# README FILE FOR USA 1998-2001

(Harmonised Aggregate File and Harmonised Episode File)

19 July 2012

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### TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY

This survey combines 1998-99 Family Interaction, Social Capital and Trends in Time Use Study (FISCT) and 1999-2001 National Survey of Parents (NSP). 1999-2001 NSP collected information from parents age 18 or older who have at least one child under age 18 living with them. 1998-99 FISCT has a representative sample of respondents aged 18 or older. Both surveys followed the same methodology and they are pooled in single survey to increase sample size. The sample size of 1998-99 FISCT is 1151 and 1999-2001 NSP is 1200.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Age range** | FISCT: 18-97  NSP: 18-69 |
| **Response rate** | FISCT: 56%  NSP: 63.5% |
| **Number of diary days** | 1-day |
| **Survey period** | FISCT: January-October 1998  NSP: June 1999-May 2000 |
| **Multi-member household survey** | No |
| **Type of diary** | Recall |
| **Mode of data collection** | Computer assisted telephone interview |
| **Time interval in the diary** | Free |
| **Data on secondary activities** | Yes |
| **Data on where the activity was carried out** | Yes |
| **Data on who else was present** | Yes |
| **Number of activity codes** | 99 activity codes |
| **Number of cases in the original file** | 2351 diaries (all from adults)  FISCT: 1151 diaries  NSP: 1200 diaries |
| **Number of ‘good’ diaries in MTUS files** | 1891 diaries (all from adults)  FISCT: 1082 diaries  NSP: 809 diaries |

### INFORMATION ON THE ORIGINAL FILES

There are four original files – agg98.sav, ep98.sav, agg99.sav and ep99.sav. Aggregate files contain background variables and aggregate summary of time use variables while episode files contains the time diary variables. MTUS files also made use of two AHTUS files: usa98\_01quest.sav and usa1998hfep.sav

