

ICPSR 2760

Midlife in the United States (MIDUS 1), 1995-1996

Readme

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Midlife in the United States (MIDUS 1), 1995-1996

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README file for Public Update MIDUS 1 Project 1 Survey Data July 2020

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

This document outlines a number of revisions, improvements, and updates that have been made to the MIDUS 1 (M1) data since its last publication by ICPSR in 2011.

Note: The revised data and documentation are intended to REPLACE all the files associated with previous releases of the M1 data and documentation.

1. Changes to the Datasets

- a. A new M1 dataset is being released that includes coded responses to open-ended and “other specify” measures in the Phone and SAQ instrument:
M1_P1_CODED_TEXT_DATA_N3950_20180518
- b. **UPDATED Twin Screener July 2020:** The M1 twin screener data has been updated to remove 82 twins for whom there is no other MIDUS data available:
M1_P1_TWINSCREENER_DATA_N1914_20200721
- c. The M1 Phone and SAQ data have been updated: **M1_P1_SURVEY_N7108_20190116**

2. Changes in Status of Cases

- a. 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).
- b. 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. **UPDATED Twin Screener July 2020:** Twin zygosity was recomputed according to the algorithm in the Twin Screening Project summary. This re-computation added new zygosity status (ZYG CAT) for two twin pairs (M2FAMNUM=120235, 120618) who were previously missing zygosity status.
- d. **UPDATED Twin Screener July 2020:** One twin pair (M2FAMNUM=120964) did not have any twin screener data so their variables were coded out as “-1”.

3. Variables Revised in the Updated Version

- a. The age (A1PAGE_M2) and birth year (A1PBYEAR) variables have been updated with new versions (A1PRAGE_2019 and A1PBYEAR_2019, respectively). Both the previous and updated versions of these variables are included in the updated M1 dataset. Two new variables (M1BYEAR_FLAG, M1AGE_FLAG) summarize which cases experienced a change in age or birth year. More detailed information about these changes can be found in **M1_P1_DocumentationOfRespondentAge_20190116** described below.
- b. The variable labels for many of the M1 survey variables have been updated to provide more descriptive labels that take into account MIDUS metadata and coding conventions as well as current software capabilities. Also, the missing value codes for all SAQ variables have been updated.
 - The values and codes for missing values (INAPP, DON'T KNOW, REFUSED/MISSING) for many variables have been updated or fixed.
 - Previously, cases that did not complete the SAQ simply had empty cells for all the SAQ variables. Now, SAQ variables are coded "-1" for those cases that did not complete the SAQ.
- c. The M1 weight variables were previously included in two separate datasets. The two main weight variables from these datasets (A1WGHT1 for Phone sample, A1WGHT2 for SAQ subsample) have been consolidated in the survey dataset. Furthermore a series of simple post-stratification weights were computed and added to the M1 survey dataset. These weights were added so that the M1 and MIDUS Refresher (MR) baseline datasets could be combined for comparison and analysis purposes. (A1PWGHT1 A1PWGHT2 A1PWGHT3 A1PWGHT4 A1PWGHT5 A1PWGHT6 A1PWGHT7 A1PWGHT8 A1SWGHT1 A1SWGHT2 A1SWGHT3 A1SWGHT4 A1SWGHT5 A1SWGHT6 A1SWGHT7 A1SWGHT8). More information on the weights can be found in the following documentation:
 - Post-stratification weights: **M1_DocumentationOfPost-StratificationWeights_20180227**
 - Original sampling and post-stratification weights: **M1_P1_TechnicalReport_ResponseRateAndWeighting_20100112**
- d. A small number of cases (n=81) previously did not have a value for A1PRSEX. Using M2 information and tracing resources all but a handful of these cases have been assigned a valid A1PRSEX value.
- e. A1POCC A1POCCP A1POCCS A1POCCD A1POCCM A1PIND A1PINDP A1PINDS A1PINDD A1PINDM – Variable labels for industry and occupation were fixed and value labels added. Also, new industry and occupation variables were categorized into major groups: A1PINMJ A1PINPMJ A1PINSMJ A1PINDMJ A1PINMMJ A1POCMJ A1POCPMJ A1POCSMJ A1POCDMJ A1POCMMJ

