CONTENT OF CURRENT QUESTIONNAIRE
- Employment
- Wages
- Income
- Expenditures
- Wealth
- Mortgage distress & foreclosures
- Pensions
- Philanthropy
- Education
- Marriage & fertility
- Health status
- Health behaviors
- Health insurance
- Program participation
- Computer use
- Housing characteristics

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.

Director: Charles Brown
Associate Directors: Vicki Freedman and Narayan Sastry
Assistant Director: Katherine McGonagle

GENERATIONAL & LIFE COURSE DATA
The long panel, genealogical design, and broad content of the PSID data offer unique opportunities to conduct generational and life course research. The PSID now contains thousands of generational relationships over nearly 50 years of data, including:

“Paired” generational relationships, with each family in the pair providing independent interviews (as of 2013 wave)
- Parent-Adult Child pairs: ~5,000
- Sibling pairs: ~5,600
- Cousin pairs: ~4,500

“Tripled” generational relationships, with all three generations providing independent interviews (as of 2013 wave)
- Granparent-Parent-Adult Child triplets: ~1,300

The Family Identification Mapping System (FIMS) tool facilitates genealogical analysis by automatically creating a customized file containing identification variables of PSID sample members’ relatives (including biological and adoptive children, parents, and grandparents, great-grandparents, and siblings).

SPONSORSHIP
PSID is sponsored by: the National Science Foundation, the National Institute on Aging, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute on Health and Human Development, the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

DATA ACCESS: PSID.org
All waves of the PSID and study supplements are accessible via the PSID Data Center, which provides:
- Automatic merges of all waves of data
- Customized codebooks and datasets in a variety of formats including SAS, Stata, SPSS, Excel, and text
- Instructional webinars and tutorials, bibliographies, technical papers, and user documentation

Some types of PSID data are available only under a restricted contract. These include: geospatial data down to block-level; mortality data from the National Death Index; assisted housing matched to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development data; Medicare claims; and educational characteristics linked to the National Center for Education Statistics data.

PSID.org
OVERVIEW

The PSID is the world’s longest running nationally representative household panel survey. With nearly 50 years of data on the same families and their descendants, the PSID is a cornerstone of the data infrastructure for empirically based social science research in the U.S.

The PSID gathers data on the family as a whole and on individuals residing within the family, emphasizing the dynamic and interactive aspects of family economics, demography, and health. PSID data were collected annually 1968-97 and biennially after 1997.

With low attrition and high success in following young adults as they form their own families, the sample size has grown from roughly 5,000 families in 1968 to more than 10,000 families and 24,000 individuals. The PSID has distributed data on more than 75,000 individuals collected for almost 50 years.

THE PSID SAMPLE

The original PSID consisted of a national sample. An oversample of low-income families was included to provide adequate sample sizes for investigating poverty related issues. Roughly 18,000 individuals living in 5,000 households were members of the original 1968 sample.

All 1968 sample members have the PSID “gene,” and they are followed in all subsequent waves across their entire lives, regardless of where they live. All individuals born to or adopted by somebody with the PSID “gene” acquires the gene themselves, and therefore are followed. As a result, when children in PSID families grow up and form their own independent households, they are interviewed.

In 1997/1999, a sample of 511 immigrant families was added to enhance representativeness. Using weights provided by the PSID, the PSID sample continues to closely resemble the national population even after nearly 50 years of interviewing.

DATA ON HEALTH & AGING

The PSID has gathered rich information in the domains of health, wealth, and pensions. These data can be used in combination with panel data on employment, income, race, and education, which in some cases is available over almost the entire life course.

Data collected on health includes health status, onset and recency of health conditions, health behaviors such as alcohol use, smoking, and exercise, BMI, health insurance, and expenditures. Information about mental health was collected starting in 2001. A health history calendar was implemented starting in 2007 to collect information on early childhood health conditions, including age of onset and duration.

DATA ON CHILDHOOD & YOUNG ADULTHOOD

The Child Development Supplement (CDS) collects extensive data on parents and their children and adolescents in PSID families. The first cohort of the CDS was launched in 1997 and observed children every five years across three waves from 1997 to 2007 in order to study the dynamic process of early life human and social capital acquisition.

Starting in 2014, the CDS began following a new cohort of children, conducting interviews with all eligible children in PSID families born or adopted since 1997 and their primary caregivers. The study design and questionnaire content are consistent with earlier waves of the CDS to permit cross-cohort analysis of children’s development. New study features include:

- Coverage of all eligible children in PSID families in the full age range (birth to 17 years)
- Collection of saliva samples from primary caregivers and children for future genetic analysis
- Collection of expanded information on children, including their time use, interaction with pets, and prosocial behavior

Once children from the CDS reach age 18 they are followed in the Transition into Adulthood study (TA) which started in 2005 and has collected data across six waves as of 2015. The study captures data on the developmental pathways and outcomes during the transition from childhood to young adulthood.

DISABILITY AND USE OF TIME

A supplemental data collection (DUST) was conducted in 2009 and 2013 to investigate the connections among disability, time use, and well-being of older adults. 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)