### TIME-USE VARIABLES

**Activity Variable Documentation for USA, 1998-2001**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **MTUS Variable Name** | **Variable Label** | **Compiled from the heritage files original activity variables main, sec, and eloc** |
| AV1 | Formal work | **8** – meals at work (6)  **10** - main paid work (not at home) (1)  **13** - work breaks (8 in 1998-99, 7 in 1999-2001)  **14** - other time at workplace  **15** - time looking for work (2) |
| AV2 | Paid work at home | **11** - paid work at home (1)  also 5 - second job, when at home |
| AV3 | Second job | **12** - second job (5) (when not at home) |
| AV4 | School/classes | **16** - regular schooling (50)  **18** - short course or training (51)  **19** - occasional lectures (52, 55) |
| AV5 | Travel to/from work | **92** - travel as part of paid work (3)  **93** - travel to and from work (9)  **94** - travel related to education (59) |
| AV6 | Cooking/washing up | **20** - food preparation/cooking (10)  **21** - set table, put away dishes (11) |
| AV7 | Housework | **22** - cleaning (12, 13)  **23** - laundry, ironing, clothing repair (14) |
| AV8 | Odd jobs | **24** - home repairs, maintain vehicles (15, 16)  **25** - other domestic work (19, 38)  **40** - adult care (42)  **68** - pet care (18) |
| AV9 | Gardening | **67** - gardening (17) |
| AV10 | Shopping | **26** - purchase routine goods (30)  **27** - purchase consumer durables (31)  **30** - purchase repair, laundry services (35, 36)  **31** - financial services (34) |
| AV11 | Child care | **33** - care of infants (20)  **34** - general care of older children (21)  **35** - medical care of children (26)  **36** - play with children (24)  **37** - supervise, help with homework (22)  **38** - read to, talk with child (23)  **39** - other child care (27)  **65** - physical activity, sport with child (25) |
| AV12 | Domestic travel | **91** - travel related to personal or adult care (49)  **95** - travel related to consumption (39)  **96** - travel related to child care (29)  **97** - travel for adult volunteering or worship (69) |
| AV13 | Dressing/toilet | **1** - general personal care (48)  **6** - washing, dressing (40, 44, 47) |
| AV14 | Receiving Personal services | **7** - personal medical care (41)  **28** - purchase personal services (32)  **29** - purchase medical services (33)  **32** - purchase other services (37) |
| AV15 | Meals/snacks | **9** - other meals/snacks, not at restaurant (43) |
| AV16 | Sleep/naps | **3** - sleep (45)  **4** - imputed sleep  **5** - naps and rest (***46 in 1999-2001***) |
| AV17 | Leisure travel | **98** - leisure travel (79, 89, 99) |
| AV18 | Excursions, trips | **50** - general out-of-home leisure (71)  **54** - museums, exhibitions (74)  **55** - attend other public event (***78 in 1998-99***)  **64** - outdoor recreation (81) |
| AV19 | Playing sport | **60** - sports and exercise (80, 82) |
| AV20 | Watching sport | **51** - attend sporting event (70) |
| AV21 | Walks | **62** - walking (***88 in 1999-2001***) |
| AV22 | At church | **49** - worship and religious acts (65) |
| AV23 | Civic organizations | **41** - general voluntary acts (63)  **42** - political and civic activity (62)  **43** - union and professional activities (60)  **44** - volunteer for child/family organisation (67)  **45** - volunteer fraternal organisation (66)  **46** - other formal volunteering (61, 68)  **48** - volunteer for religious organisation (64) |
| AV24 | Cinema/theatre | **52** - go to cinema (72)  **53** - theatre, concert, opera (***73 in 1998-99***) |
| AV25 | Dance/party, etc. | **57** - parties or receptions (76) |
| AV26 | Social clubs | Not possible to create |
| AV27 | Pubs | Not possible to create |
| AV28 | Restaurants | **56** - café, bar (77)  **9** - other meals & snacks; location=restaurant (43) |
| AV29 | Visiting friends | **72** - receive or visit friends, not at home (75) |
| AV30 | Listening to radio | **85** - listen to radio (90) |
| AV31 | Watching T.V. | **86** - watch television (91, ***73 in 1999-2001***) |
| AV32 | Listening to music, etc. | **84** - listen to music, CD, etc. (92) |
| AV33 | Study | **17** - homework (54)  **89** - use computer (56, 57, 58) |
| AV34 | Reading books | **81** - read books (93) |
| AV35 | Reading papers/magazines | **82** - read periodicals (94)  **83** - read newspapers (95) |
| AV36 | Relaxing | **78** - relax, think, do nothing (98) |
| AV37 | Conversation | **88** - conversation, phone, texting (96, ***78 in 1999-2001***) |
| AV38 | Entertaining friends | **72** - receive or visit friends, location at home (75) |
| AV39 | Knitting/sewing | **76** - crafts (84) |
| AV40 | Pastimes/hobbies | **73** - other in-home social games (87)  **74** - play musical instrument, sing, act (86)  **75** - artistic activity (85)  **77** - hobbies (83)  **87** - writing by hand (97) |
| AV41 | Unknown activity | Not created |

