Panel Study of Income Dynamics

2013 Rosters and Transfers Modules

Description of Final Files

August 2016

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Release 2 Notes: *For Release 2 we have generated a new distance measure RT13V112 which is a calculation in whole miles between the Main Family place code coordinates and the Parent/Child place code coordinates. Please note this new variable may be obtained under restricted contract only.*

This document provides an overview of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics' 2013 Rosters and Transfers Final Release Files. A video tutorial is also available at http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Guide/tutorials/default.aspx

There are two final release files with 2013 Rosters and Transfers Information. The R&T Family Level File contains information at the family level (for Heads and if applicable Wives/"Wives" in 2013). The R&T Parent/Child File contains roster and transfer information for specific parent units and children of 2013 Heads and Wives/"Wives".

1. Rosters & Transfers Family Level File

The Family Level File combines information collected in the rosters/transfers sections of the 2013 PSID. The file includes summary information on family structure and whether there were any short-term transfers to and from parent units and children in the last year, and if so the amount summed over parent units or children (with an indicator of completeness of the amount). Indicators of any long-term transfers from parents and to children are also on the Family Level File along with information on which parent unit gave the long-term transfers.

Family structure variables

The Family Level file includes summary information on the number of parent units in the Parent Unit-Child File, the number of children in the Parent-Unit Child File, and the number of siblings for the Head and, if relevant, the Wife/"Wife." Summary variables describe the vital status of the Head's, and if relevant the Wife/"Wife's", parents.

Transfer variables to/from Parent Units

The Family Level file also includes summary information on short-term and long-term transfers with parent units.
Separate variables indicate any transfer in the last year, and if so amount across all parent units (and completeness of amount), of the following types:

- Time given to one or more parent unit(s)
- Money given to parent units
- Time received from parent units
- Money received from parent units.

Separate variables indicate any transfer to the Head and if relevant, the Wife/"Wife" since the age of 18 of the following types:

- Any parent helped pay for school
- Any parent helped with home purchase
- Any parent gave other financial help

In addition, for long-term transfers from parent units, the Family Level file includes information on which parent units provided the transfer. The information is on the Family Level file instead

of the Parent Unit-Child File because long-term transfers may have come from a parent unit that differs from those in the Parent Unit-Child File. For instance, a Head's biologic mother and father may have helped with a home purchase many years ago, but the Head's current biologic mother may now be remarried to the Head's step-father. In order to avoid linking long-term transfers to an incorrect parent-unit, this information was left in its original form on the Family Level file.

Transfer variables to/from Children

The Family Level file also includes summary information on short-term and long-term transfers with children.

Separate variables indicate any transfer in the last year, and if so amount summed across all children (and completeness of amount), of the following types:

- Time given to one or more child(ren)
- Money given to children
- Time received from children
- Money received from children

The Family Level file also includes summary information on any long-term transfers to children, of the following types.

- Helped pay for any child's school
- Helped pay for any child's home purchase
- Gave any child other financial help

2. Rosters & Transfers Parent/Child File

The Parent/Child File combines information collected in the rosters/transfers sections onto records representing family members of Heads and Wives/"Wives" in the Roster & Transfer Family Level File.

There are two types of records on the file. The first type of record has information about a Head's or Wife's ("Wife's") parent "unit." A parent unit can be either a single parent, a parent and his/her spouse, or a parent and his/her cohabiting partner. The second type of record has information about a Head's or Wife's ("Wife's") biologic, adopted, or step child.

Because many parallel questions were asked about parent units and children in the roster and transfer module they can be combined into one file. There is a variable that distinguishes between parent unit records and child records.

Each parent unit and child in the file is paired with a Family Level record representing a Head and if applicable Wife/"Wife". Thus, it is possible for the same child to appear twice in the file if their biologic/adopted parents are in different FUs and if both are still in the PSID as a Head and/or Wife/"Wife". It is also possible for the same parent unit to appear multiple times in the file (once for every Head and Wife/"Wife" in the PSID that is an adult child of that parent unit).

Parent Unit Records

The parent unit records contain one observation for each parent unit named in the roster. For parents who are married or cohabiting this parent unit is a couple. For parents who are not married or cohabiting the parent unit is an individual parent. The maximum number of parent units for a Family Level is four -- if both the Head and Wife ("Wife")'s biologic or adopted parents have divorced and all four parents were still living in 2012 and not marked as "Don't know" or "Refused".

