

Original data included

The datasets harmonized are:

- 1965-1966 - Multinational Comparative Time-Budget Research Project, Jackson and national USA samples, conducted by the Survey Research at the University of Michigan and the Social Relations Department at Harvard University with funding from the National Science Foundation (part of the Szalai Multinational Time Budget Research Project).
- 1975-1976 - American's Use of Time: Time Use in Economic and Social Accounts, a panel study designed and administered by the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan with funding from the National Science Foundation and the US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
- 1985 - American's Use of Time, administered by the Survey Research Center, University of Michigan with funding from the National Science Foundation and ATT, designed to compare the impact of self-completion mail-back, telephone interviewing, and face-to-face interviewing diary collection.
- 1992-1994 - National Human Activity Pattern Survey (NHAPS), administered by the Survey Research Center at the University of Maryland for the Environmental Protection Agency to produce data on exposure to environmental pollutants.
- 2003 – American Time Use Survey (ATUS) conducted and funded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The purposes of the studies mean that their designs vary in significant ways. The 1965-66 survey sampled only respondents aged 19 to 65, living in households with at least one adult member of the household working in an industry other than agriculture. Only one member of sampled households completed a diary. The original study collected two samples, one from the city of Jackson Michigan and the surrounding rural areas that followed the Szalai sampling methodology, and a second and larger sample of 44 mainly urban census districts from around the country. Surveys with less than a full 24 hours of information seem not to have survived the years since the data were collected.

The 1975-76 survey was designed as a nationally representative sample of households and sampled both respondents, and, if the respondent was in a couple, the spouse or partner. Four waves of the survey were carried out in order to represent all seasons of the year and all days of the week. The study collected most information from one person per household, though where the diarist had a spouse, the spouse was asked to complete a cut-down version of the diary (who else present and secondary activity excluded) and questionnaire. We include the spouse diary data in a supplementary file. Attrition between the first and second waves of the dataset was in the order of 25%, attrition between the 2nd and 3rd waves about 8%, while a further 1% of respondents were lost between the 3rd and 4th waves. No information about tracking respondents is given in the main codebook for this survey, and it seems likely that respondents who moved house were lost from the survey. We recalculated attrition weights for the subsequent waves of this data set.

The 1985 survey was designed as a nationally representative sample of households with telephones. We used only the mail-back element of the survey – the element for which episode

data remains available. We are grateful to Professor John Robinson and Dr. Timothy Triplett for making these original files available to us. This survey sampled all members of households aged 10 and over. Child diaries were excluded from the harmonized dataset submitted as these files do not match to person-level demographic data. Some diaries from adults also do not match together with demographic data, and these cases also are excluded from the main file.

The 1992-94 dataset sampled one person in randomly selected households. Any member of the household could be selected, though parents were asked to provide time use information for young children. The child diaries are included in a supplementary file.

The 2003 ATUS are telephone-administered diaries collected from one person aged 15+ who is a member of a household that participated in the 8th and final wave of the Current Population Survey (CPS). These data are designed to facilitate research into national accounts. The ATUS sample is a subset of the CPS collected approximately two months after the final CPS wave. The main CPS over-samples small states. The time-use sub-sample of the CPS removes the over-sampling of small states, but over-samples families with children. Half of the diaries were collected on week days, and the other half on weekend days. More detail on the datasets is given in the tables below. Original code books and further documentation is available for each individual survey on the Centre for Time Use Research (CTUR) web site: <http://www.timeuse.org/information/studies/>

Study aims, target populations, and sample restrictions			
Survey years	Organizing Aims and Considerations	Target Population	Sampling Restrictions
1965-1966	Comparability with the Multinational Comparative Time-Budget project collected in 12 countries	The national working age population (19-64) of the USA (excluding families where all members worked as farmers)	Only people aged 19 to 64 (with a few older diarists), and one person per household (Alaska, Hawaii, and some smaller, rural states excluded)
1975-1976	Measure national accounts and changes in time use over the year	The national adult population	People aged 18 or older and one person plus spouse if present per household
1985	Determine how people used their time and to compare diaries collected by post-out/post-back, phone, and face-to-face interview	The national population past secondary school age not living in institutions	People aged 10+ living in private households with phones (Alaska, Hawaii, and some smaller, rural states excluded)
1992-1994	The study measured time use and exposure	The national population living in private residences	1 person of any age living in sampled private households with phones (Alaska and Hawaii excluded)
2003	The study follows a sub-sample of the CPS for a 9 th wave to facilitate the study of national accounts	The national population not living in military bases or institutions	1 person aged 15 or older in the household

Relevant points in time from the sample designs			
Survey years	Fieldwork Period	Sampling of Days of the Week	When Activities Were Recorded
1965-1966	15 November -15 December 1965; 1 January - 18 February 1966; 7 March - 20 May, 1966	2/7ths of diaries were stamped for collection on a weekend day; 5/7ths were stamped for collection on a weekday	A two-stage tomorrow approach, diaries left behind for completion on diary day
1975-1976	Wave 1: 9 October 1975 - 22 November 1975; Wave 2: 6 February 1976 - 28 March 1976; Wave 3: 2 May 1976 - 19 July 1976; Wave 4: 4 September 1976 - 26 October 1976	The study aimed to collect one diary on a Sunday, one on a Saturday, and two on different weekdays from each sample member.	Diaries covered the previous 24 hour day
1985	Whole year of 1985	Mail-out after phone calls.	Diaries to be completed on a specified day in the subsequent week
1992-1994	September 1992 – October 1994	Phone calls were attempted on all days of the week.	Diaries covered the previous 24 hour day
2003	Whole year of 2003	Half of diaries were collected on weekday, half on weekend days.	Diaries covered the previous 24 hour day

Sample designs and response rates			
Survey years	Sample Frame	How Sample Drawn	Response Rate
1965-1966	Jackson, Michigan and surrounding townships, and a national sample	Jackson – random selection; National multi-stage clustered area sampling of clusters containing around 4 addresses; one individual per household	82% in Jackson; 74% in the national sample
1975-1976	Private households	Stratified, clustered and probability selection within strata. One individual was sampled per household. Data was also collected from spouses where present.	72% in the first wave; 44.9% responded to all four waves
1985	People aged 10 years or over, living in houses with telephones in the contiguous United States	Stratified and clustered, random-digit dialing, with only private residences pursued for an interview. Information on the household collected by telephone.	55.2% overall, 51% for mail back sample
1992-1994	Potential phone numbers within lists area codes	Random-digit dialing, only private residences pursued for interview. The person who would next have a birthday completed the diary.	63%
2003	The CPS sample	A random sub-sample of the CPS, with the over-sampling of small states dropped but families with children over-sampled. Half of the diaries are collected on week days, the other half on weekend days	57.8%