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| **MAIN/SEC 69 Variables** | **Activity** | **USA 1994-95 original activity codes**  **AHTUS code – then original code in ()** |
| Main1 | Imputed personal and household care | Not created |
| Main2 | Sleep or nap | **3** - sleep (45)  **5** - naps and rest (***46 in 1999-2001***) |
| Main3 | Imputed sleep | 4- imputed sleep |
| Main4 | Wash/dress/care for self | **1** - general personal care (48)  **6** - washing, dressing (40, 44, 47)  **7** - personal medical care at home (41) |
| Main5 | Meals at work or school | **8** - meals at work (6) |
| Main6 | Other meals | **9** - other meals/snacks, not restaurant (43) |
| Main7 | Paid work, main job (not at home) | **10** - main paid work (1 - not at home) |
| Main8 | Paid work at home | **11** - paid work at home  also 1 - main paid work where at home  5 second job where at home |
| Main9 | Second or other job not at home | **12** - second job (5 - where not at home) |
| Main10 | Unpaid work to generate household income | Not possible to create |
| Main11 | Travel as a part of work | **92** - travel as part of paid work (3) |
| Main12 | Work breaks | **13** - work breaks (***8 in 1998-99, 7 in 1999-2001***) |
| Main13 | Other time at workplace | Not possible to create |
| Main14 | Look for work | **15** – time looking for work (2) |
| Main15 | Regular schooling, education | **16** - regular schooling (50) |
| Main16 | Homework | **17** - homework (54) |
| Main17 | Leisure/other education of training | **18** - short course or training (51)  **19** - occasional lectures (52, 55) |
| Main18 | Food preparation/ cooking | **20** - food preparation/cooking (10) |
| Main19 | Set table, wash or put away dishes | **21** - set table, put away dishes (11) |
| Main20 | Cleaning | **22** - cleaning (12, 13) |
| Main21 | Laundry, ironing, clothing repair | **23** - laundry, ironing, clothing repair (14) |
| Main22 | Home/vehicle maintenance or improvement | **24** – home repairs, maintain vehicles (15, 16) |
| Main23 | Other domestic work | **25** - other domestic work (19, 38) |
| Main24 | Purchase goods and general consumption activities | **26** – purchase routine goods (30)  **27** - purchase consumer durables (31) |
| Main25 | Consume personal services | **28** - purchase personal services (32)  **29** - purchase medical services (33) |
| Main26 | Consume other services | **30** - purchase repair, laundry services (35, 36)  **31** - financial services (34)  **32** - purchase other services (37) |
| Main27 | Pet care (not walk dog) | **68** - pet care (18) |
| Main28 | Physical, medical child care | **33** - care of infants (20)  **35** - medical care of children (26) |
| Main29 | Teach, help with homework | **37** - supervise, help with homework (22) |
| Main30 | Read to, talk or play with child | **36** - play with children (24)  **38** - read to, talk with child (23)  **65** - physical activity, sport with child (25) |
| Main31 | Supervise, accompany, other child care | **34** - general care of older children (21)  **39** - other child care (27) |
| Main32 | Adult care | **40** - adult care (42) |
| Main33 | Voluntary, civic, organizational activity | **41** - general voluntary acts (63)  **42** - political and civic activity (62)  **43** - union and professional activities (60)  **44** - volunteer for family organisation (67)  **45** - volunteer fraternal organisation (66)  **46** - other formal volunteering (61, 68-other)  **48** - volunteer for religious organisation (64) |
| Main34 | Worship and religion | **49** - worship and religious acts (65) |
| Main35 | General out-of-home leisure | **50** - general out-of-home leisure (***78 in 1998-99***) |
| Main36 | Attend sporting event | **51** - attend sporting event (70) |
| Main37 | Cinema, theatre, opera, concert | **52** - go to cinema (72)  **53** - theatre, concert, opera (***73 in 1998-99***) |
| Main38 | Other public event, venue | **54** - museums, exhibitions (74)  **55** - attend other public event (71) |
| Main39 | Restaurant, café, bar, pub | **56** - café, bar (77)  **9** - other meals/snacks; at restaurant (43) |
| Main40 | Party, reception, social event, gambling | **57** - parties or receptions (76) |
| Main41 | Imputed time away from home | Not possible to create |
| Main42 | General sport or exercise | **60** - sports and exercise (80, 82) |
| Main43 | Walking | **62** - walking (***88 in 1999-2001***) |
| Main44 | Cycling | Not possible to create |
| Main45 | Other out-of-doors recreation | **64** - outdoor recreation (81) |
| Main46 | Garden, forage (pick mushrooms), hunt/fish | **67** – gardening (17) |
| Main47 | Walk dogs | Not possible to create |
| Main48 | Receive or visit friends | **72** - receive or visit friends (75) |
| Main49 | Conversation (in person, phone) | **88** - conversation, phone, texting (***96, 78 in 1999-2001***) |
| Main50 | Other in-home social, games | **73** - other in-home social games (87) |
| Main51 | General indoor leisure | Not possible to create |
| Main52 | Artistic or musical act | **74** - play musical instrument, sing, act (86)  **75** - artistic activity |
| Main53 | Written correspondence | **87** - writing by hand (97) |
| Main54 | Knit, crafts, hobbies | **76** - crafts (84)  **77** - hobbies (83) |
| Main55 | Relax, think, do nothing | **78** - relax, think, do nothing (98) |
| Main56 | Read | **81** - read books (93)  **82** - read periodicals (94)  **83** - read newspapers (95) |
| Main57 | Listen to music, Ipod, CD | **84** - listen to music, CD, etc. (92) |
| Main58 | Listen to radio | **85** - listen to radio (90) |
| Main59 | Watch TV, DVD, video | **86** - watch television (91) |
| Main60 | Play computer games | Not in AHTUS, but in this survey (57) |
| Main61 | Send e-mail, surf internet, computing | **89** - use computer (56, 57, 58) |
| Main62 | No activity but recorded mode of travel | Not created |
| Main63 | Travel to or from work | **93** - travel to and from work (9) |
| Main64 | Education-related travel | **94** - travel related to education (59) |
| Main65 | Voluntary, civic, religious travel | **97** - travel for adult care, volunteering (69) |
| Main66 | Child & adult care travel | **96** - travel related to child care (29) |
| Main67 | Shopping, personal & household care travel | **91** – travel related to personal care (49)  **95** - travel related to consumption (39) |
| Main68 | Other travel | **98** - leisure travel (79, 89, 99) |
| Main69 | No recorded activity | Not created |

