

# UnderStandingAmericaStudy

## MONTHLY EVENTS PANEL DATASET: DATA DESCRIPTION



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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This document describes the UAS Monthly Events Panel Dataset, which was created at the University of Southern California's Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) with data collected in the Understanding America Study (UAS). Support for this dataset is provided by the Social Security Administration and the National Institute on Aging.

The UAS is a nationally representative panel of American households randomly recruited through address-based sampling. Respondents are aged 18 and up, and they complete surveys, on average, once or twice monthly via an online interface that is technologically powerful, user-friendly, and quick to deliver results.

The Monthly Events Panel Dataset aggregates data from all waves of the UAS's Monthly Events project, which fields a survey at the start of each month to approximately 3,000 respondents aged 50 and up. Each Monthly Events survey asks respondents whether they experienced various life events in the preceding month, and asks for self-assessments of health, life satisfaction, pain, hours worked, earnings, employment changes, and medical expenditures during the previous month.

The Monthly Events Panel Dataset merges and organizes the data collected in these surveys, and derives 12 additional variables. It is updated monthly, with each new update adding the data collected in the most recently concluded Monthly Events survey. The month of this survey is referenced in the updated dataset's name (e.g., "events\_panel\_120.dta" when the most recently concluded survey was fielded in January 2020).

Please send all questions about the Monthly Events Panel Dataset or this data description to [uas-l@mymaillists.usc.edu](mailto:uas-l@mymaillists.usc.edu).

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## 2. OVERVIEW OF THE MONTHLY EVENTS PANEL DATASET

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### 2.1 Input Files and Panel Dataset Structure

The first Monthly Events survey (UAS 102) was fielded in June of 2019 and asked about issues and events that took place in May 2019. This survey was Wave 1. The second survey, Wave 2, was fielded in July of 2019 and asked about issues and events in June. Subsequent waves follow the same pattern. Table 1 displays the months fielded and months of inquiry for the surveys contained in the current version of the Monthly Events Panel Dataset, as well as each survey's sample size, number of completes, and response rate.

Table 1. UAS Surveys in the Monthly Events Panel Dataset and their Response Rates

| Wave | UAS Survey | Month Fielded | Month of Inquiry | Size of Sample | Number of Completes | Response Rate |
|------|------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1    | UAS 102    | Jun 2019      | May 2019         | 3597           | 2912                | 80.96%        |
| 2    | UAS 195    | Jul 2019      | Jun 2019         | 3572           | 2877                | 80.54%        |
| 3    | UAS 198    | Aug 2019      | Jul 2019         | 3597           | 2863                | 79.59%        |
| 4    | UAS 204    | Sep 2019      | Aug 2019         | 3597           | 2347                | 65.25%        |
| 5    | UAS 205    | Oct 2019      | Sep 2019         | 3597           | 2849                | 79.20%        |
| 6    | UAS 211    | Nov 2019      | Oct 2019         | 3597           | 1801                | 50.07%        |
| 7    | UAS 215    | Dec 2019      | Nov 2019         | 3597           | 2801                | 77.87%        |
| 8    | UAS 218    | Jan 2020      | Dec 2019         | 3597           | 2933                | 81.54%        |
| 9    | UAS 222    | Feb 2020      | Jan 2020         | 3597           | 2843                | 79.04%        |
| 10   | UAS 228    | Mar 2020      | Feb 2020         | 3581           | 3004                | 83.89%        |
| 11   | UAS 232    | Apr 2020      | Mar 2020         | 3581           | 2977                | 83.13%        |
| 12   | UAS 285    | May 2020      | Apr 2020         | 3581           | 2963                | 82.74%        |
| 13   | UAS 291    | Jun 2020      | May 2020         | 3788           | 3060                | 80.78%        |
| 14   | UAS 298    | Jul 2020      | Jun 2020         | 4609           | 3653                | 79.26%        |
| 15   | UAS 305    | Aug 2020      | Jul 2020         | 4610           | 3646                | 79.09%        |
| 16   | UAS 310    | Sep 2020      | Aug 2020         | 4610           | 3616                | 78.44%        |
| 17   | UAS 316    | Oct 2020      | Sep 2020         | 4610           | 3576                | 77.57%        |
| 18   | UAS 321    | Nov 2020      | Oct 2020         | 4610           | 3565                | 77.33%        |

