main job, at a given location, e.g., at home, are required, the estimate is a person based one, the average time a person spends each day at an activity.

Use the variables: ACTCODE
 DURATION
 PLACE
 WGHT_PER

Select ACTCODE= 011 (Working for pay at main job)
 PLACE= 01 (Home).

Calculate the average time by summing across all records as follows:

$$\Sigma \text{ WGHT_PER } (\Sigma \text{ DURATION, where ACTCODE=011 and PLACE=01) }$$

$$\Sigma \text{ WGHT_PER}$$

where DURATION = episode time for episode i (of respondent k).
WGHT_PER = respondent weight for respondent k.

This could be done by using the episode file to create a new file with one record for each respondent and these variables: WGHT_PER, DURINT, where DURINT is the 'duration of interest' for the respondent, the total duration of all episodes for the respondent with ACTCODE=011 and PLACE=01. The procedure would be to set DURINT to zero, then look through the episode records for the first respondent, and whenever ACTCODE=011 and PLACE=01, add DURATION to DURINT. After examining the last episode for the first respondent, save WGHT_PER and DURINT to the new file, reset DURINT to zero and continue with the second respondent. Continue in this way until a record has been added to the new file for each respondent. Then the equation above become:

$$\frac{\Sigma \text{WGHT_PER}_k \text{ DURINT}}{\Sigma \text{WGHT_PER}} = \frac{493\,554\,699}{26\,095\,819} = 18.91 \text{ minutes}$$

Interpretation: On an average day, Canadians spend 18.91 minutes working at their main job while they are at home.

Calculate the participation rate as follows:

$\Sigma \text{WGHT_PER}$ (for those with $\Sigma \text{DURATION}$, where $\text{ACTCODE}=011$ and $\text{PLACE}=01$ not equal to zero, (i.e. DURINT not equal to zero))

$\Sigma \text{WGHT_PER}$

$$= \frac{1,691,904}{26,095,819} = 6.5 \%$$

Interpretation: On an average day, 6.5 % of Canadians do some work at their main job while they are at home.

And so the average time spent per participant is:

$$= \frac{493\,554\,699}{1,691\,904} = 291.7 \text{ minutes}$$

Interpretation: On an average day when they do some work at home, Canadians spend 291.7 minutes working at their main job while they are at home.

b) An episode based statistic

When weighted estimates for the average duration of a single episode of a certain activity, e.g., watching television, the estimate is an episode based one, the average length of an episode of watching t.v.

Use the variables: ACTCODE
 DURATION
 WGHT_EPI

Select ACTCODE = 911, 912, 913, or 914 (Watching t.v.)

Calculate the average time by summing across all episode records as follows:

$$\Sigma \text{WGHT_EPI DURATION, where ACTCODE=911, 912, 913, or 914}$$

$$\Sigma \text{WGHT_EPI, where ACTCODE=911, 912, 913, or 914}$$

where DURATION = episode time for episode j.
WGHT_EPI = episode weight for episode j.

This yields an estimate of:

$$\frac{3\,261\,903\,036}{30\,429\,334} = 107.2 \text{ minutes}$$

Statistical analysis software packages and database management software packages are currently used for exploiting these types of data files. For example, SAS and SPSS are widely used for statistical analysis of this data. While these types of packages can be used to merge information from the Main and the Episode files, intensive users of the Episode file may also want to consider bringing these files together in a relational database. Most database management system software packages provide a mechanism for easily linking and retrieving data from the two files with a one-to-many relation. This is usually based on Standard Query Language (SQL).

Appendix M

2005 Twenty-Four Code Activity System

2005 Twenty-Four Code Activity System

The following table shows the definitions of the Major and Minor activity groupings derived from the 181 activity codes used in the 2005 General Social Survey (GSS). This is similar to the grouping of activities used in both 1992 and 1998 surveys.

