

**Call for Papers**  
**Conference on Spatial Distance Between Family Members**  
**Health and Retirement Study (HRS) and the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)**

With support from the National Institute on Aging, the HRS and PSID will hold a two-day workshop in September 2010 to highlight research using newly available data from these two panel studies. The HRS obtained the zip codes of respondents' children in the 2004, 2006, and 2008 waves. Among the many possibilities, these data allow one to determine distances between respondents and their children and among the siblings themselves. The PSID provides similar data over an even greater time span. Begun in 1968, the PSID has a genealogical design, following individuals and their descendants across their life course. Because the location of respondents is known in each wave, distances between individuals and their various family members at a point in time and over time can be calculated. Combined with the wide array of other data in both surveys, these additional data on location and distances between family members can be used to study a wide array of issues. For example:

- How far do children move from their parents when they leave their parental home initially, and which children move the farthest?
- How does the distance between adult children and their parents change over the child's and the parent's life course? And how do job opportunities, unemployment spells, health shocks, changes in marital status, fertility, and other factors influence these patterns?
- How far do siblings live from each other? Within families, which siblings live the farthest from other siblings and from their aging parents?
- Does a desire to live near family members induce rigidities in the labor market?
- When parents divorce, are children more likely to live near a mother or father?

These and many other questions can be investigated with these new data. The goals of the workshop are to stimulate research using these new data and to learn from researchers ways in which such data can be made more accessible to the research community.

**Submission guidelines:** We seek abstracts from authors interested in presenting their research using the geographic information in either data set in order to study issues related to distances between family members. If you would like to be considered for this workshop, please submit a two page description of your research idea and analytical plan by February 28, 2010. In addition, please submit the CVs of all authors. The abstracts will be reviewed by a knowledgeable panel of experts, with the top submissions chosen to be presented at the workshop. Because the conference will be held relatively soon, authors will not need to prepare complete manuscripts for the workshop. Instead, authors will need to be prepared to present a roughly 45 minute seminar and contribute to a group discussion about issues related to the use of these data.

All persons are eligible to submit an abstract. Those persons whose abstracts are selected will be given access to HRS constructed measures of distance between parents and children, and between up to four siblings. Additionally, researchers can apply for access to restricted HRS and PSID data giving more specific geographic measures following standard procedures. We will make every effort to help participants fulfill the requirements for restricted data access as quickly as possible.

Please submit abstracts and CVs as a single electronic file (in Word or PDF form) to [aneesabu@isr.umich.edu](mailto:aneesabu@isr.umich.edu). Questions regarding the workshop should be directed by e-mail to Aneesa Buageila.

**Funding:** Domestic travel and lodging expenses for one author will be paid for by HRS and PSID. The conference will be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**Deadline for Submission of Abstracts:** February 28, 2010

**Notification of Acceptance:** March 7, 2010