|    |         |          |          |      |      |        |
|----|---------|----------|----------|------|------|--------|
| 19 | UAS 329 | Dec 2020 | Nov 2020 | 4610 | 3503 | 75.99% |
| 20 | UAS 332 | Jan 2021 | Dec 2020 | 4610 | 3534 | 76.66% |
| 21 | UAS 336 | Feb 2021 | Jan 2021 | 5024 | 3846 | 75.55% |
| 22 | UAS 380 | Mar 2021 | Feb 2021 | 5024 | 3726 | 74.16% |
| 23 | UAS 384 | Apr 2021 | Mar 2021 | 5024 | 3662 | 72.89% |
| 24 | UAS 386 | May 2021 | Apr 2021 | 5024 | 3580 | 71.26% |
| 25 | UAS 391 | Jun 2021 | May 2021 | 5024 | 3590 | 71.46% |
| 26 | UAS 404 | Jul 2021 | Jun 2021 | 5024 | 3525 | 70.16% |
| 27 | UAS 406 | Aug 2021 | Jul 2021 | 5024 | 3457 | 68.81% |
| 28 | UAS 409 | Sep 2021 | Aug 2021 | 5024 | 3512 | 69.90% |
| 29 | UAS 416 | Oct 2021 | Sep 2021 | 5024 | 3524 | 70.14% |
| 30 | UAS 431 | Nov 2021 | Oct 2021 | 4299 | 3466 | 80.62% |
| 31 | UAS 433 | Dec 2021 | Nov 2021 | 4299 | 3355 | 78.04% |
| 32 | UAS 434 | Jan 2022 | Dec 2021 | 4299 | 3371 | 78.41% |
| 33 | UAS 440 | Feb 2022 | Jan 2022 | 4299 | 3406 | 79.23% |
| 34 | UAS 445 | Mar 2022 | Feb 2022 | 4173 | 3473 | 82.00% |
| 35 | UAS 456 | Apr 2022 | Mar 2022 | 4173 | 3367 | 80.69% |
| 36 | UAS 463 | May 2022 | Apr 2022 | 4173 | 3375 | 80.88% |
| 37 | UAS 469 | Jun 2022 | May 2022 | 4173 | 3263 | 78.19% |
| 38 | UAS 470 | Jul 2022 | Jun 2022 | 4900 | 3940 | 80.41% |
| 39 | UAS 477 | Aug 2022 | Jul 2022 | 4900 | 3900 | 79.59% |
| 40 | UAS 492 | Sep 2022 | Aug 2022 | 4933 | 4005 | 81.19% |
| 41 | UAS 495 | Oct 2022 | Sep 2022 | 4934 | 3969 | 80.44% |
| 42 | UAS 497 | Nov 2022 | Oct 2022 | 4934 | 3894 | 78.92% |
| 43 | UAS 503 | Dec 2022 | Nov 2022 | 4934 | 3854 | 78.11% |

5,409 respondents have completed at least one wave of the Monthly Events survey.

The dataset is structured as a panel where each row represents the responses of an individual (cross-sectional dimension) in a given wave (time dimension). Survey wave is uniquely identified

by the variable *wave*, and individual respondents by their UAS identification code, *uasid*, as depicted in Table 2.

Table 2. Structure of the Monthly Events Panel Dataset (values are for example only)

| <i>uasid</i> | <i>wave</i> | <i>final_weight</i> | <i>start_month</i> | <i>start_day</i> | <i>uas_surv_num</i> | <i>le001</i><br>(illness or injury) | <i>le011_1_</i><br>(date of most serious illness/injury) | <i>le_earn_m_full</i><br>(earnings) |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 000001       | 1           | 1.5001              | 6                  | 3                | 102                 | 2 No                                |  | 1,050                               |
| 000001       | 2           | 1.5001              | 7                  | 2                | 195                 | 2 No                                |  | 1,100                               |
| 000001       | 3           | 1.5001              | 8                  | 1                | 198                 | 1 Yes                               | 2019-06-08   | 1,050                               |
| 000001       | 4           | 1.5001              | 9                  | 4                | 204                 | 2 No                                |  | 1,100                               |
| 000001       | 5           | 1.5001              | 10                 | 7                | 205                 | 2 No                                |  | 1,600                               |
| 000002       | 1           | 2.1203              | 6                  | 8                | 102                 | 2 No                                |  | 5,000                               |
| 000002       | 2           | 2.1203              | 7                  | 2                | 195                 | 2 No                                |  | 5,000                               |
| 000002       | 3           | 2.1203              | 8                  | 1                | 198                 | 2 No                                |  | 5,000                               |
| 000002       | 4           | 2.1203              | 9                  | 3                | 204                 | 2 No                                |  | 5,000                               |
| 000002       | 5           | 2.1203              | 10                 | 3                | 205                 | 2 No                                |  | 8,000                               |

## 2.2 Missing Values

Many variables contain the missing value codes of *.z*, *.a*, *.e*, or *.t*. The *.z* code indicates that the pertinent variable was not fielded during the given record's survey wave. These are questions/variables that were added to the Monthly Events survey at some point after Wave 1.

The *.a* code indicates either [1] that a variable's question was displayed but not applicable because inconsistent with a response made on the same screen (e.g., for variables *le\_hrs\_oopb\_na*, *le\_hrs\_oopc\_na*, and *le\_hrs\_oopd\_na*) or, more typically, [2] that a variable's question was never displayed to the respondent due to questionnaire skip pattern logic or because the survey was not fully completed.

The *.e* missing code has two uses. [1] For those variables whose values were preloaded with data collected in an earlier Monthly Events survey wave (these are the variables with names that include either the prefix "uas" or the suffix "previous"), the *.e* code indicates that the value was missing in the original survey. [2] For all other variables, *.e* indicates that the respondent refused

to answer a question, did not know the answer, or found the question or response option not applicable.

Finally, the missing value code *.t* indicates that the original value has been imputed to *.t* due to the possibility that a data quality issue caused this value to be either incorrect (when non-missing) or (when missing) incorrectly missing. These data issues are described in [section 4.2](#) below.

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## 2.3 Obtaining the Monthly Events Panel Dataset

The dataset is available for download in Stata format from the [UAS Monthly Events Panel Dataset](#) page at the UAS website. If you would like the data in a different format, such as SAS or csv, please email your request to [uas-l@mymaillists.usc.edu](mailto:uas-l@mymaillists.usc.edu). All data in the dataset have their origin in UAS public use files, which are accessible through the [UAS All Surveys page](#).

Before accessing the Monthly Events Panel Dataset or other UAS data, one must first obtain permission by [registering on the UAS site](#) to download the UAS public release files. Registering with UAS is considered agreeing to the “conditions of use” governing access and usage of the data.

