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Bibliographic Citations

All data used for class projects, theses, dissertations, and publications should be cited in references or bibliographies. Many of the codebooks accompanying data files contain example pages of the proper bibliographic citation of the verso of the title page of the codebook. This is especially true for many of the codebooks produced the ICPSR and for files distributed by a number of government agencies. Below are some details on the format used for citation. The Archive urges all users to employ these guidelines in their work. A bibliographic citation also accompanies all data available from our Dataverse.

Format for Bibliographic Citations

Last name of principal investigator, First name, and Other names in direct order. Title of study (computer file). Edition. Place of production: Producer, Date of production. Place of distribution: Distributor, Date of distribution, Version or edition number.

Here is an example for a citation with one of two principal investigators:

Jackson, James S. and Gerald Gurin. NATIONAL SURVEY OF BLACK AMERICANS, 1979-1980 (Computer file). 1st ICPSR ed. Ann Arbor, MI.: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (producer), 1987.

Research Assistants should be cited as well. For example:

Davis, James Allan. GENERAL SOCIAL SURVEYS, 1972-1978: CUMULATIVE DATA (Computer file). Principal investigator, James A. Davis; Associate Study Director, Tom W. Smith; Research Assistant, C. Bruce Stephenson. Chicago: National Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut (producer), 1991. Storrs, CT.: The Connecticut (distributor), 1991.

When there are more than three principal investigators, cite only the first name:

Boothe, Alan, et al. MARTIAL INSTABILITY OVER THE LIFE COURSE (UNITED STATES): A THREE WAVE PANEL STUDY, 1980-1988 (Computer file). Lincoln, NE.: University of Nebraska, Dept., of Sociology (producer), 1991. Ann Arbor, MI.: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (distributor), 1992.

Corporate bodies are cited as follows:

CBS News/NEW YORK TIMES. CBS NEWS/NEW YORK TIMES NATIONAL SURVEYS, 1983 (Computer file). 2nd ICPSR ed. Ann Arbor, MI.: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, (distributor), 1985.