For each parent unit record, the characteristics of each biologic/adopted parent in the unit (age, health status, work status, marital status) and characteristics of the unit (city and state, home ownership, income) are included along with time and money given to the parent by the FU and received from parents by the FU.

Deceased parents: Parents who died before 2012 are not included in the file. It is possible to use the PID to find parents who are now deceased and who appeared in PSID at some point.

Child records

The child records contain one observation for each child listed on the roster of a given family level. For each child record, the characteristics in the child roster are included in their record along with time and money given to that child by the FU and received from that child by the FU. Long-term transfers to each child are also included on the child record.

Roster characteristics and transfers

Because the roster characteristics and transfer questions for parents and children were designed to be very similar, many child- and parent-specific variables can be combined into variables that apply to both children and parents. For example, for home ownership and income as well as short-term transfers (time and money to and from) variables include responses to these questions for both parent units and children. For descriptors of biologic/adopted parents within a married or cohabiting parent unit such as age, health, and work status, there are separate variables for each parent in the unit (designated as #1 and #2, where #1 applies to the father and #2 to the mother).

3. Linking with the Final Roster and Transfer Files

The final files are linkable to the 2013 Family Data File and to the 1968-2013 Cross Year Individual File.

Both the Family Level File and the Parent/Child File contain:

- 2013 Family Id Number
- 68 ID/PN Head
- 68 ID/PN Wife "Wife"

In addition, the Parent/Child File has IDs and relationship to Head and if applicable to the Wife/"Wife" for many of the biologic/adopted parents and children. These IDs are linkable to the PSID's Parent Identification (PID) File by 68 ID/PN and relationship. The Parent/Child File

also has 68 ID/PN for parents and children which is linkable to the 1968-2013 Cross Year Individual File for all parents and children who have been interviewed in the PSID.

Finally, to link the Family Level File to the Parent/Child File, both files contain a unique key. This key also corresponds to the 2013 Family Interview (ID) Number ER53002 and to the Yearly Interview Number ER34201 on the Cross Year Individual File.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What linking ids are on the R&T files?

The Final RT file includes the 2013 Family IW number which can be merged with the 2013 Family File. Head and Wife 68 Id, Person Number, and Yearly Interview Number are the variables on the Parent /Child file that be merged with the 1968-2013 Cross Year Individual File. Child and Parent IW number and Person Number can also be linked with the 1968-2013 Cross Year Individual File if that Child or Parent has been observed in the PSID in any wave.

Family File
ER53002 corresponds to RT13V2 on the RT Family File and to RT13V61 on the Parent/Child File
Individual File
ER30001 corresponds to RTV13V63 for Heads and RTV13V67 for Wives/"Wives"
ER30002 corresponds to RTV13V64 for Heads and RTV13V68 for Wives/"Wives"
ER34201 corresponds to RT13V2/RT13V61

2. Why is age available for parents but estimated for children?

We asked respondents to tell us parental age but asked for confirmed month and year of birth for children. We therefore created estimated age for children based on month and year of birth and interview date. We assumed in these calculations that the day of birth was the 15th of the month. Consequently, we estimate that in about 2% of cases our estimate will be 1 year too high and in 2% of cases 1 year too low.

3. How do users determine the kind of record in the Parent/Child File?

We have provided users with several variables. The first variable, "Type of Record," indicates whether the record is parent unit or child.

1 Child record
2 Parent unit record

Parent records have more detailed information in the variable "Type of Parental Unit Record" that indicates whether this record is:

1. Head's biologic/adopted parents
2. Head's biologic/adopted father
3. Head's biologic/adopted father and partner
7. Head's biologic/adopted mother
8. Head's biologic adopted mother and partner
14. Wife/"Wife's" biologic/adopted parents
15. Wife/"Wife's" biologic/adopted father
16. Wife/"Wife's" biologic/adopted father and partner
20. Wife/"Wife's" biologic/adopted mother
21. Wife/"Wife's" biologic adopted mother and partner

Child records have additional variables that indicate relationship to Head ("Relationship to HD # 1") **and** to Wife ("Relationship to WF #1"). Parent unit records have an indicator of either relationship to Head **or** to Wife.

4. Where are the geography questions?

Location of children and parent units have been suppressed from the public release file. More detailed information will be available for release under restricted contract.

5. How can I learn more?

A video tutorial is available at http://psidonline.isr.umich.edu/Guide/tutorials/default.aspx