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## 2.4 Merging with other UAS Datasets

The dataset can be linked with data from more than 400 UAS surveys (a listing of all available UAS surveys is found on the [UAS All Surveys page](#)). The Monthly Events Panel Dataset can also be linked with UAS special datasets such as the [UAS Comprehensive File](#) (the Comprehensive Files contains data from all UAS-core surveys, which are fielded bi-annually to all active UAS panelists).

Each UAS file can be merged with other UAS files using the unique person identifier *uasid*, which is discussed in [Section 3.1.1](#) in more detail. Most other UAS data files, including the raw datasets for each separate Monthly Events survey available on the [UAS All Surveys page](#), are respondent-level with one record (row) per respondent. The Monthly Events Panel Dataset, however, is respondent\*wave-level, with one record for each cross of respondent and wave. In other words, there is a separate row for each survey that each respondent in the panel completed. Consequently, joining the Monthly Events Panel Dataset with most other UAS files must be performed as a many-to-one merge.

Please send any questions about the data merging process or any other item related to the Monthly Events Panel Dataset to [uas-l@mymaillists.usc.edu](mailto:uas-l@mymaillists.usc.edu).

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### 3. VARIABLES

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The variables in the Monthly Events Panel Dataset are distinguished and organized in this document along two dimensions: source (whether the variable was downloaded or derived) and content.

The downloaded variables are the raw variables downloaded in the Monthly Events datasets found on the [UAS All Surveys page](#) and are either directly collected from the respondent or calculated by the survey software. Derived variables are calculated during the construction of the Monthly Events Panel Dataset and are discussed in [Section 3.3](#).

The two content groups are [1] metadata and demographics variables (listed in [Appendix A.1](#) and described in [Section 3.1](#) and [Section 3.3.1](#)), and [2] monthly life events and issues variables (listed in [Appendix A.2](#) and described in [Section 3.2](#) and [Section 3.3.2](#)).

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#### 3.1 UAS Standard Variables

Each UAS survey dataset contains a set of [a] default survey variables and [b] demographics variables that together are termed the UAS standard variables (see the [UAS standard variables page](#) for more).

##### 3.1.1 Default Survey Variables (survey metadata)

Most default survey variables represent when and how the survey was administered. Examples are times/dates when respondents began and completed the survey, whether the survey was administered in English or Spanish, sample weights, and whether a tablet was ever provided to the respondent.

Of particular note are three identifier variables. Each respondent is uniquely identified with *uasid*. This variable, assigned to a respondent at recruitment into the UAS panel, stays fixed across surveys and is the key for linking this dataset to any other UAS file. Households are identified with *uashhid* (original household identifier), which also stays fixed, and *survhhid* (survey-specific identifier), which uniquely identifies the household a panel member belongs to at the time of a given survey, and so can change for respondents when they move between different households.

Finally, five metadata variables (*wave*, *uas\_surv\_num*, *yrmo\_covered*, *yrmo\_fieldded*, *sampleinvite\_wave*, *sampleinvite\_surv*, *sampleinvite\_yrmo*, and *n\_co\_for\_r*) were derived



specifically for the Monthly Events Panel Dataset and are described in more detail in [Section 3.3.1](#) below.

### 3.1.2 Demographic Variables

The demographic variables found in the Monthly Events Panel Dataset include respondents' age, gender, ethnicity, marital status, family structure, state of residence, education, marital status, employment characteristics, and household composition, among other attributes. All demographic variables were collected in the My Household survey, which is administered quarterly to every respondent in the UAS panel, ensuring that these variables are regularly updated. The demographic variables are associated with each distinct Monthly Events survey according to the following rule: variable values collected in the My Household survey completed closest in time before a given Monthly Events survey is begun by a respondent are associated with that Monthly Events survey and added to its data.

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## 3.2 Monthly Life Events and Life Issues Variables

The focal content of the Monthly Events surveys and Monthly Events Panel Dataset can be divided into two groups: monthly event question blocks, and other monthly issues.

### 3.2.1 Monthly Event Question Blocks

The Monthly Events surveys ask respondents whether they experienced each of a set of 17 events during the previous calendar month [event occurrence question]. If a respondent reports that the event did occur, he or she is asked one to three follow-up questions about that event. Thus, there are 17 blocks of questions, of size two to four, corresponding to each of the 17 events. All blocks include the event occurrence question and a follow-up question asking the respondent to provide the date when the event occurred or began [date question]. A subset of five events include a question asking for more detail about the nature of the event [nature of event question].

Finally, for a partially overlapping subset of 12 events, a follow-up is asked whenever the respondent reported experiencing the event both in the current survey wave, with event occurrence last month, and the previous wave, with event occurrence two months ago. Respondents here are asked to confirm that their affirmative responses for experiencing the event in both waves are based on distinct instances of the event [confirm both waves question]. For example, if a respondent reports suffering a financial setback in the current wave and reported the same in the previous wave, a follow-up question is displayed asking this respondent to confirm

that there were two distinct financial setbacks, and if not, in which of the two waves the setback first occurred.

While the question structures across these 17 blocks are similar, the order of presentation can be dissimilar. Moreover, questions within a single block are sometimes presented in completely different sections of the survey. For more on question order, please refer to a Monthly Event survey's documentation, accessible from the [UAS All Surveys page](#).