Twenty-four Code Activity System

a. Paid work and related activities

1. Paid Work (WORKPAID)

- 011 Work for Pay at Main Job
- 012 Work for Pay at Other Job(s)
- 021 Overtime Work
- 023 Unpaid Work in a Family Business or Farm
- 030 Travel During Work
- 040 Waiting/Delays at Work
- 070 Coffee/Other Breaks
- 080 Other Work Activities
- 832 Hobbies Done For Sale or Exchange
- 842 Domestic Home Crafts Done For Sale or Exchange

2. Activities Related to Paid Work (OTHRPAID)

- 022 Looking for Work
- 060 Idle Time Before/After Work
- 893 Travel for Hobbies and Crafts for Sale

3. Commuting (DUR090)

- 090 Travel To/From Work

b. Household work and related activities

4. Cooking/Washing Up (COOKDOMS)

- 101 Meal Preparation
- 102 Baking, Preserving Food, Home Brewing, etc.
- 110 Food (or Meal) Cleanup

5. Housekeeping (HSKPDOMS)

- 120 Indoor Cleaning
- 130 Outdoor Cleaning
- 140 Laundry, Ironing, Folding
- 151 Mending/Shoe Care
- 152 Dressmaking and Sewing (for self or household members)

6. Maintenance and Repair (MAINDOMS)

- 161 Interior Maintenance and Repair
- 162 Exterior Maintenance and Repair
- 163 Vehicle Maintenance
- 164 Other Home Improvements

7. Other Household Work (OTHRDOMS)

- 171 Gardening/Grounds Maintenance
- 172 Pet Care
- 173 Care of House Plants
- 181 Household Administration
- 182 Stacking and Cutting Firewood
- 183 Other Domestic/Household Work
- 184 Unpacking Groceries
- 185 Packing and Unpacking Luggage and/or Car
- 186 Packing and Unpacking for a Move of the Household
- 190 Travel for Domestic Work

8. Shopping for Goods and Services (SHOPDOMS)

- 301 Groceries
- 302 Everyday Goods and products (Clothing, Gas, etc.)
- 303 Take-out Food
- 304 Rental of Videos
- 310 Shopping for Durable Household Goods
- 320 Personal Care Services
- 331 Financial Services
- 332 Government Services
- 340 Adult Medical and Dental Care (Outside Home)
- 350 Other Professional Service (Lawyer, Veterinarian)
- 361 Automobile Maintenance and Repair Services
- 362 Other Repair and Cleaning Services
- 370 Waiting, Queuing for Purchase
- 380 Other Shopping and Services
- 390 Travel for Shopping for Goods and Services

9. Child Care (CHLDDOMS)

- 200 Baby Care/Child Care (Infant to 4 Years Old)
- 211 Putting Children to Bed
- 212 Getting Children Ready for School
- 213 Personal Care for Children of the Household
- 220 Helping/Teaching/Reprimanding
- 230 Reading/Talking/Conversation with Child
- 240 Play with Children
- 250 Medical Care - Household Children
- 260 Unpaid Babysitting
- 281 Help and Other Care - Household Children
- 291 Travel for Household Children

c. Social support, civic and voluntary activity**10. Civic and Voluntary Activity (VLNTORGN)**

800	Coaching
600	Professional, Union, General Meetings
610	Political, Civic Activity
620	Child, Youth, Family Organizations
630	Religious Meetings, Organizations
651	Fraternal and Social Organizations
652	Support Groups
660	Volunteer Work, (Organizations)
671	Housework and Cooking Assistance
672	House Maintenance and Repair Assistance
673	Unpaid Babysitting
674	Transportation Assistance
675	Care for Disabled or Ill
676	Correspondence Assistance
677	Unpaid Help for a Business or Farm
678	Other Unpaid Help
680	Other Organizational, Voluntary and Religious Activity
271	Personal Care - Household Adults
272	Medical Care - Household Adults
282	Help and Other Care - Household Adults
691	Travel for Civic & Voluntary Activity
892	Travel for Coaching
292	Travel for Household Adults

d. Education and related activities**11. Education and Related Activities (SCHLEDUC)**

500	Full-Time Classes
511	Other Classes (Part-Time)
512	Credit Courses on Television
520	Special Lectures: Occasional
530	Homework: Course, Career/Self-Development
550	Breaks/Waiting for Class
560	Leisure and Special Interest Classes
580	Other Study
590	Travel for Education

e. Sleep, meals and other related activities**12. Night Sleep (DUR450)**

450 Night Sleep/Essential Sleep

13. Meals (excl. Restaurant Meals) (MEALPERS)

050 Meals/Snacks at Work

430 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Home

431 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Another Place (excl. Restaurants)

