Marriage History File 1985-2021

Codebook

Number of Variables

20

Thursday April 13 2023 1:51 PM

MH1 "RELEASE NUMBER" NUM(1.0)

Release Number

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
63,599	100.00	1	Release number 1, May 2023

MH2 "1968 INTERVIEW NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL" NUM(4.0)

1968 Interview Number (1968 ID Number) of the Individual

This variable is the identification number for the 1968 Family Unit with which this individual is associated, whether or not he or she actually resided in that Family Unit. The combination of this variable and the individual's Person Number (MH2) provides unique identification for him or her. These two variables are the same identifiers as those used throughout the PSID for individuals. Ranges of values are also meaningful, as indicated below.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
28,815	45.31	1 - 2,930	Individual is associated with a family from the SRC cross-section sample.
3,157	4.96	3,001 - 3,511	Individual is associated with a family from the 1997 New Immigrant sample.
1,445	2.27	4,001 - 4,851	Individual is associated with a family from the 2017 New Immigrant sample.
21,970	34.54	5,001 - 6,872	Individual is associated with a family from the Census sample.
8,212	12.91	7,001 - 9,308	Individual is associated with a family from the Latino sample.

MH3 "PERSON NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL" NUM(3.0)

Person Number of the Individual

This variable, in combination with 1968 Interview Number (MH2), provides a unique identifier for this individual throughout the PSID. Ranges of values are also meaningful, as indicated below.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
24,484	38.50	1 - 19	Individual who was living in an original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample family at the time of the initial interview
7	.01	20	Individual who was spouse of the original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample Reference Person and was living in an institution at the time of the initial interview
376	.59	21 - 26	Individual who was a child or stepchild of the original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample Reference Person and was under 25 and in an institution at the time of the initial interview
11,912	18.73	30 - 169	Individual who has at least one sample parent and who was born into the sample since the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant interview

26,412	41.53	170 - 226	Individual who has no sample parent, or who moved into the sample for the first time after the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant interview
10	.02	227	Individual who was spouse of an original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample Reference Person and who moved out in the year prior to the initial interview
398	.63	229 - 399	Individual who has no sample parent, or who moved into the sample for the first time after the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant interview

MH4 "SEX OF INDIVIDUAL" NUM(1.0)

Sex of Individual

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
31,305	49.22	1	Male
32,294	50.78	2	Female

MH5 "MONTH INDIVIDUAL BORN" NUM(2.0)

Individual's Month of Birth

Note that the individual's birth date on this file may be inconsistent with his or her age and birth date on the PSID main files. See Section IV: Idiosyncrasies, Data Cleaning and Variable Details for more information.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
5,481	8.62	1	January; winter
4,814	7.57	2	February
5,324	8.37	3	March
4,873	7.66	4	April; spring
5,049	7.94	5	May
5,008	7.87	6	June
5,417	8.52	7	July; summer
5,574	8.76	8	August
5,520	8.68	9	September
5,335	8.39	10	October; fall; autumn
5,115	8.04	11	November
5,345	8.40	12	December
744	1.17	98	NA; DK

MH6 "YEAR INDIVIDUAL BORN" NUM(4.0)

Individual's Year of Birth

Note that the individual's birth date on this file may be inconsistent with his or her age and birth date on the PSID main files. See Section IV: Idiosyncrasies, Data Cleaning and Variable Details for more information.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
62,834	98.80	1,884 - 2,006	Year born
765	1.20	9,998	NA; DK

MH7 "1968 INTERVIEW NUMBER OF SPOUSE" NUM(4.0)

1968 Interview Number (1968 ID Number) of the Spouse

This variable is the identification number for the 1968 Family Unit with which the spouse is associated, whether or not he or she actually resided in that Family Unit. The combination of this variable and the spouse's Person Number (MH8) provides unique identification for him or her. These two variables are the same identifiers as those used throughout the PSID for individuals. Ranges of values are also meaningful, as indicated below.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
21,002	33.02	1 - 2,930	Spouse was associated with a family from the SRC cross-section sample.
1,940	3.05	3,001 - 3,511	Spouse was associated with a family from the 1997 New Immigrant sample.
940	1.48	4,001 - 4,851	Spouse was associated with a family from the 2017 New Immigrant sample.
12,535	19.71	5,001 - 6,872	Spouse was associated with a family from the Census sample.
5,138	8.08	7,001 - 9,308	Spouse was associated with a family from the Latino sample.
223	.35	9,999	NA or DK whether ever married
21,821	34.31	0	Inap.: no spouse; never married (MH18=0)

MH8 "PERSON NUMBER OF SPOUSE" NUM(3.0)

