

A PANEL STUDY OF INCOME DYNAMICS:
1988 TIME AND MONEY TRANSFERS FILE

(DOCUMENTATION)

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE 1988 INTERVIEWING YEAR

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Section I: Overview

Release 6 Summary: *This file was re-released with the most up to date Person Numbers in conjunction with our release of the 2021 Family and Cross Wave Individual File.*

General Description

The 1988 Time and Money Transfer File is designed to facilitate access to the detailed information collected in the 1988 Wave of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) regarding transfers, in the form of time and money, between a PSID family unit and other persons during the 1987 calendar year. The main PSID 1988 Family File contains summary information about these transfers but this Time and Money Transfers File provides the complete set of details collected about them. Each record in this file represents a separate report of a transfer flow.

The 1988 supplement has two related major focuses: (1) transfers involving PSID Head's and Wife's/"Wife's" parents and (2) inter-family transfers with someone other than parents. Information about four basic types of transfer flows -- MONEY GIVEN, MONEY RECEIVED, TIME HELP GIVEN and TIME HELP RECEIVED -- is recorded. The way in which data were collected varies some across the four types of transfers. First, for some types of transfers, but not for others, separate question sets were developed for transfers with parents versus transfers with non-parents. Second, also for only some types of transfers, the questions restricted the donors/recipients of the help to someone residing outside the PSID family unit at the time of the 1988 interview. These variations occurred because the 1988 question sequence on transfer flows was designed to preserve prior-wave questions about transfer flows as well as to collect additional data on transfer flows, especially those involving parents of the PSID Heads and Wives/"Wives".

Since 1969, the PSID has been collecting in each wave a limited amount of data on money help given to others. Two questions have been used for this purpose: (a)

whether the PSID family unit gave money to anyone outside the family unit during the year preceding the interview and (b) if yes, how many people the family unit gave money to. To maintain the comparability of the 1988 measures with prior year data, the 1988 question sequence on one type of transfer -- MONEY GIVEN -- employs the long-established format and limits the party at the other end of the transfer to someone residing outside the family unit at the time of the 1988 interview. Also, for MONEY GIVEN, the question sequence did not include separate questions about transfers to parents versus transfers to non-parents; the same set of questions encompassed transfers to either parents or non-parents.¹

The question sequences for the other three types of transfers were not impeded in this way by the "dead hand of the past". For each of these three types of transfers -- MONEY RECEIVED, TIME HELP GIVEN and TIME HELP RECEIVED -- separate question sets were developed to ask about transfers with parents versus transfers with non-parents. Since transfer flows with parents were deemed top priority for studies of kinship assistance, time and money transfers with parents were of prime interest whether or not the parent was living with the PSID family unit. For transfer flows with persons other than parents, the decision was made to ask only about flows with those outside the Head's family unit rather than to tackle fully the difficult-to-measure intra-family transfers.

The general pattern that was followed in asking about transfer flows was, then, to ask about flows with parents whether or not they resided in the Head's family unit but to ask about flows with non-parents only if they resided outside the PSID family units. Data on MONEY GIVEN, however, is an exception to this rule due to our effort to maintain the comparability with prior years' data. The following chart summarizes the

¹ Whether a report of MONEY GIVEN to others was to a parent or to a non-parent can be distinguished by using TMTV3 (parent/non-parent/no help). See Codebook and Appendix for a detailed discussion on TMTV3.

data collection rules for the four types of transfers:

Type of Transfer Flows	Separate question sets for transfers involving parents versus non-parents?	Did the other party of the transfers reside in or outside the PSID family unit at the time of the 1988 interview ?	
		Other Party Was a Parent	Other Party Was a Non-parent
Money Given	No	Outside	Outside
Money Received	Yes	In or Outside	Outside
Time Help Given	Yes	In or Outside	Outside
Time Help Received	Yes	In or Outside	Outside

Source of the Data

Data on the 1988 Time and Money Transfers File were collected as part of the PSID's 1988 interviewing wave, with funding provided by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development. See the separate pdf in this zip package entitled Section II Questionnaire Detail for specifics on the question wording and sequences. Due to the fact that some PSID family units reported a large number of distinct transfer flows, we are releasing the full details of these data in this separate file. The 1988 Family File provides some summary information about transfer flows, but not the full details. The relationship between this supplemental file and the 1988 main file is discussed in Section V in this documentation.