540 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at School

642 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Religious Services

661 Meals/Snacks/Coffee at Place of Volunteer Work

14. Other Personal Activities (OTHRPERS)

400 Washing, Dressing

410 Personal Medical Care at Home

411 Private Prayer, Meditation and Other Informal Spiritual Activities

460 Incidental Sleep, Naps

470 Relaxing, Thinking, Resting, Smoking

480 Other Personal Care or Private Activities

492 Travel for Other Personal Activities

640 Religious Services/Prayer/Bible Readings

692 Travel for Religious Services

f. Socializing**15. Restaurant Meals (RESTSOCL)**

440 Restaurant Meals

491 Travel to Restaurant Meals

16. Socializing (In Homes) (HOMESOCL)

751 Socializing with Friends/Relatives (No Meal)

752 Socializing with Friends/Relatives (With Meal)

950 Talking, Conversation

*** 951 Telephone Conversation

792 Travel for Socializing (Between Residences)

17. Other Socializing (OTHRSOCL)

753 Socializing with Friends/Relatives (Non-residential or institutional)

754 Socializing with Friends/Relatives (Institutional Residences)

760 Socializing at Bars, Clubs (No Meal)

770 Casino, Bingo, Arcade

780 Other Social Gatherings (Weddings, Wakes)

793 Travel for Other Socializing

*** New code for Cycle 19

g. Television, reading and other passive leisure**18. Watching Television (TELEMDIA)**

- 911 Watching Television (Regular Scheduled TV)
- 912 Watching Television (Time-shifted TV)
- 913 Watching Rented or Purchased Movies
- 914 Other Television Viewing

19. Reading Books, Magazines, Newspapers (READMDIA)

- 931 Reading Books
- 932 Reading Magazines, Pamphlets, Bulletins, Newsletters
- 940 Reading Newspapers

20. Other Passive Leisure (OTHRMDIA)

- 900 Listening to the Radio
- 920 Listening to CDs, Cassette Tapes or Records
- 961 Reading Mail
- 962 Other Letters and Mail
- 980 Other Media or Communication
- 990 Travel for Media and Communication

h. Sports, movies and other entertainment events**21. Sports, Movies and Other Entertainment Events (ENTREVNT)**

- 701 Professional Sports Events
- 702 Amateur Sports Events
- 711 Pop Music, Concerts
- 712 Fairs, Festivals, Circuses, Parades
- 713 Zoos
- 720 Movies, Films
- 730 Opera, Ballet, Theatre
- 741 Museums
- 742 Art Galleries
- 743 Heritage Sites
- 791 Travel to Sports and Entertainment Events

i. Active leisure**22. Active Sports (SPRTACTV)**

- 801 Football, Basketball, Baseball, Volleyball, Hockey, Soccer, Field Hockey
- 802 Tennis, Squash, Racquetball, Paddle Ball
- 803 Golf, Miniature Golf
- 804 Swimming, Waterskiing
- 805 Skiing, Ice Skating, Sledding, Curling, Snowboarding
- 806 Bowling, Pool, Ping-pong, Pinball
- 807 Exercises, Yoga, Weightlifting
- 808 Judo, Boxing, Wrestling, Fencing
- 809 Rowing, Canoeing, Kayaking, Windsurfing, Sailing (Competitive)

- 810 Other Sports
- 811 Hunting
- 812 Fishing
- 813 Boating (Motorboats and Rowboats)
- 814 Camping
- 815 Horseback Riding, Rodeo, Jumping, Dressage
- 816 Other Outdoor Activities/Excursions
- 821 Walking, Hiking, Jogging, Running
- 822 Bicycling
- 891 Travel for Active Sports

23. Other Active Leisure (OTHRACTV)

- 831 Hobbies Done Mainly for Pleasure
- 841 Domestic Home Crafts Done Mainly for Pleasure
- 850 Music, Theatre, Dance
- 861 Games, Cards, Puzzles, Board Games
- 862 Video Games, Computer Games
- 863 General Computer Use (Excluding Surfing the Net or Playing Games)
- 864 Surfing the Net (As a Leisure Activity)
- *** 865 Computer Use – E-Mail
- *** 866 Computer Use – Chat Rooms
- *** 867 Computer Use – Other Internet Communication
- 871 Pleasure Drives, Sightseeing (as a Driver)
- 872 Pleasure Drives, Sightseeing (as a Passenger in a Car)
- 873 Other Pleasure Drives, Sightseeing
- 880 Other Sport or Active Leisure
- 894 Travel for Other Active Leisure

j. Residual

24. Residual Time (DVRESID)

- 001 Missing Gap in Time
- 002 Refusals