# Marriage History File 1985-2017

# Codebook

**Number of Variables**

20

Tuesday April 30 2019 3:54 PM

**MH1 "RELEASE NUMBER" NUM(1.0)**

Release Number

*For Release 2, we have made several corrections as a result of our processing of the new Family Relationship Matrix File.*

| Count | % | Value/Range | Code Value/Range Text |
|---|---|---|---|
| - | - | 1 | Release number 1, February 2019 |
| 60,518 | 100.00 | 2 | Release number 2, May 2019 |

**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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 27,202 | 44.95 | 1 - 2,930 | Individual is associated with a family from the SRC cross-section sample. |
| 2,914 | 4.82 | 3,001 - 3,511 | Individual is associated with a family from the 1997 New Immigrant sample. |
| 1,104 | 1.82 | 4,001 - 4,699 | Individual is associated with a family from the 2017 New Immigrant sample. |
| 21,087 | 34.84 | 5,001 - 6,872 | Individual is associated with a family from the Census sample. |
| 8,211 | 13.57 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 24,176 | 39.95 | 1 - 19 | Individual who was living in an original core, Latino, or New Immigrant sample family at the time of the initial interview |
| 6 | .01 | 20 | Individual who was spouse of the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant sample Reference Person and was living in an institution at the time of the initial interview |
| 371 | .61 | 21 - 26 | Individual who was a child or stepchild of the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant sample Reference Person and was under 25 and in an institution at the time of the initial interview |
| 10,945 | 18.09 | 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 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 24,727 | 40.86 | 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, or New Immigrant sample Reference Person and who moved out in the year prior to the initial interview |
| 283 | .47 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 29,777 | 49.20 | 1 | Male |
| 30,741 | 50.80 | 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: Idiosyncracies, Data Cleaning and Variable Details for more information.*

| Count | % | Value/Range | Code Value/Range Text |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5,191 | 8.58 | 1 | January; winter |
| 4,594 | 7.59 | 2 | February |
| 5,064 | 8.37 | 3 | March |
| 4,611 | 7.62 | 4 | April; spring |
| 4,799 | 7.93 | 5 | May |
| 4,769 | 7.88 | 6 | June |
| 5,154 | 8.52 | 7 | July; summer |
| 5,297 | 8.75 | 8 | August |
| 5,263 | 8.70 | 9 | September |
| 5,094 | 8.42 | 10 | October; fall; autumn |
| 4,858 | 8.03 | 11 | November |
| 5,103 | 8.43 | 12 | December |
| 721 | 1.19 | 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: Idiosyncracies, Data Cleaning and Variable Details for more information.*

