

PSID SAMPLE: AMERICA'S FAMILY TREE

The original PSID sample of roughly 18,000 people in 5,000 households consisted of a nationally representative sample and an oversample of low-income families. The oversample was included to facilitate investigations of poverty-related issues. PSID data include economic, social, and health information collected using in-person, telephone, and computer-assisted interviewing methods. PSID families are followed regardless of where they live. The sample grows naturally as children and grandchildren from these families form their own households and are invited to join the PSID. Samples of immigrants have been added to the PSID in 1997/1999 and 2017/2019 so that the sample continues to closely resemble the national population, making PSID America's Family Tree.

CONTENT OF CURRENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Employment	Education
Wages & Income	Marriage & Fertility
Expenditures	Health Status
Wealth	Health Behaviors
Mortgage Distress & Foreclosures	Health Insurance
Pensions	Program Participation
Philanthropy	Computer Use & Technology
Time Use	Housing Characteristics



STUDY DIRECTION AND OVERSIGHT

PSID is directed by faculty at the University of Michigan, with data collection conducted by the Survey Research Operations group within the Survey Research Center at the U-M Institute for Social Research. An external Board of Overseers, comprised of leading scientists from various disciplines, provides scientific input to the project.

SPONSORSHIP

Major sponsorship of the PSID is provided by: the National Science Foundation, the National Institute on Aging, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute on Child Health and Human Development, the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

DATA ACCESS: PSID.org

All waves of the PSID and study supplements are accessible via the PSID [Data Center](#), which provides:

- Automatic merges of all waves of data from the PSID and its major supplements
- Customized codebooks and datasets in a variety of formats including SAS, Stata, SPSS, Excel, and text
- Instructional [web tutorials](#), [bibliographies](#), [technical papers](#) and [user documentation](#)

Some types of PSID data are available only under a [restricted contract](#). These include but are not limited to: geospatial data below the level of state; mortality data; assisted housing data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Medicare claims; and educational characteristics from the National Center for Education Statistics.

DATA ON CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS

 PANEL STUDY OF INCOME DYNAMICS



PSID.org 

PSID

PSID OVERVIEW

The PSID is the world's longest running nationally representative household panel survey. With over 50 years of data on the same families and their descendants, the PSID is a cornerstone of the data infrastructure for empirically based social science research in the U.S. The PSID gathers data on the family as a whole and on individuals residing within the family, emphasizing the dynamic and interactive aspects of family economics, demography, and health. PSID data were collected annually from 1968-1997 and biennially after 1997.

With low attrition and high success in following young adults as they form their own families, the sample size has grown from roughly 5,000 families in 1968 to more than 9,200 families and 24,000 individuals by 2021. The PSID has distributed data on more than 84,000 individuals over the course of the study, collected through 2023.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS OVERVIEW

[The Child Development Supplement \(CDS\)](#) is a research component of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID). CDS provides researchers with extensive data on children and their extended families to study the dynamic process of early human and social capital formation. CDS I-III included up to two children per household who were 0 to 12 years old in 1997, and followed those children over three waves, ending in 2007-08. [CDS-2014](#) and [CDS-2019](#) included all eligible children in PSID households born since 1997. [CDS-2020](#) and CDS-2021 followed up on some of the CDS-2019 households.

[The Transition into Adulthood Supplement \(TAS\)](#), started in 2005 and collected biennially, captures data on the developmental pathways and outcomes of children who participated in the 1997 CDS as they transition into young adulthood. TAS fills a gap between information collected in CDS and information on adulthood collected from panel members who enter the main PSID study once they have assumed economic independence. As of 2017, all young adults age 18-28 are eligible for TAS, regardless of their participation in CDS. TAS-2021 is soon available and includes information collected during the COVID-19 pandemic such as vaccinations, work changes and stimulus payments received.

The TAS interview domains are coordinated with the CDS adolescent measures and the PSID employment and health measures, and also include measures unique to this specific life stage. Together with over 50 years of longitudinal data in the PSID, CDS and TAS support a wide range of research on the ways in which time, money, social resources, parenting practices, and characteristics of caregivers and family members are linked to the cognitive and behavioral development of children, adolescents, and young adults.

DATA COLLECTED IN THE CDS

- High quality age-graded assessments of cognitive, behavioral, and [health status](#) obtained from the parents and the children
- Extensive information on children's out-of-school activities through unique time diary data and stylized survey time use measures
- Rich information about family processes, the home environment, psychosocial characteristics of the caregivers, time parents spend with children, and specific monetary investments from parents/other family members
- Detailed information on schooling and school environments from preschool through high school, with links to the National Center for Education Statistics' Common Core of Data and Private School Universe Survey available
- Measures of family, education, and occupational planning and expectations for the adolescents that link directly into the PSID work and education data, allowing for modeling of the adolescent precursors to adult educational and occupational choices and attainment

CDS - 2014 and CDS-2019

- Coverage of all eligible children in PSID households in full age range (birth to 17 years) from 2014 on
- Collection of saliva samples from children and primary caregivers for subsequent genetic analysis
- Collection of expanded information on children, including use of media and technology (through detailed questions and via time diaries), interaction with pets, and prosocial behavior

CDS-2020

- Collection of information about the impact of COVID-19 on child well-being and family circumstances from a select group of respondents

CDS-2021

- Collection of information post initial onset of COVID-19 and the effects it had on families with children
- Expansion of constructed scales measuring both adult and child psychosocial well-being

DATA COLLECTED IN THE TAS

- Information on young adulthood transitions in schooling, work, and family formation
- Young adults' expectations for family formation and occupations
- Key transitions in responsibilities, time use, and life goals
- Measures of psychosocial well-being
- College names and locations are [collected](#), with links to the National Center for Education Statistics' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System available



STUDY DIRECTION AND OVERSIGHT

The CDS and TAS are directed by faculty at the University of Michigan, with data collection carried out by the Survey Research Center at the Institute for Social Research.

CDS SPONSORSHIP

The CDS and TAS are primarily sponsored by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University.