- f. A number of constructed variables were computed to populate previously empty values: A1SPOSWF A1SNEGWF A1SPOSFW A1SNEGFW A1SCTRL A1SJCS D A1SJCDA A1SJCD S A1SJCCS A1SJCSS A1SCHROX A1SRXMED A1SRXMEX A1SGENER A1SFAMSO A1SFDSOL A1SSPDIS A1SSPSOL A1SSPDEC
- g. Since the M1 race questions were asked in the SAQ, individuals who did not complete the SAQ had missing data in the resulting variable (A1SS7). A new M1 race variable (A1SS7R) has been computed using M2 race information to impute those missing values.
- h. Two new discrimination scale variables were created to be comparable with other MIDUS survey project discrimination scale variables: (A1SLFEDI A1SDAYDI). The previous discrimination scale variable (A1SDISCR) was removed.
- i. The ceilings for values in the M1 income variables were updated to be consistent with other MIDUS survey project income variables: (A1SJ7 A1SJ8 A1SJ8M A1SJ9 A1SJ9M A1SHWEARN A1SJ10 A1SJ10M TO A1SJ12M A1SJ13 A1SJ13M A1SHHTOT). So doing also required recomputing combined household income variables (A1SHWEARN A1SHHTOT).
- j. A number of skip variables (e.g., SKIP_SB1, SKIP_SC5, etc.) were removed. Instead, these skip patterns were properly documented in the codebook and Portal.
- k. Information that was contained in variables which enumerated any children living in the respondent's household (CNT_BK and CNT_NBK) was combined into existing variables (A1PB35 and A1PB37). Furthermore, a number of empty household roster variables were removed from the data file: A1PB36C1 A1PB36C2 A1PB36C3 A1PB36C4 A1PB36C5 A1PB36C6 A1PB36C7 A1PB36C8 A1PB36C9 A1PB36C10 A1PB37D1 A1PB37D2 A1PB37D3 A1PB37D4 A1PB37D5 A1PB37D6 A1PB37D7 A1PB37D8 A1PB37D9 A1PB37D10.
- l. **UPDATED Twin Screener July 2020:** The updated Twin Screener dataset includes new variables that were numerically coded from the text of open-ended questions in the Twin Screener. The raw text variables have been removed from this updated dataset.

4. Updated MIDUS 1 Documentation

- **M1_P1_DocumentationOfUpdatedAge_20190116.** Describes updates and corrections to age and birth year information in the M1 baseline survey data as well as why these changes were necessary.
- **M1_P1_DocumentationOfScalesAndConstructedVariables_20140826.** Updated to reflect changes in scales and constructed variables.

- **M1_M2_Milwaukee_SampleDescriptions_20180614.** Updated to reflect the changes in family member status among a small number of twin pairs.
- c. **M1_P1_DocumentationOfPost-StratificationWeights_20180614.** Describes the construction of post-stratification weights for the M1 RDD sample and compares weighted and unweighted sociodemographic variables to the Current Population Survey.
- d. **M1_P1_DocumentationOfCodedTextData_20180614.** Describes the process for coding the open-ended and other specify text responses obtained through the Phone interview and SAQ. The resultant variables are available in the Coded Text Dataset.
- e. **M1_P1_TechnicalReport_ResponseRateAndWeighting_20180614.** Title has been updated to distinguish it from both the M1 Field Report (which describes the M1 survey fielding methods) and the new documentation of post-stratification weights. Further information has been added clarifying the nature of the sampling and post-stratification weights and their use.
- f. **UPDATED Twin Screener July 2020:**
M1_P1_TwinScreeningProjectSummary_20200807. Cleaned version of original field report describing the origin of the MIDUS Twin sample.
- g. **UPDATED Twin Screener July 2020:**
M1_P1_TwinScreenerQuestionnaire_20200721. This is a copy of the original Twin Screener instrument.
- h. **Variable crosswalk and harmonization.** A variable crosswalk of all the MIDUS survey variables (as well as all other MIDUS project variables) is available online in the MIDUS Portal (<http://midus.colectica.org/>). The portal contains searchable detailed metadata for all MIDUS variables and provides harmonization information for reconciling differences across longitudinal versions of a variable. Using the portal, variables from across all MIDUS project datasets can be merged into a single dataset and downloaded.

Please report any errors or inconsistencies you find in the data or documentation to
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