Respondents are asked about the following 17 events (variables within each event's question block are listed in the subsequent parentheses):

- Illness or injury (event occurrence: *le001*, nature of event: *le\_hrs001a*, date: *le011\_1\_*, confirm that event was experienced in both waves: *le001\_followup*)
- Close relative with illness or injury (occurrence: *le002*, nature of event: *le\_hrs001a\_rel*, date: *le011\_2\_*, confirm both waves: *le002\_followup*)
- Marriage (occurrence: *le012*, date: *le011\_12\_*)
- New partnership (occurrence: *le015*, date: *le011\_15\_*)
- Death of someone close (occurrence: *le003*, date: *le011\_3\_*, confirm both waves: *le003\_followup*)
- Positive change in financial situation (occurrence: *le013*, nature of event: *le013\_2*, date: *le011\_13\_*, confirm both waves: *le013\_followup*)
- Financial setback (occurrence: *le009*, nature of event: *le009\_2*, date: *le011\_9\_*, confirm both waves: *le009\_followup*)
- Onset of marital difficulties (occurrence: *le004*, date: *le011\_4\_*)
- Onset of difficulties with close friend or relative (occurrence: *le005*, date: *le011\_5\_*, confirm both waves: *le005\_followup*)
- Taking a special vacation (occurrence: *le014*, date: *le011\_14\_*, confirm both waves: *le014\_followup*)
- Retirement (occurrence: *le007*, date: *le011\_7\_*, confirm both waves: *le007\_followup*)
- Decision about retirement (occurrence: *le008*, date: *le011\_8\_*)
- Unemployment (occurrence: *le006*, date: *le011\_6\_*, confirm both waves: *le006\_followup*)
- Employed but with change in employment status (occurrence: *le\_hrs\_ia*, nature of event: *le\_hrs\_ib*, date: *le011\_11\_*)

- Moving to new neighborhood (occurrence: *le016*, date: *le011\_16\_*, confirm both waves: *le016\_followup*)
- Onset of major legal problems (occurrence: *le010*, date: *le011\_10\_*, confirm both waves: *le010\_followup*)
- Birth of grandchild (occurrence: *le017*, date: *le011\_17\_*, confirm both waves: *le017\_followup*)

### 3.2.2 Other Monthly Issues

The Monthly Events surveys ask respondents to evaluate and describe a few additional life circumstances during the previous month using questions not structured along the above event question block pattern. The raw and derived variables based on these additional questions can be grouped into the following seven monthly issues (the variables for each issue are listed in the subsequent parentheses):

- Life satisfaction (*le\_hrs\_s1*)
- Overall health (*le\_hrs\_srh1*)
- Employment changes (*le\_hrs\_ia*, *le\_hrs\_ib*)
- Hours worked during the last week of the month (*le\_hrs\_day1-le\_hrs\_day7*, *le\_hrs\_ic\_total*, *le\_hrs\_hb*, *le\_hrs\_hb\_hours*, *le\_hrs\_hc*, *le\_tothours*)
- Earnings (*le\_hrs\_id\_weekly*, *le\_hrs\_id\_biweekly*, *le\_hrs\_id*, *le\_earn\_m\_full*)
- Medical expenditures (*le\_hrs\_oopa1*, *le\_hrs\_oopa2*, *le\_hrs\_oopb*, *le\_hrs\_oopc*, *le\_hrs\_oopd*, *oop\_hosp*, *oop\_doc*, *oop\_dent*, *oop\_othmed*)
- Pain and use of pain medication (*le\_hrs\_p1*, *le\_hrs\_p2*, *le\_hrs\_p3*, *le\_hrs\_p4*)
- Social Security received (*ssa\_askr*, *ssa\_askspouse*, *ss001*, *ss001\_na*, *ss002*, *ss003*, *ss003\_na*, *ss004*)

Five of these variables are derived (*le\_tothours*, *le\_earn\_m\_full*, *oop\_hosp*, *oop\_doc*, *oop\_dent*, *oop\_othmed*) and are described in more detail in [Section 3.3.2](#) below.

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## 3.3 Derived Variables

Most variables contained in the Monthly Events Panel Dataset are exactly the same as they appear in the raw datasets (referred to as the downloaded group in this document). This section describes the derived variables that were constructed specifically for the Monthly Events Panel Dataset. They can be grouped along the variable content distinction used to separate Section 3.1 from

Section 3.2: demographic/metadata variables vs. monthly life events/issues variables. Or to be more specific, all derived variables are either metadata or within the other monthly issues group.

### 3.3.1 Metadata and Demographic

Short descriptions of the metadata and demographic variables derived for the Monthly Events Panel Dataset are the following:

- *wave*: Sequential index for each distinct Monthly Events survey. Wave 1 corresponds to the first Monthly Events survey, UAS 102, which was fielded in June of 2019 and asks about issues and events happening in May of 2019. Wave 2 corresponds to the survey fielded the following month in July of 2019, Wave 3 to the survey fielded in August 2019, and so on.
- *uas\_surv\_num*: Identifier for each distinct survey in the UAS, it indexes where each wave of the Monthly Events survey can be found within the [All Surveys page](#) on the UAS website. It is the number of the UAS survey under which a given wave's documentation and raw data are located.
- *yrmo\_covered*: Time period (year and month) to which the survey in the observation refers.
- *yrmo\_fielded*: Time period (year and month) when the survey was fielded.
- *sampleinvite\_wave*: Wave when respondent first entered the sample.
- *sampleinvite\_surv*: First survey that respondent was invited to participate in.
- *sampleinvite\_yrmo*: Time period (year and month) when respondent first entered the sample.
- *n\_co\_for\_r*: Number of Monthly Events survey waves completed by this respondent.
- *final\_weight*: Respondent-level weight calculated to make the Monthly Events Panel Dataset representative of the national population above aged 50 and up (see [Section 5](#) below).