Whom to Contact about Questions

For general assistance, please contact:

E-Mail: psidhelp@isr.umich.edu

Internet: <http://www.PSIDonline.org>

US Mail: PSID Staff
The Panel Study of Income Dynamics
Institute for Social Research
PO Box 1248
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248

Section II: Questionnaire Detail

The section of the survey instrument used to collect data on time and money transfers is presented in the 27 pages located in the separate pdf in this zip package entitled Section II Questionnaire Detail.pdf. These questions are extracted from Section G of the 1988 PSID interviewing wave questionnaire. Source questions for the data included on the Time and Money Transfers File are circled.

Section III: Structure and Content of the File

File Structure and the Size of the File

The 1988 Time and Money Transfers File is structured in such a way that each record in the file contains information about a single report of transfer flow of a specified type. The file is sorted by the 1988 INTERVIEW ID of the family unit reporting the transfer flows. Records on help of all types for one family unit are grouped together, with records on money help given followed by records on money help received, records on time help given and then records on time help received. The basic structure of the file is depicted in the chart on the following page.

This file consists of 32,850 records, with 7,708 records containing data on money help given to others, 7,715 records containing data on money help received from others, 8,893 records on time help given to others and 8,534 records on time help received from others. The maximum numbers of transfer flows recorded for one family unit by types of help are 10 for money given to others, 12 for money received from others, 12 for time help given to others and 12 for time help received from others.

Basic Structure for 1988 Time and Money Transfers File

1988 Interview ID	Data on Transfer Flow of a Specified Type
0001 (1st family)	1st report of MONEY GIVEN to others by the 1st family
0001	...up to 10th report of MONEY GIVEN by the 1st family
0001	1st report of MONEY help the 1st family RECEIVED
0001	... up to 12th report of MONEY help the 1st family RECEIVED
0001	1st report of TIME help GIVEN to others by the 1st family
0001	... up to 12th report of TIME help GIVEN by the 1st family
0001	1st report of TIME help the 1st family RECEIVED
0001	... up to 12th report of TIME help the 1st family RECEIVED
0002 (2nd family)	1st report of MONEY GIVEN to others by the 2nd family
0002	... up to 10th report of MONEY GIVEN by the 2nd family
0002	1st report of MONEY help the 2nd family RECEIVED
0002	... up to 12th report of MONEY help the 2nd family RECEIVED
0002	1st report of TIME help GIVEN to others by the 2nd family
0002	... up to 12th report of TIME help GIVEN by the 2nd family
0002	1st report of TIME help the 2nd family RECEIVED
0002	... up to 12th report of TIME help the 2nd family RECEIVED
0003 (3rd family)	Data for the third family unit
0003
0003
.....
7114 (Last family)	Data for the last family unit
7114
7114
7114

Variables on the File

In this one-record-per-transfer flow format, each record has 14 variables that provide detailed information about a specific flow of money or time transfers. The PSID family identifier for 1988 (TMTV1—1988 ID) is included on the file, and can be used to link this file to the 1988 Family File. Other variables on the file provide information about the nature of the transfers in the specific record, individual(s) whom the PSID family gave help to or received help from, and amount of money or time transferred. A list of the variables is provided as follows. A detailed description of each variable, including distributions, is provided in the codebook contained in this zip package. Cross-tabulations for several of these variables are presented in Section VI.