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| **Location / ICT Variables** | **Value labels** | **USA 1998-2001 original activity and location codes** |
| Inout = 1 | Inside | Location is not outside or travelling and actcode or secact is:  12 (cleaning house)  19 (other hhold work)  24 (indoor playing)  40 (showering, bathing)  47 (dressing) |
| Inout = 2 | Outside (main or secondary activity or location code) | where=3 (outdoor, not at home)  activity includes  13 (outdoor cleaning)  25 (outdoor playing)  81 (outdoor)  Where=13 (walking) and actcode or secact=  3 (travel during work)  9 (travel to/from work)  29 (travel, childcare)  39 (travel, goods and services)  49 (travel, personal care)  59 (travel, education)  69 (travel, organizational)  79 (travel, social)  88 (walking, hiking)  89 (travel, recreational)  99 (travel, passive leisure) |
| Inout = 3 | In vehicle | Location not outside but any main or secondary activity is travel or location is a mode of transport other than walking or cycling  Where=10 (other travel)  Where=11 (car, truck, motor vehicle)  Where=12 (bus, train, plane)  and  3 (travel during work)  9 (travel to/from work)  29 (travel. childcare)  39 (travel, goods and services)  49 (travel, personal care)  59 (travel, education)  69 (travel, organizational)  79 (travel, social)  88 (walking, hiking)  89 (travel, recreational)  99 (travel, passive leisure) |
| Eloc = 1 | Own home | Where=1 (home) |
| Eloc = 2 | Another’s home | Where=2 (other home) |
| Eloc = 3 | Workplace | Where=4 (office building, factory) |
| Eloc = 4 | School | Where=7 (school) |
| Eloc = 5 | Service or shop | Where=5 (grocery store)  Where=6 (other store, mall) |
| Eloc = 6 | Restaurant, café | Where=8 (restaurant, bar) |
| Eloc = 7 | Place of worship | Where=9 and actcode=65 (religious acts) |
| Eloc = 8 | Travelling | Where=10 (other travel)  Where=11 (car, truck, motor vehicle)  Where=12 (bus, train, plane)  Where=13 (walking) |
| Eloc = 9 | Other locations | Where=0 (other non travel)  Where=3 (outdoor not at home) |
| Mtrav = 1 | Car, motorcycle, taxi | Where=11 (car, truck, motor vehicle) |
| Mtrav = 2 | Public transport | Where=12 (bus, train, plane) |
| Mtrav = 3 | Walk | Where=13 (walking) or actcode=88 (walking, hiking) |
| Mtrav = 4 | Cycle or other active transport | Not possible to create |
| Mtrav=5 | Other & unspecified | Where=10 (other travel) and the respondent is not reported in the where codes but the main activity is traveling  3 (travel during work)  9 (travel to/from work)  29 (travel. childcare)  39 (travel, goods and services)  49 (travel, personal care)  59 (travel, education)  69 (travel, organizational)  79 (travel, social)  88 (walking, hiking)  89 (travel, recreational)  99 (travel, passive leisure) |
| ICT = 1 | Reported using computer, internet or other ICT (as main or secondary activity) | Where main or secondary activity is  53 e-mail  56 using internet  57 play computer games  58 other PC use |