### 3.3.2 Other Monthly Issues

Short descriptions of the other monthly issue variables derived for the Monthly Events Panel Dataset are the following:

- *le\_tothours*: Total hours worked in a typical or average week. Respondents were asked how many hours they worked each day of the previous week (variables *le\_hrs\_ic\_day1-le\_hrs\_ic\_day7*). The total hours worked in the previous week were calculated by summing the values *le\_hrs\_ic\_day1-le\_hrs\_ic\_day7* and storing the result in

*le\_hrs\_ic\_total*. If respondents also reported that the hours worked during this reference week was the typical amount, then the value for *le\_tothours* is derived by assigning it the value of *le\_hrs\_ic\_total*.

However, if respondents reported that the total hours worked during this reference week was not typical and entered an alternative value for typical weekly hours worked, then this value (in variable *le\_hrs\_hb\_hours*) was assigned to *le\_tothours*. If respondents also declined to enter a typical weekly total, instead reporting that the number of hours worked varied greatly from week to week, they were asked to estimate how many hours per week they work on average and this value (*le\_hrs\_hc*) was assigned to *le\_tothours*.

- *le\_earn\_m\_full*: Monthly earnings. Respondents were asked to provide the amount they earned, that is, their take-home pay, in the previous month (variable *le\_hrs\_id*). However, some respondents reported that they weren't paid monthly, but on a biweekly or shorter pay period, or by the job.

For these respondents we asked for the amount they earned during their previous pay period or, if the pay period was daily or by the job, during the previous week. These biweekly and weekly earnings were then multiplied by the appropriate factor to produce a per month value. For respondents who reported a biweekly amount, their biweekly earnings (reported in variable *le\_hrs\_id\_biweekly*) were multiplied by 2.1 to produce the per month value in *le\_earn\_m\_full*. For respondents paid weekly, daily, or by the job, their weekly earnings (*le\_hrs\_id\_weekly*) were multiplied by 4.2 to produce the per month amount. Finally, if this monthly amount was greater than or equal to \$50,000 and less than \$999,999, it was imputed to \$50,000. Monthly amounts greater than or equal to \$999,999 are extremely unlikely, so any values this high were assumed to be erroneous and were imputed to missing.

- *oop\_hosp*: Amount paid out-of-pocket for hospital stays. Respondents were presented with an entry question (*le\_hrs\_oop1*) asking whether or not they incurred hospital stay or outpatient procedure expenses in the last month. If they reported they did not, then the value of *oop\_hosp* was set to 0. If they reported they did incur such expenses, then the value of *oop\_hosp* was set to the value of the follow-up question (variable *le\_hrs\_oopa2*) that asks how much respondents paid last month for hospital bills.
- *oop\_doc*: Amount paid out-of-pocket for doctor/clinic visits. Respondents were asked to report how much they paid last month for doctor or clinic visits (stored in variable *le\_hrs\_oopb*), along with a response option to select when did not make any payments (*le\_hrs\_oopb\_na*). If they selected the no-payment option, then the value of *oop\_doc*

was set to 0. If they instead entered a value in *le\_hrs\_oopb*, then *oop\_doc* was set to this value.

- *oop\_dent*: Amount paid out-of-pocket for dental visits. Respondents were asked to report how much they paid last month for dental visits (stored in variable *le\_hrs\_oopc*), or to select a response option indicating they did not make any payments (*le\_hrs\_oopc\_na*). If they selected the no-payment option, then the value of *oop\_dent* was set to 0. If they instead entered a value in *le\_hrs\_oopc*, then *oop\_dent* was set to this value.
- *oop\_othmed*: Amount paid out-of-pocket for other medical visits. Respondents were asked to report (in variable *le\_hrs\_oopd*) how much they paid last month for medical expenses not yet mentioned, that is, expenses in addition to hospital stays, doctor/clinic visits, and dental visits. Some examples of these other expenses are medications, special food, equipment such as a special bed or chair, and visits by health professionals. Also included was a response option to indicate they did not make any of these payments (stored in *le\_hrs\_oopd\_na*). If they selected the no-payment option, then the value of *oop\_othmed* was set to 0. If they instead entered a value in *le\_hrs\_oopd*, then *oop\_othmed* was set to this value.

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## 4. UPDATES AND DATA ISSUES IN EACH SURVEY WAVE

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Monthly updates to the dataset and monthly data quality issues are listed in the tables 3 and 4 below.

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### 4.1 Monthly Updates

Though most of the content in the Monthly Events surveys has remained fixed since Wave 1, there have been a few changes--mainly adding new questions and adding response options to existing questions. As a result, a few of the variables are present only for the most recent waves. Table 3 below describes these changes.

Table 3. Changes made to the Monthly Events survey and Monthly Events Panel Dataset