Variables in the 1988 Time and Money Transfers File:

Identifier for the PSID Family Unit:

TMTV1 1988 ID of the Reporting Family

Nature of Transfers:

TMTV2 Kind of Help Reported
TMTV3 Parent/Non-parent/No Help

Data on Individual(s) who Gave/Received Help:

TMTV4 1968 ID of Giver/Receiver
TMTV5 Person Number of Giver/Receiver
TMTV6 Relationship to Head of Giver/Receiver
TMTV7 Which Parent was Giver/Receiver?
TMTV8 Volunteered Parent Information?
TMTV9 Group Type of Giver/Receiver

Data on Money Help:

TMTV10 Was Help Child Support?
TMTV11 Was Help Alimony?
TMTV12 Was Help Half or more of the Support?
TMTV13 Amount of Money Given/Received

Data on Time Help:

TMTV14 Hours of Help Given/Received

How to Identify Family Units with No Help Flows

Records to indicate the absence of a given type of transfer flow for a family unit are included on this file. Such records contain a code of **5** in **TMTV3** and zeros in all fields except TMTV1-TMTV3. A combination of codes in TMTV2 and those in TMTV3 can help identify, by types of transfer, records for family units that reported no transfer flows. For example, a family unit which reported that they had not given money to anyone outside the family unit in 1987 has a record with a code of 1 in TMTV2 and a code of 5 in TMTV3 for that type of help. The following combination of codes can be used for this purpose:

No Money Given:	TMTV2=1 and TMTV3=5
No Money Received:	TMTV2=2 and TMTV3=5
No Time Given:	TMTV2=3 and TMTV3=5
No Time Received:	TMTV2=4 and TMTV3=5

For a family unit that reported no transfer flows of any types, there are four records, each representing a type of transfer. These four records will all contain a code of 5 in TMTV3 but differ in the codes in TMTV2. The minimum number of records for a family unit is four.

Section IV: Cautions

This section attempts to alert analysts to some issues about this file that warrant special attention. These issues arise largely due to the way in which the data were collected and to certain editing decisions made during the data processing stage.

- When TMTV3 indicates missing data for a specific type of transfer (TMTV3=6,7,8,9), zeros are filled in for all fields of the record except TMTV1-TMTV3.

- Information about money given to parents (TMTV2=1 and TMTV3=1) refers only to parents who were NOT living in the PSID family unit at the time of the interview. However, data on money received from parents (TMTV2=2 and TMTV3=1) and time transfers between the family unit and the parents (TMTV2=3 or 4 and TMTV3=1) include those transfers involving parents who were residing with the PSID family unit at the time of the interview. Data on time transfers between the PSID family unit and non-parents (TMTV2=3-4 and TMTV3=2) are restricted to transfers with friends or relatives who were NOT family unit members (see the chart on p. 3 and the pdf [Section II Questionnaire Detail](#)). Because of this, comparisons across types of transfers should be made carefully.

- The questions about money given (G116/G122) and those about money received (G164/G190/G217/G263/G289/G316/G328/G331) are worded differently. For MONEY RECEIVED from both parents and non-parents, the questions refer to "... loans, gifts, or support worth \$100 or more..." whereas in questions about MONEY GIVEN to others, the term "money" is used, and a lower-bound value is not specified (see the pdf [Section II Questionnaire Detail](#)). Analysts may be concerned about the methodological implications that such wording differences may introduce.

- For 31 records, an amount of less than \$100 was reported and coded as MONEY RECEIVED from either parents or non-parents. Since the questions for money received ask specifically about transfers that are \$100 or more, we recommend that

users exclude these 31 records from their analysis to avoid methodological complications ($TMTV13 < 100$). These values were kept on this file mainly to maintain comparability between the main 1988 Family File and this supplementary file since they were included in the sum of total dollar amounts received on the main file.

- A sizeable number of records have missing data on transfer flows between the PSID family and Head's or Wife's/"Wife's" parents ($TMTV3=7$). This mainly occurred when a pair of parents were no longer married to each other but the respondent did not know whether one had remarried, most often because of estrangement from the parent in question. If a parent's current marital situation was unknown, then no more questions were asked about that parent. See Head's questions G144, G170 and G196 in [Section II Questionnaire Detail.pdf](#) and main file variables V15814 and V15828 (parallel sequences and variables exist for Wife/"Wife"). The remainder of the missing data was due to interviewers inadvertently skipping one or more of the parental items for money help received by the family unit or for time help given or received.

- Extreme values are reported, in a few cases, for the dollar amount and hours of help that the PSID family unit gave or received.

- Additional codes in TMTV6 (Relationship to Head) are created to make possible a finer distinction among ex-spouses and parents in this file than in the main family file.

