

POTENTIAL RESEARCH AREAS

- Inter- and intergenerational connections in health: The genealogical design can be used to assess the similarities and differences in health between brothers and sisters, and between parents and adult children
- Socioeconomic status and health: Income, wealth, consumption, and education data can be combined with extensive health data to help understand the strong connections between socioeconomic outcomes and health status
- Life course modeling: Baby boomers can be followed from childhood to adulthood and into retirement years, and then compared with other birth cohorts
- Contextual effects on social and economic outcomes: With a confidential contract, resident census tract is identified, allowing data to be linked to externally measured neighborhood factors
- Financial planning and well-being: Assessment of the effects of stock market-induced fluctuations in household wealth on the decision to retire or un-retire
- Changes in wealth holdings: Investigation of changes in wealth and active savings prior to and during life course transitions such as job loss, health shocks, children's enrollment in higher education
- Mortality modeling: Nearly 6,000 PSID family members have died since 1968, supporting detailed assessment of the causes of mortality using data linked to the National Death Index



STUDY DIRECTION AND OVERSIGHT

The PSID is directed by faculty at the University of Michigan, with data collection carried out by the Institute for Social Research. An external Board of Overseers, which consists of leading scientists from various disciplines, provides scientific input and monitors the project.

Co-Directors: Charlie Brown and Robert Schoeni

Co-Principal Investigators: Vicki Freedman (aging & health), Narayan Sastry (child & family) and Frank Stafford (special projects)

Assistant Director: Katherine McGonagle

SPONSORSHIP

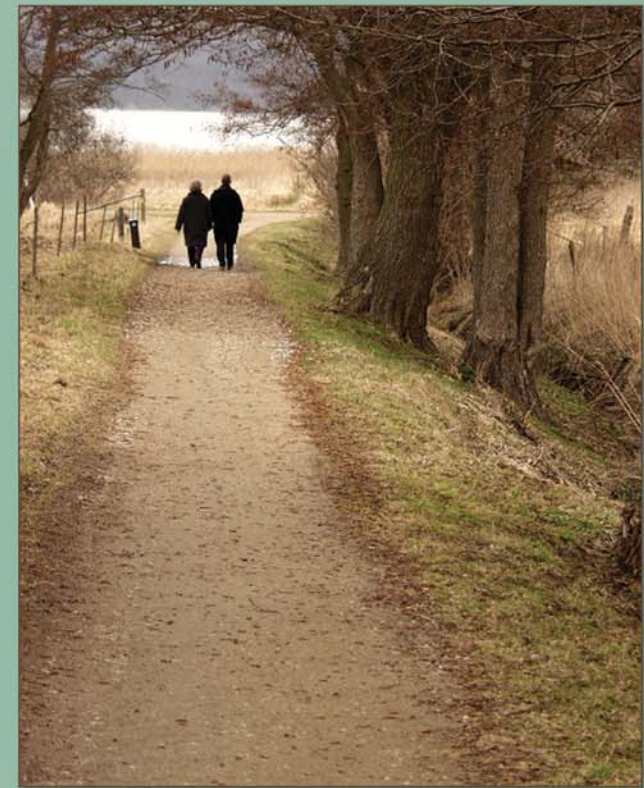
PSID is sponsored by: the National Science Foundation, the National Institute on Aging, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture – Economic Research Service, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Dept. of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

DATA ACCESS

All waves of PSID data are freely accessible through the web-based PSID Data Center. The user-friendly Data Center provides options for automatic merges of data across all waves. Customized codebooks and datasets in a variety of formats including SAS, Stata, SPSS, Excel and Text are available. Tutorials, bibliographies, and other user information can be found on the website.

PSID

A national study of socioeconomics & health
over lifetimes & across generations



www.psidonline.org

DATA ON
AGING & HEALTH

PSID

DATA ON FAMILIES SINCE 1968

OVERVIEW

Design features of the PSID allow researchers to uniquely address research questions on aging. Thousands of PSID respondents have been interviewed each wave since 1968, representing a large portion of their life course. Content is broad, including health status, health insurance, health care expenditures, wealth, income, expenditures, demographic outcomes, and more.

PSID has always followed sons and daughters of sample members, which allows researchers to compare economic, health, and social outcomes across generations within the same family and among adult siblings.

The PSID is freely available to all users world wide. Data are distributed at the PSID web site (psidonline.org), where users can create customized extracts and codebooks.

SAMPLE DESIGN

The original PSID consisted of a national sample. An over-sample of low-income families was included to provide adequate sample sizes for investigating poverty related issues. Roughly 18,000 individuals living in 5000 households were members of the original 1968 sample.

In 1997/1999 a sample of 511 immigrant families was added to enhance representativeness. Using weights provided by the PSID, it has been shown that the PSID sample continues to closely resemble the national population even after more than 40 years of interviewing

WEALTH

Beginning in 1984, respondents reported information on wealth holdings, including: the amount of money put into pensions, private annuities, IRAs, real estate, stocks and bonds, business or farm, and other forms of savings such as a home remodel; any amount received for selling part of a business or farm, or from an inheritance; and the values for the items listed below. (A Mortgage Distress and Foreclosures question series was added in 2009.)

- Home equity
- Equity in real estate other than main home
- Vehicles, including boats, motor homes, and trailers
- Farm or business net worth
- Private annuities and Individual Retirement Accounts
- Checking or savings accounts, money market funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, government savings bonds, and treasury bills
- Other savings or assets, such as bonds, life insurance policies, and valuable collectables
- Debts on credit cards and student loans
- Transfers and bequests

PENSIONS

The PSID collects information on pension coverage and balances for people of all ages, including:

- Whether covered; number of years covered by the plan
- Whether vested; if not, how long until vested
- Whether making contributions; if so, how much is required and how much actually put into the plan
- Whether have defined contribution or defined benefit
- Whether employer contributes to plan; if so, how much
- Youngest age at which could draw employer contributions to pension
- Value of plan and whether mainly invested in stocks, bonds, or annuities

EMPLOYMENT & RETIREMENT

Employment outcomes have also been a focus of the PSID. Information is collected on employment, retirement, occupation, industry, firm size, earnings, hours, benefits and other characteristics of employment.

HEALTH

PSID health modules support analyses of the evolution of health outcomes over the life course:

- Disability – ADLs, IADLs, and hospitalization
- Chronic health conditions – onset, duration, recency, and frequency
- Health status – since birth, adolescence, last interview, and current
- Body Mass Index – height and weight
- Health behaviors – exercise, smoking, drinking
- Health care expenditures – Medicaid, Medicare, insurance coverage and premiums
- Linkages to Medicare claims available with restricted data agreement
- Mental health – psychiatric disorders, 30 day distress, 12 month depression
- Childhood health – physical and emotional conditions
- Mortality – date and cause of death available under restricted contract

DISABILITY AND USE OF TIME

A supplemental data collection (DUST) was conducted in 2009 to investigate the connections between disability, time use, and well being among older couples. More than 750 heads and wives were each interviewed twice about two randomly selected days – one week day and one weekend day – yielding over 1500 time diaries. Information was obtained about:

- What respondents did and with whom
- Where they were during activities
- How they felt
- For whom the activities were carried out (household and care-related activities)

Diaries also include detailed measures of well-being for three randomly selected activities per diary. The first interview also included in-depth questions about the respondent's health, functioning, well-being, and stylized time use/participation measures.

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