Person Number of the Spouse

This variable, in combination with 1968 Interview Number (MH7), provides a unique identifier for the spouse throughout the PSID. Ranges of values are also meaningful, as indicated below.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
14,325	22.52	1 - 19	Spouse who was living in an original core, Latino or New Immigrant sample family at the time of the initial interview
11	.02	20	Spouse who was spouse of the original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample Reference Person and was living in an institution at the time of the initial interview

216	.34	21 - 26	Spouse who was a child or stepchild of the original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample Reference Person and was under age 25 and in an institution at the time of initial interview
3,618	5.69	30 - 169	Spouse who has at least one sample parent and who was born into the sample since the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant interview
13,523	21.26	170 - 226	Spouse who has no sample parent, or who moved into the sample for the first time after the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant interview
49	.08	227	Spouse who was spouse of an original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample Reference Person and who moved out in the year prior to the initial interview
21	.03	228	Spouse who was spouse of original core, Latino, New Immigrant 97/99, or New Immigrant 17/19 sample Reference Person and who died in the year prior to the initial interview
123	.19	229 - 399	Spouse who has no sample parent, or who moved into the sample for the first time after the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant interview
9,668	15.20	800 - 995	Spouse who has never been in any sample family
224	.35	999	NA or DK whether ever married
21,821	34.31	0	Inap.: never married (MH18=0)

MH9 "ORDER OF THIS MARRIAGE" NUM(2.0)

Order of This Marriage

Order of this marriage relative to the individual's other marriages, from earliest to most recent.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
31,962	50.26	1	First marriage
7,361	11.57	2	Second marriage
1,539	2.42	3	Third marriage
259	.41	4	Fourth marriage
64	.10	5	Fifth marriage
16	.03	6	Sixth marriage
9	.01	7	Seventh marriage
2	.00	8	Eighth marriage
1	.00	9	Ninth marriage
-	-	10	Tenth marriage
-	-	11	Eleventh marriage
1	.00	12	Twelfth marriage

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
1	.00	13	Thirteenth marriage
580	.91	98	NA; DK
21,804	34.28	99	Inap.: never married (MH18=0)

MH10 "MONTH MARRIED" **NUM(2.0)**

Month in which this Marriage Occurred

Values indicate the month or season the marriage took place.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
2,154	3.39	1	January
2,400	3.77	2	February
2,437	3.83	3	March
2,727	4.29	4	April
3,230	5.08	5	May
4,463	7.02	6	June
3,444	5.42	7	July
3,776	5.94	8	August
3,463	5.45	9	September
3,027	4.76	10	October
2,763	4.34	11	November
3,016	4.74	12	December
30	.05	21	Winter
54	.08	22	Spring
90	.14	23	Summer
34	.05	24	Fall; autumn
4,687	7.37	98	NA; DK
21,804	34.28	99	Inap.: never married (MH18=0)

MH11 "YEAR MARRIED" **NUM(4.0)**

Year in which this Marriage Occurred

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
39,019	61.35	1,905 - 2,021	Year married
2,776	4.36	9,998	NA; DK
21,804	34.28	9,999	Inap.: never married (MH18=0)

MH12 "STATUS OF THIS MARRIAGE" NUM(1.0)

Status of This Marriage

This variable indicates the status of this marriage as of the wave indicated in MH17.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
23,063	36.26	1	Marriage intact
3,313	5.21	3	Marriage ended in widowhood
13,535	21.28	4	Marriage ended in divorce or annulment
1,621	2.55	5	Spouses separated
31	.05	7	Other: more recent marriage also reported, but no evidence of divorce or widowhood. Individual is probably a bigamist.
232	.36	8	NA; DK
21,804	34.28	9	Inap.: never married (MH18=0)

MH13 "MONTH WIDOWED OR DIVORCED" NUM(2.0)

Month in which This Marriage Ended in Widowhood or Divorce

Values indicate month or season marriage ended in divorce, annulment, widowhood, or some other means.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
1,140	1.79	1	January
948	1.49	2	February
1,161	1.83	3	March
1,000	1.57	4	April
1,052	1.65	5	May
1,200	1.89	6	June
1,033	1.62	7	July
1,059	1.67	8	August
987	1.55	9	September
1,035	1.63	10	October
984	1.55	11	November
1,040	1.64	12	December
51	.08	21	Winter
84	.13	22	Spring
130	.20	23	Summer
78	.12	24	Fall; autumn
4,098	6.44	98	NA or DK month; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8)
46,519	73.14	99	Inap.: marriage has not ended (MH12=1,5,7); never married (MH18=0)

MH14 "YEAR WIDOWED OR DIVORCED" NUM(4.0)