- PSID questions about money and time transfers with parents were designed to collect data pertaining only to living parents. However, in 11 cases the parents died before the 1988 interview but the respondent voluntarily provided information about the transfer flows between his or her family and the deceased parent(s). Given that time and money transfers to and from parents before the parent(s) dies may be of interest to some analysts, these data are included on this file. An analyst can identify the records for these deceased parents by using the "VOLUNTEERED PARENT INFORMATION?"

variable (TMTV8=1). These records are categorized as non-parental records rather than parental records (TMTV3=2) because these data are not about eligible parents. On the Relationship To Head variable (TMTV6), however, they are coded as parents (7 of them are identified as parents of the Head and 4 as parents of the Wife).

- For analysts who are interested in linking records on the Time and Money Transfer File to those in the 1988 Family File for families where both parents and children responded in 1988, the linking variables on the main family file are the 1988 Family IDs of the parent(s): V15805 for Head's father; V15819 for Head's mother; V15862 for Wife's/"Wife's" father; and V15876 for Wife's/"Wife's" mother.

- In a few cases, money and time transfer flows (TMTV2=2-4) were reported between the PSID family unit and parents of Wife/"Wife" when there was no Wife/"Wife" in the PSID family. Such situations occurred when the Head and Wife/"Wife" were separated at the time of the 1988 interview but transfers between the family and the parent of Wife/"Wife" took place during the 1987 calendar year. These records are categorized as non-parental records.

Section V: How This File Relates to the PSID Cross-Year Individual File and to the 1988 Family File

1988 Time and Money Transfers Information on the 1988 PSID Family File

Some information about time and money transfers is included on the 1988 Family File among the family-level variables. (See the PSID website's documentation page named "Questionnaires & supporting documentation". In the row labeled "Procedures, Guides, User Manuals", select the upper document in the box for 1988. That document is entitled A Panel Study of Income Dynamics: Procedures and Tape Codes, 1988 Interviewing Year, Wave XXI, A Supplement, VOLUME I.)

Variables on time and money transfers on the 1988 Family File aggregate separate reports of help flows. The relevant sets of variables on the file are: **V15779-V15803** (dollar help given); **V15918-V15942** (dollar help received); **V15943-V15967** (time help given); and **V15968-V15992** (time help received).

These variables contain totals from all sources, which are then broken down into seven subcategories by the giver's or receiver's relationship to the Head or Wife/"Wife". These relationship categories include (1) parents, (2) children, (3) siblings, (4) ex-spouses, (5) other relatives, (6) non-relatives, and (7) those whose relationship is unknown. Each of these categories contains three pieces of information: the number of distinct reports of this type of help, the total of known dollar or hour amounts, and a data quality indicator, which attempts to document missing-data problems. Detailed information about Head's and Wife's/"Wife's" parents such as their health, income, assets, etc. is included only in the 1988 Family File and not in the Time and Money Transfers File.

Linking Records with the PSID Main Files

The 1988 Time and Money Transfers File has only a limited amount of information about the PSID family units that gave or received help and the person(s) who gave or received help from them. The analyst may well want to access the much greater volume of data available for many of these individuals by first identifying their person level indicators (1968 Family ID ER30001 and Person Number ER30002) on the current Cross-Year Individual File. The Cross-Year Individual File provides linking variables to each of the family data files for all waves. The family files contain substantial information for many individuals dating back to 1968, when the PSID first began. For others, though, the time span of available data is more limited or even nonexistent, depending on the status of the individual in the family unit and attrition over the years. Data processing is required to link the Time and Money Transfers File to any main family or individual files. In doing the matching, care must be taken with regard to the choice of families for whom matches are attempted, and the years for which data are available. All matches of the Time and Money Transfers File to main files should use the 1988 Family File or the current Cross-Year Individual File to assure exact matches (see discussion in the codebook under TMTV4 and TMTV5 [1968 Family ID and Person Number of giver/receiver]). In addition, the user may want to review the tutorials on our website about linking files; see the Documentation page and click on “Tutorials/PSID in the classroom” for assistance.