| Count | % | Value/Range | Code Value/Range Text |
|---|---|---|---|
| 59,763 | 98.75 | 1,884 - 2,003 | Year born |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 755 | 1.25 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 19,921 | 32.92 | 1 - 2,930 | Spouse was associated with a family from the SRC cross-section sample. |
| 1,767 | 2.92 | 3,001 - 3,511 | Spouse was associated with a family from the 1997 New Immigrant sample. |
| 727 | 1.20 | 4,001 - 4,699 | Spouse was associated with a family from the 2017 New Immigrant sample. |
| 12,070 | 19.94 | 5,001 - 6,872 | Spouse was associated with a family from the Census sample. |
| 5,137 | 8.49 | 7,001 - 9,308 | Spouse was associated with a family from the Latino sample. |
| 199 | .33 | 9,999 | NA or DK whether ever married |
| 20,697 | 34.20 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 14,104 | 23.31 | 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, or New Immigrant sample Reference Person and was living in an institution at the time of the initial interview |
| 214 | .35 | 21 - 26 | Spouse who was a child or stepchild of the original core, Latino, or New Immigrant sample Reference Person and was under age 25 and in an institution at the time of initial interview |
| 3,158 | 5.22 | 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 |
| 12,741 | 21.05 | 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, or New Immigrant 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, or New Immigrant sample Reference Person and who died in the year prior to the initial interview |
| 94 | .16 | 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 |
| 9,230 | 15.25 | 800 - 995 | Spouse who has never been in any sample family |
| 199 | .33 | 999 | NA or DK whether ever married |
| 20,697 | 34.20 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 30,483 | 50.37 | 1 | First marriage |
| 7,015 | 11.59 | 2 | Second marriage |
| 1,467 | 2.42 | 3 | Third marriage |
| 248 | .41 | 4 | Fourth marriage |
| 59 | .10 | 5 | Fifth marriage |
| 14 | .02 | 6 | Sixth marriage |
| 9 | .01 | 7 | Seventh marriage |
| 1 | .00 | 8 | Eighth marriage |
| - | - | 9 | Ninth marriage |
| - | - | 10 | Tenth marriage |
| - | - | 11 | Eleventh marriage |
| 1 | .00 | 12 | Twelfth marriage |
| 1 | .00 | 13 | Thirteenth marriage |
| 538 | .89 | 98 | NA; DK |
| 20,682 | 34.17 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2,087 | 3.45 | 1 | January |
| 2,295 | 3.79 | 2 | February |
| 2,338 | 3.86 | 3 | March |
| 2,615 | 4.32 | 4 | April |
| 3,065 | 5.06 | 5 | May |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4,249 | 7.02 | 6 | June |
| 3,273 | 5.41 | 7 | July |
| 3,610 | 5.97 | 8 | August |
| 3,266 | 5.40 | 9 | September |
| 2,850 | 4.71 | 10 | October |
| 2,628 | 4.34 | 11 | November |
| 2,910 | 4.81 | 12 | December |
| 27 | .04 | 21 | Winter |
| 46 | .08 | 22 | Spring |
| 81 | .13 | 23 | Summer |
| 31 | .05 | 24 | Fall; autumn |
| 4,463 | 7.37 | 98 | NA; DK |
| 20,684 | 34.18 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 37,244 | 61.54 | 1,905 - 2,017 | Year married |
| 2,592 | 4.28 | 9,998 | NA; DK |
| 20,682 | 34.17 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 22,085 | 36.49 | 1 | Marriage intact |
| 3,132 | 5.18 | 3 | Marriage ended in widowhood |
| 12,767 | 21.10 | 4 | Marriage ended in divorce or annulment |
| 1,608 | 2.66 | 5 | Spouses separated |
| 31 | .05 | 7 | Other: more recent marriage also reported, but no evidence of divorce or widowhood. Individual is probably a bigamist. |
| 213 | .35 | 8 | NA; DK |
| 20,682 | 34.17 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1,059 | 1.75 | 1 | January |
| 896 | 1.48 | 2 | February |
| 1,103 | 1.82 | 3 | March |
| 934 | 1.54 | 4 | April |
| 986 | 1.63 | 5 | May |
| 1,142 | 1.89 | 6 | June |
| 971 | 1.60 | 7 | July |
| 1,014 | 1.68 | 8 | August |
| 922 | 1.52 | 9 | September |
| 977 | 1.61 | 10 | October |
| 924 | 1.53 | 11 | November |
| 976 | 1.61 | 12 | December |
| 41 | .07 | 21 | Winter |
| 70 | .12 | 22 | Spring |
| 121 | .20 | 23 | Summer |
| 64 | .11 | 24 | Fall; autumn |
| 3,911 | 6.46 | 98 | NA or DK month; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8) |
| 44,407 | 73.38 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 14,188 | 23.44 | 1,915 - 2,017 | Year marriage ended |
| 1,923 | 3.18 | 9,998 | NA or DK year; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8) |
| 44,407 | 73.38 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1,084 | 1.79 | 1 | January |
| 766 | 1.27 | 2 | February |