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Who else present variables** | **Value labels** | **USA 1998-2001 original activity and location codes** |
| Alone = 1 | Reported alone or with persons unknown | Who1=1 (alone) |
| Child = 1 | Reported child present | Who1=3 or Who2=3 (child only)  Who1=4 or Who2=4 (spouse and child) |
| Sppart = 1 | Reported spouse or partner present | Who1=2 or who2=2 (spouse only)  Who1=4 or who2=4 (spouse and child) |
| Oad = 1 | Reported other known adult (not include spouse) present | There is no information on the age of the other present people Because both of the surveys have 18+ respondents, while creating this variable it is assumed that the people listed below were all adults.  Who1=2 or Who2=2 (spouse only)  Who1=4 or Who2=4 (spouse and child)  Who1=5 or Who2=5 (coworkers)  Who1=6 or Who2=6 (friends)  Who1=7 or Who2=7 (relatives)  Who1=8 or Who2=8 (strangers) |

### VARIABLE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The following variables cannot be created:

CARER

CDAY

CITIZEN

EMPINCLM

HEALTH

MONTH

OCCUP

OWNHOME

PARNTID1

PARNTID2

PARTID

RELREFP

SECTOR

VEHICLE

URBAN

* **AGE**

The 1999-2001 NSP survey did not ask participants for their age, and once the omission was recognised, the survey team tried to recontact participants to ask for their ages; 387 individuals could not be located or did not reply. The survey team imputed ages for a majority of these people, but we treat these cases as missing age, though a supplement file offers alternative weights that include positive weights for the imputed age cases.

* **AGEKIDX/ AGEKID2**

1998-99 FISCT did not collect the youngest child. 1999-2001 NSP is a sample of parents with at least one child aged <18. The NSP did not collect household grid information, and it is not possible to distinguish where parents of young children also live with their parents. There are no agekidx=4 cases in either survey as this information was not distinguished in the questionnaires.

* **CDAY / MONTH**

The original data contain variables for the date of the diary. Nevertheless, 1/3rd of the 1998-99 sample are coded as taking place on 1 January 1998, which clearly is an error as the day of the week and activity distribution of these diaries say that these diaries do in fact reflect all days of the week. We have checked dates against an actual calendar, and around 20% of the dates are wrong in the rest of the FISCT and also in the NSP. At some future point we may try to resolve the date errors, but for the time being, we do not include these variables.

* **COHAB**

The information is available only for 1998-99 FISCT survey.

* **COMPUTER**

The information only is available for the 1998-99 FISCT survey.