The critical linking variable on the Time and Money Transfers File is **TMTV1 (1988 ID of the Reporting Family)**, which identifies the family unit reporting transfers. This variable matches to V14802 (1988 Family ID) at the Family level and ER30590 (1988 Family ID) at the individual level on the Cross-Year Individual File. Additional linking variables are **1968 ID of Giver/Receiver (TMTV4)** and **Person Number of**

Giver/Receiver (TMTV5), which in conjunction are unique identifiers for an individual (within the limitations mentioned in the codebook for TMTV4 and TMTV5). In the Transfers File the individual so identified is the person the family unit reported as either the donor or recipient of the reported flow of help. The corresponding identifiers on the Cross-Year Individual File are ER30001 (1968 ID) and ER30002 (Person Number).

The analyst may also be interested in linking records for families where both parents and children responded in 1988. The linking variables on the 1988 Family File are the 1988 IDs of the parents: V15805 for Head's father, V15819 for Head's mother, V15862 for Wife's/"Wife's" father, and V15876 for Wife's/"Wife's" mother.

Section VI: Distribution of Selected Variables by Kind of Help

Four tables are presented in this section to show the basic patterns of time and money transfers, based on data collected in the 1988 Time and Money Transfers Supplement, by type of transfer flows. All values shown in the tables are unweighted.

Table 1: Amount of Money (TMTV13) or Hours of Help (TMTV14) by Kind of Help (TMTV2)

	Number of Records with non-zero values	Mean value for non-zero cases	Minimum Value for non-zero cases	Maximum Value for non-zero cases
Amount of money given to others	1656	\$ 1,712.77	\$10	\$ 35,000
Amount of money received from others	1977	\$ 1,524.45	\$10	\$150,000
Time (in hours) given to others	4145	241.31 hrs.	1 hr	8,760 hrs.
Time (in hours) received from others	3399	245.44 hrs	1 hr	8,760 hrs

Table 2: Frequency of Parental/Non-Parental/No Help Record (TMTV3) by Kind of Help (TMTV2)

	Parental	Non-parental	No Help	Missing Data On # of transfer flows	NA - Parent	NA - Non-parent	NA - Both
Money Given	272	1,476	5,950	4	0	0	6
Money Received	1,469	564	5,392	0	282	4	4
Time Given	2,420	1,915	4,294	6	254	2	2
Time Received	2,034	1,536	4,700	2	255	5	2

Table 3: Frequency of Relationship to Head (TMTV6) by Kind of Help (TMTV2)

Help (TMTV2)	Relationship to Head (TMTV6)																
	0	11	20	30	33	35	37	38	40	47	48	51	52	53	54	55	59
1	5,960	42	0	818	50	4	3	3	133	62	3	199	0	73	0	0	5
2	5,682	16	0	85	5	0	5	0	105	43	3	942	0	528	0	4	5
3	4,558	7	1	268	15	2	11	0	279	161	4	1587	3	840	4	9	0
4	4,964	2	0	251	6	1	32	0	255	128	7	1254	0	774	0	7	2

(Table 3 continues)

Help (TMTV2)	Relationship to Head (TMTV6)																			
	60	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	83	88	95	96	97	98	99	TOTAL
1	43	0	11	1	1	0	37	5	9	2	8	2	10	16	5	1	1	167	34	7,708
2	3	0	31	15	1	1	2	0	19	5	7	2	0	37	7	1	1	154	6	7,715
3	55	5	52	15	2	1	44	10	45	7	27	5	3	27	9	3	3	805	26	8,893
4	37	0	17	6	0	0	21	0	17	3	26	3	0	40	3	4	1	662	11	8,534

Table 4: Frequency of Group Type (TMTV9) by Kind of Help (TMTV2)

	One Person, or Inapplicable	Married Couple	A Family	Multiple Persons	Not Ascertained or Don't Know
Money Given	7,634	27	11	8	28
Money Received	6,708	1,001	1	3	2
Time Given	7,609	1,222	25	15	22
Time Received	7,338	1,174	9	7	6

APPENDIX: Derivation of Codes for TMTV3 (Parental/Non-parental/No Help Records)

TMTV3=1, PARENTAL HELP:

The record concerns a flow of parental help about which some information is known.

