

ICPSR 25281

**Midlife in the United States  
(MIDUS 2): Cognitive Project,  
2004-2006**

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Readme File

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<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/cocoon/ICPSR/TERMS/25281.xml>

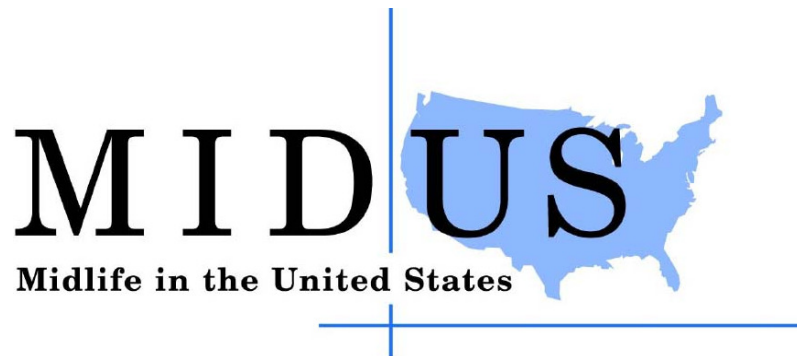
# **MIDUS II PROJECT 3: READ ME FIRST**

## **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 II. 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.

**A. Files associated with Project 3 include:**

1. Data File Notes: Gives an overview of the BTACT and Stop & Go Switch Task (*M2\_P3\_COGBAT\_Datafile-Notes\_4-6-09.pdf*)
2. Variable Naming Document: Lists for each measure the specific variable name, ranges, and computational formula, if applicable (*M2\_P3\_COGBAT\_Variable-Naming\_4-6-09.pdf*)
3. BTACT Protocol (*M2\_P3\_COGBAT\_BTACT-Protocol\_4-6-09.doc*)
4. Codebook (*M2\_P3\_COGBAT\_Codebook\_4-6-09\_XXX*)
5. Data file (*M2\_P3\_COGBAT\_N=4512\_20120713.sav*)

**B. Changes in this Dataset**

1. Data from 306 Milwaukee respondents have been integrated into this dataset. These data were formerly located in a separate Project 3 dataset. These cases can be identified by using the SAMPLMAJ variable. The merged datafile (M2 and Milwaukee cases) totals N=4,512.

2. The addition of the Milwaukee cases to this dataset prompted the removal of three cognitive factor score variables for Composite Score (B3TCOMPZ), Episodic Memory (B3TEMZ), and Executive Functioning (B3TEFZ). These have been replaced by revised versions of the cognitive factor scores that were created based on z-scores for each of the two sub-samples (MIDUS and Milwaukee), and for the total combined sample. Thus, nine variables have been added to the dataset:

The first three variables (Z1) correspond to MIDUS sample (N = 4,206):

B3TCOMPZ1

B3TEMZ1

B3TEFZ1

The next three variables (Z2) correspond to Milwaukee sample (N = 306):

B3TCOMPZ2

B3TEMZ2

B3TEFZ2

The last three variable (Z3) correspond to the total combined sample (MIDUS + Milwaukee; N = 4,512):

B3TCOMPZ3

B3TEMZ3

B3TEFZ3

3. Six cases were removed from the dataset because they did not have M1 data. The M2IDs for the six cases were: 18562,11666,12208,12843,13215,11285.

Sample notes:

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.

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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