

## AHTUS data files

The page for downloading the AHTUS data enables users to download zipped separate packages of main files for each year, and also of supplementary files for each year where available. Supplementary packages also are available for the 1975-76, 1985, 1992-94, and 2003-2012 surveys.

The main file packages include three files:

- background data file – each of these files is a person/diarist level file that includes information about the person as well as about the household in which the diarist resides.
- main activity summary file – includes diary-level data. These files cover aggregated information, the total minutes spent performing each of the main activity codes on the diary day. There are three parallel sets of variables. One set covers total time spent in each 1-digit level activity (main activity only), as well as the total time when main activity is missing. The second set covers total time spent in each 2-digit activity (main activity only). The sum of time in the first set of 1 digit main activity time variables plus missing activity time (tmiss) as well as the sum of the 2 digit main activity only time (tmain1 to tmain98) variables plus missing activity time equals 24 hours (or 1440 minutes). Users should note that if summing across the 2-digit activity variables, missing values (for those activity categories which in some cases are not available for one or more of the surveys) should be excluded or the sum will total less than 1440. The third set covers total time spent in each 2-digit activity where the diarist also reported secondary childcare.
- episode file - includes episode level information, that is there is one row case for each reported change of activity in each diary. The episode files cover more detail about the activities and the context of the activities. The aggregated files are derived from the episode files, and users can create their own aggregated file, using the syntax files that accompany this codebook as a guide, if they require different information in that format.

These files are available in SPSS, but may be transferred into other packages using a package such as STAT Transfer. Users will need to merge the background data file with the selected time use file. The 1985, 1992-94 and 2003-2012 supplementary files include the diaries from people younger than the age of 18. The main files cover a harmonised age range from 18 (with no age maximum – though users should remember that the 1965-66 survey only collected diaries from people of working age) – and has an age cap not present in other surveys. The 1975-76 supplementary file includes the combination of diaries from main respondents and spouses.

1965-66 main files package includes the following 3 files:

- USA65\_66quest.sav
- USA1965hfsum.sav
- USA1965hfep.sav

1975-76 main files package includes the following 3 files:

- USA75\_76quest.sav
- USA1975hfsum.sav
- USA1975hfepsav

1985 main files package includes the following 3 files:

- USA85quest.sav
- USA1985hfsum.sav
- USA1985hfep.sav

1992-94 main files package includes the following 3 files:

- USA92\_94quest.sav
- USA1993hfsum.sav
- USA1993hfep.sav

1994-95 main files package includes the following 3 files:

- USA94\_95quest.sav
- USA1995hfsum.sav
- USA1995hfep.sav

1998-01 main files package includes the following 3 files:

- USA98\_01quest.sav
- USA1998hfsum.sav
- USA1998hfep.sav

2003-2012 main files package includes the following 3 files:

- USA03\_12quest.sav
- USA2003-2012hfsum.sav
- USA2003-2012hfep.sav

The desired time diary and background data files should be matched together using the matching variables, SURVEY, WAVE, HHID, and PID (sorted in this order). These matching variables are detailed below in the variable list, and are the four variables found in all files.