| Wave | Survey  | Changes  |
|------|---------|--|
| 2    | UAS 195 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Variable <i>le013_2</i> was added, along with its multiple response options: <i>le013_2s1-le013_2s18</i>.</b> This is a follow-up asked when Respondents report experiencing a positive change in their financial situation. It requests more information about the nature of this positive change.</li><li>• <b>Change to <i>le_hrs_ib</i>.</b> Four new response options were added to this question about change in employment status: I got a raise, I started an additional job, I stopped working, I am on leave from work.</li><li>• <b>Variable <i>le009_2</i> was added, along with its multiple response options <i>le009_2s1-le009_2s16</i>.</b> This is a follow-up asked when Respondents report suffering a major financial setback. It requests more information about the nature of this setback.</li></ul> |
| 5    | UAS 205 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Variable <i>le_hrs001a_rel</i> was added, along with its multiple response options <i>le_hrs001a_rels1-le_hrs001a_rels22</i>.</b> This is a follow-up asked when Respondents report that a close relative experienced the onset of an illness or injury. It requests more information about the nature of this illness/injury.</li><li>• <b>Change to <i>le_hrs001a</i>.</b> A text box was added for use by those who respond “other” to a question requesting more information about the nature of an illness/injury that was experienced.</li></ul>  |
| 6    | UAS 211 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Variables <i>le001_followup</i>, <i>le002_followup</i>, <i>le003_followup</i>, <i>le005_followup</i>, <i>le006_followup</i>, <i>le007_followup</i>, <i>le009_followup</i>, <i>le010_followup</i>, <i>le013_followup</i>, <i>le014_followup</i>, <i>le016_followup</i>, and <i>le017_followup</i> were added.</b> Follow-ups that are asked when Respondents report experiencing any of these 12 events in both the current wave (occurrence last month) and previous wave (occurrence two months ago). Respondents are asked to confirm that their</li></ul>  |

|    |         |  |
|----|---------|--|
|    |         | affirmative responses for both waves are based on distinct instances of the event.   |
| 11 | UAS 232 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Change to <i>le_hrs001a</i>.</b> Two new response options were added, asking whether Respondents had been told that they had contracted COVID-19 or had been diagnosed with it.</li> <li>• <b>Change to <i>le_hrs001a_rel</i>.</b> Two new response options were added, asking whether Respondents had any close relatives who had been told that they had contracted COVID-19 or had been diagnosed with it.</li> <li>• <b>Change to <i>LE013_2</i>.</b> Two new response options were added, asking whether Respondents had received higher than expected government benefits and whether they had received non-government financial help from outside their household.</li> </ul> |
| 43 | UAS 503 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Variables <i>ssa_askr</i>, <i>ssa_askspouse</i>, <i>ss001</i>, <i>ss001_na</i>, <i>ss002</i>, <i>ss003</i>, <i>ss003_na</i>, <i>ss004</i> were added.</b> These questions ask about Social Security benefits that Respondents and their spouses received, and the benefits that they believe that they will receive in the next month.</li> </ul>  |

## 4.2 Data Issues

Data quality issues during data collection and actions taken are listed in Table 4 below.

In January 2020, the change in calendar year created a problem in the date displayed for three sets of questions: the date of the week displayed in the questions about hours worked (see row 1 in Table 4), the dates bounding the last two-week period for the question asking those respondents on a biweekly pay period what income they earned during this period (row 2), and the month in the disambiguation question for respondents who reported the same event in the two previous months (row 3). These problems were detected and solved one day after the launch of the January survey and hence only a subset of respondents was affected. A special missing value (.t) was given for these answers as described in Table 4 below.

Table 4. Data Issues in Monthly Events Panel Dataset

| Wave | Survey  | Variable(s) Affected                                   | Issue   | Action                       |
|------|---------|--|---|------------------------------|
| 8    | UAS 218 | le_hrs_ic_day1 -<br>le_hrs_ic_day7,<br>le_hrs_ic_total | 1,212 Respondents were asked to report how many hours they worked each day of the previous week. Of these, 493 were correctly shown Dec. 23 for the previous week's Monday, but then incorrectly shown Dec 29 -Jan. 3 for that week's Tuesday - Sunday. The values in the affected variables for these Respondents were imputed to a special missing value. The remaining Respondents viewed the correct dates. | imputed to missing value: .t |



|    |            |   |   |                                    |
|----|------------|---|---|------------------------------------|
| 8  | UAS<br>218 | le_hrs_id_biweekly  | 575 Respondents stated they were paid biweekly and were asked to report their income during the last two-week period. For those taking the survey during its first fielded week, the correct dates circumscribed the previous two concluded weeks: Dec. 16 - Dec. 29. However, 214 Respondents were shown incorrect dates for this period, instead viewing dates circumscribing the ongoing week plus the previous week, which was Dec 21 - Jan. 3. The values of <i>le_hrs_id_biweekly</i> for these 214 Respondents were imputed to a special missing value. All other Respondents viewed the correct two-week period.  | imputed<br>to missing<br>value: .t |
| 8  | UAS<br>218 | le001_followup,<br>le002_followup,<br>le003_followup,<br>le005_followup,<br>le006_followup,<br>le007_followup,<br>le009_followup,<br>le010_followup,<br>le013_followup,<br>le014_followup,<br>le016_followup,<br>le017_followup | 208 Respondents reported experiencing an instance of at least one of a set of twelve events both during December (reported in UAS 218) and during November (reported in previous Monthly Events survey, UAS 215). These Respondents were then asked to confirm that they experienced two distinct episodes of this event during these two consecutive months. However, for 106 Respondents the two months were incorrectly displayed as December and December. The values in the affected variables for these Respondents were imputed to a special missing value. The remaining Respondents were shown the correctly shown November and December for the two months. | imputed<br>to missing<br>value: .t |
| 28 | UAS<br>409 | le_hrs_hb,<br>le_hrs_hc   | 67 Respondents who should have been presented question <i>le_hrs_hb</i> were not. Since <i>le_hrs_hc</i> is shown when <i>le_hrs_hb</i> = 3, some of these Respondents possibly incorrectly missed viewing question <i>le_hrs_hc</i> as well.   | imputed<br>to missing<br>value: .t |
| 29 | UAS<br>416 | le_hrs_hb,<br>le_hrs_hc   | 71 Respondents who should have been presented question <i>le_hrs_hb</i> were not. Since <i>le_hrs_hc</i> is shown when <i>le_hrs_hb</i> = 3, some of these Respondents possibly incorrectly missed viewing question <i>le_hrs_hc</i> as well.   | imputed<br>to missing<br>value: .t |
| 30 | UAS<br>431 | le_hrs_hb,<br>le_hrs_hc   | 41 Respondents who should have been presented question <i>le_hrs_hb</i> were not. Since <i>le_hrs_hc</i> is shown when <i>le_hrs_hb</i> = 3, some of these Respondents possibly incorrectly missed viewing question <i>le_hrs_hc</i> as well.   | imputed<br>to missing<br>value: .t |