TMTV2=1 and G113/G119=Parent(s) of Head or Wife/"Wife"

TMTV2=2 and (G163=1 or G189=1 or G216=1 or G262=1 or G288=1 or G315=1)

TMTV2=3 and (G159=1 or G185=1 or G212=1 or G258=1 or G284=1 or G311=1)

TMTV2=4 and (G161=1 or G187=1 or G214=1 or G260=1 or G286=1 or G313=1)

TMTV3=2, NON-PARENTAL HELP:

The record concerns a flow of non-parental help about which some information is known.

TMTV2=1 and G113/G119=Answers other than Parent(s) of Head or Wife/"Wife"

TMTV2=2 and G322=1

TMTV2=3 and G333=1

TMTV2=4 and G344=1

TMTV3=5, NO REPORTED HELP GIVEN/RECEIVED:

Family Unit in TMTV1 answered "no" to all questions about whether there was help of type specified in TMTV2. The question responses that produce this code on TMTV3, by type of help specified in TMTV2, are as follows:

TMTV2=1: G108=5

TMTV2=2: G163=5 and G189=5 and G216=5 and G262=5 and G288=5
and G315=5 and G322=5

TMTV2=3: G159=5 and G185=5 and G212=5 and G258=5 and G284=5
and G311=5 and G333=5

TMTV2=4: G161=5 and G187=5 and G214=5 and G260=5 and G286=5
and G313=5 and G344=5

TMTV3=6, SOME NON-PARENTAL HELP BUT MISSING DATA ABOUT NUMBER OF FLOWS OF SUCH HELP:

The record is on the file to indicate that the family unit specified in TMTV1 indicated that there was some non-parental help of the type specified in TMTV2 but did not provide information about the number of flows of such help. The question responses that produce this code on TMTV3, by type of help specified in TMTV2, are as follows:

TMTV2=1: G108=1 and data on G109 were Not Ascertained

TMTV2=2: G322=1 and data on G323 were Not Ascertained

TMTV2=3: G333=1 and data on G334 were Not Ascertained

TMTV3=4: G344=1 and data on G345 were Not Ascertained

TMTV3=7, UNKNOWN WHETHER THERE WAS ANY PARENTAL HELP:

The record is on the file to indicate that it is unknown whether there was any parental help of type specified in TMTV2 for the family unit specified in TMTV1. The question responses that produce this code on TMTV3, by type of help specified in TMTV2, are as follows:

TMTV2=2: G163 and G189 and G216 and G262 and G288 and G315=(5 or Not Ascertained), with at least one of the six variables being Not Ascertained.

TMTV2=3: G159 and G185 and G212 and G258 and G284 and G311=(5 or Not Ascertained), with at least one of the six variables being Not Ascertained

TMTV2=4: G161 and G187 and G214 and G260 and G286 and G313=(5 or Not Ascertained), with at least one of the six variables being Not Ascertained

TMTV3=8, UNKNOWN WHETHER THERE WAS ANY NON-PARENTAL HELP:

The record is on the file to indicate that it is unknown whether there was any non-parental help of the type specified in TMTV2 for the family unit specified in TMTV1. The question responses that produce this code on TMTV3, by type of help specified in TMTV2, are as follows:

TMTV2=2: data on G322 were Not Ascertained

TMTV2=3: data on G333 were Not Ascertained

TMTV2=4: data on G344 were Not Ascertained

TMTV3=9, UNKNOWN WHETHER THERE WAS ANY HELP:

The record is on the file only to record that is unknown whether there was any help of the type specified in TMTV3 for the family unit specified in TMTV1. The question responses that produce this code on TMTV3, by type of help specified in TMTV2, are as follows:

TMTV2=1: data on G108 were Not Ascertained

TMTV2=2: data on G163 and G189 and G216 and G262 and G288 and G315 and G322 were Not Ascertained

TMTV2=3: data on G159 and G185 and G212 and G258 and G284 and G311 and G333 were Not Ascertained

TMTV2=4: data on G161 and G187 and G214 and G260 and G287