| Count | % | Value/Range | Code Value/Range Text |
|---|---|---|---|
| 772 | 1.28 | 3 | March |
| 727 | 1.20 | 4 | April |
| 762 | 1.26 | 5 | May |
| 1,023 | 1.69 | 6 | June |
| 794 | 1.31 | 7 | July |
| 791 | 1.31 | 8 | August |
| 794 | 1.31 | 9 | September |
| 733 | 1.21 | 10 | October |
| 717 | 1.18 | 11 | November |
| 762 | 1.26 | 12 | December |
| 54 | .09 | 21 | Winter |
| 70 | .12 | 22 | Spring |
| 88 | .15 | 23 | Summer |
| 44 | .07 | 24 | Fall; autumn |
| 4,638 | 7.66 | 98 | NA or DK month; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8) |
| 45,899 | 75.84 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 11,885 | 19.64 | 1,915 - 2,017 | Year separated |
| 2,734 | 4.52 | 9,998 | NA or DK year; NA or DK status of marriage (MH12=8) |
| 45,899 | 75.84 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 729 | 1.20 | 1,985 | Most recently collected in 1985 |
| 740 | 1.22 | 1,986 | Most recently collected in 1986 |
| 690 | 1.14 | 1,987 | Most recently collected in 1987 |
| 681 | 1.13 | 1,988 | Most recently collected in 1988 |
| 600 | .99 | 1,989 | Most recently collected in 1989 |
| 1,107 | 1.83 | 1,990 | Most recently collected in 1990 |
| 1,218 | 2.01 | 1,991 | Most recently collected in 1991 |
| 2,104 | 3.48 | 1,992 | Most recently collected in 1992 |
| 1,912 | 3.16 | 1,993 | Most recently collected in 1993 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2,104 | 3.48 | 1,994 | Most recently collected in 1994 |
| 5,777 | 9.55 | 1,995 | Most recently collected in 1995 |
| 5,887 | 9.73 | 1,996 | Most recently collected in 1996 |
| 1,128 | 1.86 | 1,997 | Most recently collected in 1997 |
| 932 | 1.54 | 1,999 | Most recently collected in 1999 |
| 1,134 | 1.87 | 2,001 | Most recently collected in 2001 |
| 1,711 | 2.83 | 2,003 | Most recently collected in 2003 |
| 1,413 | 2.33 | 2,005 | Most recently collected in 2005 |
| 1,402 | 2.32 | 2,007 | Most recently collected in 2007 |
| 1,621 | 2.68 | 2,009 | Most recently collected in 2009 |
| 1,686 | 2.79 | 2,011 | Most recently collected in 2011 |
| 2,240 | 3.70 | 2,013 | Most recently collected in 2013 |
| 2,734 | 4.52 | 2,015 | Most recently collected in 2015 |
| 20,968 | 34.65 | 2,017 | Most recently collected in 2017 |

**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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20,682 | 34.17 | 0 | None |
| 22,808 | 37.69 | 1 | One |
| 12,166 | 20.10 | 2 | Two |
| 3,389 | 5.60 | 3 | Three |
| 675 | 1.12 | 4 | Four |
| 170 | .28 | 5 | Five |
| 38 | .06 | 6 | Six |
| 31 | .05 | 7 | Seven |
| 8 | .01 | 8 | Eight |
| - | - | 9 | Nine |
| - | - | 10 | Ten |
| - | - | 11 | Eleven |
| 2 | .00 | 12 | Twelve |
| 2 | .00 | 13 | Thirteen |
| 547 | .90 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 28,494 | 47.08 | 1 | Married |
| 20,682 | 34.17 | 2 | Never married |
| 2,994 | 4.95 | 3 | Widowed |
| 6,165 | 10.19 | 4 | Divorced, annulment |
| 1,976 | 3.27 | 5 | Separated |
| 207 | .34 | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 44,021 | 72.74 | 1 | One record for this individual: one marriage, no marriages, or an unknown number of marriages |
| 13,412 | 22.16 | 2 | Two records for this individual |
| 2,484 | 4.10 | 3 | Three records for this individual |
| 444 | .73 | 4 | Four records for this individual |
| 110 | .18 | 5 | Five records for this individual |
| 18 | .03 | 6 | Six records for this individual |
| 21 | .03 | 7 | Seven records for this individual |
| 8 | .01 | 8 | Eight records for this individual |