Year in which This Marriage Ended in Widowhood or Divorce

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
14,997	23.58	1,915 - 2,021	Year marriage ended
2,083	3.28	9,998	NA or DK year; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8)
46,519	73.14	9,999	Inap.: marriage has not ended (MH12=1,5,7); never married (MH18=0)

MH15 "MONTH SEPARATED" NUM(2.0)

Month of Separation for This Marriage

Values indicate month or season spouses stopped living together.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
1,160	1.82	1	January
799	1.26	2	February
811	1.28	3	March
759	1.19	4	April
805	1.27	5	May
1,075	1.69	6	June
846	1.33	7	July
831	1.31	8	August
833	1.31	9	September
785	1.23	10	October
753	1.18	11	November
805	1.27	12	December
61	.10	21	Winter
78	.12	22	Spring
98	.15	23	Summer
52	.08	24	Fall; autumn
4,868	7.65	98	NA or DK month; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8)
48,180	75.76	99	Inap.: married or widowed (MH12=1,3); never married (MH18=0)

MH16 "YEAR SEPARATED" NUM(4.0)

Year of Separation for This Marriage

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
12,518	19.68	1,915 - 2,021	Year separated
2,901	4.56	9,998	NA or DK year; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8)

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
48,180	75.76	9,999	Inap.: married or widowed (MH12=1,3); never married (MH18=0)

MH17 "YEAR MOST RECENTLY REPORTED MARRIAGE" NUM(4.0)

Year of the Most Recent Marriage Report for This Individual

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
731	1.15	1,985	Most recently collected in 1985
743	1.17	1,986	Most recently collected in 1986
691	1.09	1,987	Most recently collected in 1987
680	1.07	1,988	Most recently collected in 1988
601	.94	1,989	Most recently collected in 1989
1,106	1.74	1,990	Most recently collected in 1990
1,216	1.91	1,991	Most recently collected in 1991
2,104	3.31	1,992	Most recently collected in 1992
1,912	3.01	1,993	Most recently collected in 1993
2,102	3.31	1,994	Most recently collected in 1994
5,777	9.08	1,995	Most recently collected in 1995
5,885	9.25	1,996	Most recently collected in 1996
1,128	1.77	1,997	Most recently collected in 1997
927	1.46	1,999	Most recently collected in 1999
1,134	1.78	2,001	Most recently collected in 2001
1,702	2.68	2,003	Most recently collected in 2003
1,402	2.20	2,005	Most recently collected in 2005
1,392	2.19	2,007	Most recently collected in 2007
1,596	2.51	2,009	Most recently collected in 2009
1,631	2.56	2,011	Most recently collected in 2011
2,102	3.31	2,013	Most recently collected in 2013
1,749	2.75	2,015	Most recently collected in 2015
2,109	3.32	2,017	Most recently collected in 2017
3,179	5.00	2,019	Most recently collected in 2019
20,000	31.45	2,021	Most recently collected in 2021

MH18 "NUMBER OF MARRIAGES OF THIS INDIVIDUAL" NUM(2.0)

Number of Marriages of This Individual

Values indicate the total number of marriages reported for this individual as of the most recent year of report indicated in MH17.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
21,804	34.28	0	None

23,905	37.59	1	One
12,766	20.07	2	Two
3,553	5.59	3	Three
700	1.10	4	Four
179	.28	5	Five
51	.08	6	Six
31	.05	7	Seven
10	.02	8	Eight
2	.00	9	Nine
-	-	10	Ten
-	-	11	Eleven
2	.00	12	Twelve
2	.00	13	Thirteen
594	.93	98	NA; DK

MH19 "LAST KNOWN MARITAL STATUS" NUM(1.0)

Most Recently Reported Marital Status of This Individual

This variable indicates the marital status reported for this individual as of the wave indicated in MH17.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
29,708	46.71	1	Married
21,805	34.29	2	Never married
3,218	5.06	3	Widowed
6,647	10.45	4	Divorced, annulment
1,995	3.14	5	Separated
226	.36	8	NA; DK

MH20 "NUMBER OF MARRIAGE RECORDS" NUM(2.0)

Number of Records for This Individual

Values indicate the total number of records that this individual has on this file. For example, a value of 2 indicates that this individual has 2 records (2 marriages) on this file. A single record for an individual is used to record either one marriage, zero marriages, or entirely missing data about marital history. Use values in MH18 (# of marriages) to determine which kind of record a value of 1 in this variable indicates.

Count	%	Value/Range	Code Value/Range Text
46,279	72.77	1	One record for this individual: one marriage, no marriages, or an unknown number of marriages
14,080	22.14	2	Two records for this individual
2,604	4.09	3	Three records for this individual

468	.74	4	Four records for this individual
115	.18	5	Five records for this individual
24	.04	6	Six records for this individual
21	.03	7	Seven records for this individual
8	.01	8	Eight records for this individual