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1985-2017 Marriage History File

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I. Introduction

These files contain data and documentation from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, Marriage History, 1985-2017. This file, MH85_17_readme.pdf, provides information about the contents of all the files in this package. See our web site for a description of sample SAS and SPSS programs needed to merge the family-year data with the cross-year individual data to create a traditional cross-year family-individual file or use the Data Center to do the merging for you. We recommend that you carefully review this material before proceeding with any work using the data files.

A. DATA

There is one data file:

- the 1985-2017 Marriage History File.

The 1985-2017 Marriage History File contains details about persons living in a PSID family at the time of the interview in any wave from 1985 through 2017 and his or her spouses.

The data are in raw ASCII form. Refer to one of the associated program files - SAS, SPSS, or STATA -- for record format layout information, variable names (or numbers), variable labels (or names), and missing data codes.

File Attributes and Variables for Data Files

File name	Records	Number of variables	Variables
mh85-17.txt	60,518	20	MH1-MH20

B. SAS, SPSS & STATA

These files contain SAS, SPSS and STATA statements providing information about the variables in the data files. The naming conventions are the same as for the data files, e.g., mh85_17.sas contains SAS statements for the data file, mh85_17.sps contains SPSS statements for it, and mh85_17.do contains equivalent STATA statements.

The statements provide variable names and locations, variable labels, and missing data codes (the STATA file does not contain missing data codes). Not all variables in the collection have assigned missing data codes. The missing value specifications provided are consistent with those specified in the codebooks. You should check the codebook for each variable you are including in your analysis to determine if other codes should also be defined as missing.

The SAS, SPSS and STATA statements are NOT intended to represent completed and full programs for the respective statistical program packages to run extracts, analysis, etc. You must provide all other package-specific statements needed to complete a program.

File Attributes for Program Statement Files

Filename
mh85_17.sas
mh85_17.sps
mh85_17.do

C. DOCUMENTATION

PSID User Guide

For an overview of the 1985-2017 Marriage History File, 2017 questionnaire changes, a description of our generated and hand coded variables, please see the PSID Main Interview User Manual: located on our website at http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Guide/documents.aspx.

The following machine-readable documentation files are provided with this package.

File Description and Attributes for Documentation Files

Contents	Filename	Approximate # printed pages
1985-2017 Marriage History Codebook:	mh85_17_codebook.pdf	10

II. Additional Help

For general assistance, please contact:

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