* **EDUCA**

Original education categories are as below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Frequency | Percent |
| -8 missing | 36 | 1.5 |
| 1 0 - 8th grade | 45 | 1.9 |
| 2 9 - 11th grade | 126 | 5.4 |
| 3 high school graduate | 717 | 30.5 |
| 4 some college | 636 | 27.1 |
| 5 college graduate | 444 | 18.9 |
| 6 post college | 347 | 14.8 |
| Total | 2351 | 100 |

* **INCORIG**

Original income categories are as below:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Frequency | Percent |
| -8 missing | 310 | 13.2 |
| 1 Less than $12,000 | 67 | 2.8 |
| 2 $12,001 to $20,000 | 141 | 6 |
| 3 $20,001 to $30,000 | 263 | 11.2 |
| 4 $30,001 to $50,000 | 578 | 24.6 |
| 5 $50,001 to $75,000 | 493 | 21 |
| 6 $75,001 to $100,000 | 244 | 10.4 |
| 7 $100,001 or more | 255 | 10.8 |
| Total | 2351 | 100 |

* **PRPOPWT and OCOMBWT**

The National Survey of Parents questionnaire initially omitted to ask participants about their age. The survey team tried to recontact diarists, and did obtain ages of over 2/3rds of the sample, but actual ages of 387 diarists (1/3rd of the sample) were not obtained. The survey team imputed ages for the majority of these cases. The MTUS presents information reported by the diarists, and while we make full use of information participants report in diaries, we do not impute information based on probabilities. The OCOMBWT offers the original weight from the original team, and that weight offers a value for all diaries, including the diaries with insufficient information for analysis and the cases with imputed ages. We also have made a [supplement file of additional weights for this survey](http://www.timeuse.org/ahtus/data), available on the American Heritage Time Use Study (AHTUS) data page. This file contains the identifiers to match this file both AHTUS and MTUS version of these datasets. The only variables necessary to make the match to the MTUS version are msamp and persid (and the equivalent variables in the AHTUS are survey and pid). This file additionally contains alternatives to propwt (called recwght in the AHTUS).

* **recwghti** is created the same way that we make the propwt - adjusting the original survey weight to balance the distribution of days of the week over the year for women and men by age group for the good quality diary sample, only this weight treats the impute ages as though these are valid ages.
* **recalt** is created the same way that we create propwt (and as with the propwt treats the imputed ages as missing age, and hence 0-weights these diaries), but makes a further adjustment. As the FISCT is a sample of adults, but the NSP is a sample of parents, we used the Current Population Survey distribution of women and men by age group who are and who are not parents, and we adjust the combined surveys to put parents into their correct proportion (relative to the CPS).
* **recalti** is like recalt, but this weight treats the imputed age as though they are valid ages.
* **infltwti** - the AHTUS includes a weight called infltwt that inflates the good quality diary sample size to the size of the national population (as measured by the CPS) - infltwti makes the same population inflation, but treats the imputed ages as valid ages.

The appendix at the end of this documentation shows the distribution of average time for women and for men in the AHTUS main activity codes weighted by propwt (recwght), the original weight, and these alternatives. The overall proportion of time is similar across all activities, but variations of 5 to 12 minutes time appear in a limited range of activities, particularly time in main job employment and time watching television. More variation appears between the original survey weight and all the main MTUS/AHTUS and the alternative CTUR weights than between any of the weights created by CTUR. In particular, the original weights make it appear that women spent less time in paid work, men spent more time in paid work, that men spent more time doing nothing, and women spent more time watching television than suggested by the CTUR-generated weights. The code that makes these weights is available in the AHTUS conversion code file.

* **RETIRED / STUDENT / UNEMP / DISAB**

These variables are created from an economic activity status variable and only possible to create where the person does not hold a paid job. Though some respondents who were not working were asked about hours of paid work last week (independently of the diary), there are no working students or disabled people in these surveys. Very few retired or unemployed people have work hours - likely an underestimate of these groups. A limited number of these people report paid work time in their diaries.

* **YEAR**

One respondent in the 1999-2001 NSP survey reported completing the survey in 1988. This is considered to be a typo and the survey year for this diarist changed to 1999. The persid of the respondent is 51607. Also, users should note that references in the literature to these surveys mention years 1998-99 and 1999-2001, though the dates of the diaries do not span this whole time period.