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## 5. SAMPLE WEIGHTS

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The Monthly Events Panel Dataset includes a weight variable *final\_weight* to correct for differential nonresponse rates across demographic groups and align the sample to the U.S. adult population along key demographic variables: gender, race/ethnicity, age, education and census region. This variable is constant by respondent across waves. A complete description of the UAS weighting procedure can be found [here](#).

Values used to generate the sample weights are taken from the demographic variables collected in the My Household survey and associated with each wave of the Monthly Events survey (see [Section 3.1.2](#) for more details). More specifically, the most recently collected, non-missing values for each pertinent demographic variable are used.

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## APPENDIX A. MONTHLY EVENTS PANEL DATASET VARIABLES

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Table A.1 Metadata and Demographic Variables

| Variable Name      | Variable Label   |
|--------------------|--|
| uasid              | Individual identifier  |
| uashhid            | Original household identifier                                      |
| survhhid           | Survey-specific household composition identifier                   |
| wave               | Wave of data collection  |
| uas_surv_num       | UAS survey number  |
| yrmo_covered       | Time period (year-month) that survey questions ask about           |
| yrmo_fielded       | Time period (year-month) when wave was fielded                     |
| n_co_for_r         | Number of Monthly Events survey waves completed by this respondent |
| uasmembers         | Number of household UAS members besides the respondent             |
| final_weight       | Relative post-stratification weight                                |
| sampleinvite_wave  | Wave when respondent first entered the sample                      |
| sampleinvite_surv  | First survey respondent was invited to participate in              |
| sampleinvite_yrmo  | Time period (year-month) when respondent first entered the sample  |
| sampletype         | Sample Type  |
| batch              | Recruiting Batch   |
| primary_respondent | Primary respondent or not  |
| hardware           | Hardware provided  |
| language           | Survey language  |
| start_date         | Survey start date  |
| start_year         | Survey start year  |
| start_month        | Survey start month   |
| start_day          | Survey start day   |
| start_hour         | Survey start hour  |
| start_min          | Survey start minute  |
| start_sec          | Survey start second  |
| end_date           | Survey end date  |
| end_year           | Survey end year  |
| end_month          | Survey end month   |
| end_day            | Survey end day   |
| end_hour           | Survey end hour  |
| end_min            | Survey end minute  |

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| end_sec          | Survey end second                |
| lastmyhh_date    | Date of last MyHH                |
| gender           | Gender - Male                    |
| dateofbirth_year | Year of birth                    |
| age              | Age                              |
| agerange         | Age range for missing age        |
| citizenus        | US citizen                       |
| bornus           | Born in the US                   |
| stateborn        | State born - FIPS coding         |
| countryborn      | Country born                     |
| immigrant_status | Immigrant status                 |
| statereside      | State residence - FIPS coding    |
| maritalstatus    | Marital status                   |
| livewithpartner  | Living with partner              |
| education        | Highest level of education       |
| hisplatino       | Spanish/Hispanic/Latino          |
| hisplatino_group | Spanish/Hispanic/Latino group    |
| white            | White                            |
| black            | Black                            |
| nativeamer       | American Indian or Alaska Native |
| asian            | Asian                            |
| pacific          | Hawaiian/Pacific Islander        |
| race             | Race                             |
| working          | Currently working                |
| sick_leave       | On sick or other leave           |
| unemp_layoff     | Unemployed - on layoff           |
| unemp_look       | Unemployed - looking             |
| retired          | Retired                          |
| disabled         | Disabled                         |
| lf_other         | Other Labor Force Status         |
| laborstatus      | Labor status                     |
| employmenttype   | Employment type                  |
| workfullpart     | Work full-time or part-time      |
| hourswork        | Hours of work per week           |
| hhincome         | Household income                 |

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| anyhhmember          | Whether any other HH member                      |
| hhmembernumber       | Number of household members besides R            |
| hhmemberage_1 - 22   | Age of HH member <i>n</i>                        |
| hhmembergen_1 - 22   | Gender of HH member <i>n</i>                     |
| hhmemberin_1 - 22    | Whether HH member <i>n</i> is in the household   |
| hhmemberrel_1 - 22   | Relationship of HH member <i>n</i> to Respondent |
| hhmemberuasid_1 - 22 | UASID of HH member <i>n</i>                      |

**Table A.2 Monthly Life Events and Life Issues Variables**

| Variable Name    | Variable Label  |
|------------------|---|
| le_hrs_s1        | overall life satisfaction                                       |
| le001            | suffered new illness/injury last mo                             |
| le_hrs_srh1      | overall health  |
| le_hrs001a       | new illness/injury - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO                    |
| le_hrs001as1     | new illness/injury - fell down                                  |
| le_hrs001as2     | new illness/injury - accident at home                           |
| le_hrs001as3     | new illness/injury - accident at work                           |
| le_hrs001as4     | new illness/injury - accident elsewhere (not home/work)         |
| le_hrs001as5     | new illness/injury - assaulted                                  |
| le_hrs001as6     | new illness/injury - heart problem                              |
| le_hrs001as7     | new illness/injury - heart disease                              |
| le_hrs001as8     | new illness/injury - cancer or malignant tumor                  |
| le_hrs001as9     | new illness/injury - dementia/senility/memory impaired          |
| le_hrs001as10    | new illness/injury - diabetes                                   |
| le_hrs001as11    | new illness/injury - influenza                                  |
| le_hrs001as12    | new illness/injury - pneumonia                                  |
| le_hrs001as13    | new illness/injury - kidney disease                             |
| le_hrs001as14    | new illness/injury - chronic lung disease                       |
| le_hrs001as15    | new illness/injury - arthritis or rheumatism                    |
| le_hrs001as16    | new illness/injury - osteoporosis                               |
| le_hrs001as17    | new illness/injury - surgery/jt replacement due to arthritis    |
| le_hrs001as18    | new illness/injury - high blood pressure or hypertension        |
| le_hrs001as19    | new illness/injury - shingles                                   |
| le_hrs001as20    | new illness/injury - emotional, nervous, or psychiatric problem |
| le_hrs001as21    | new illness/injury - sleep disorder                             |
| le_hrs001as23    | new illness/injury - diagnosed with COVID-19 by dr              |
| le_hrs001as24    | new illness/injury - told may have contracted COVID-19 by dr    |
| le_hrs001as22    | new illness/injury - other                                      |
| le011_1_         | illness/injury last mo - DATE of most serious                   |
| le002            | close relative suffered serious illness last mo                 |
| le_hrs001a_rel   | relative w new illness/injury - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO         |
| le_hrs001a_rels1 | relative w new illness/injury - fell down                       |
| le_hrs001a_rels2 | relative w new illness/injury - accident at home                |

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| le_hrs001a_rels3  | relative w new illness/injury - accident at work                        |
| le_hrs001a_rels4  | relative w new illness/injury - accident elsewhere (not home/work)      |
| le_hrs001a_rels5  | relative w new illness/injury - assaulted                               |
| le_hrs001a_rels6  | relative w new illness/injury - heart problem                           |
| le_hrs001a_rels7  | relative w new illness/injury - heart disease                           |
| le_hrs001a_rels8  | relative w new illness/injury - cancer or malignant tumor               |
| le_hrs001a_rels9  | relative w new illness/injury - dementia/senility/memory impaired       |
| le_hrs001a_rels10 | relative w new illness/injury - diabetes                                |
| le_hrs001a_rels11 | relative w new illness/injury - influenza                               |
| le_hrs001a_rels12 | relative w new illness/injury - pneumonia                               |
| le_hrs001a_rels13 | relative w new illness/injury - kidney disease                          |
| le_hrs001a_rels14 | relative w new illness/injury - chronic lung disease                    |
| le_hrs001a_rels15 | relative w new illness/injury - arthritis or rheumatism                 |
| le_hrs001a_rels16 | relative w new illness/injury - osteoporosis                            |
| le_hrs001a_rels17 | relative w new illness/injury - surgery/jt replacement due to arthritis |
| le_hrs001a_rels18 | relative w new illness/injury - high blood pressure or hypertension     |
| le_hrs001a_rels19 | relative w new illness/injury - shingles                                |
| le_hrs001a_rels20 | relative w new illness/injury - emotional/nervous/psychiatric prob      |
| le_hrs001a_rels21 | relative w new illness/injury - sleep disorder                          |
| le_hrs001a_rels23 | relative w new illness/injury - diagnosed with COVID-19 by dr           |
| le_hrs001a_rels24 | relative w new illness/injury - told may have contracted COVID-19 by dr |
| le_hrs001a_rels22 | relative w new illness/injury - other                                   |
| le011_2_          | relative with illness/injury last mo - DATE of most serious             |
| le012             | married last mo   |
| le011_12_         | married last mo - DATE  |
| le003             | death of someone close to you last mo                                   |
| le011_3_          | death of someone close to you last mo - DATE                            |
| le013             | positive change in financial situation last mo                          |
| le013_2           | pos fin change - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO                                |
| le013_2s1         | pos fin change - assistance from friends or family                      |
| le013_2s2         | pos fin change - repaid a loan  |
| le013_2s3         | pos fin change - sold property  |
| le013_2s4         | pos fin change - pay lower rent   |
| le013_2s5         | pos fin change - new benefits from pension/Social Security              |
| le013_2s6         | pos fin change - new payments from government/welfare program           |

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| le013_2s7     | pos fin change - got a raise  |
| le013_2s8     | pos fin change - higher earnings from business/self-employment          |
| le013_2s9     | pos fin change - new job  |
| le013_2s10    | pos fin change - paid off mortgage                                      |
| le013_2s11    | pos fin change - paid off car loan                                      |
| le013_2s12    | pos fin change - paid off student loan                                  |
| le013_2s13    | pos fin change - completed med treatment / paid off med-related debt    |
| le013_2s14    | pos fin change - paid off other debt                                    |
| le013_2s15    | pos fin change - high return on investment                              |
| le013_2s16    | pos fin change - spouse got a raise                                     |
| le013_2s17    | pos fin change - child now financially indie / reduction in ed expenses |
| le013_2s19    | pos fin change - benefits received from govt higher than expected       |
| le013_2s20    | pos fin change - non-govt financial help from outside household         |
| le013_2s18    | pos fin change - other  |
| le011_13_     | positive change in financial situation last mo - DATE                   |
| le004         | serious marital difficulties last mo                                    |
| le011_4_      | serious marital difficulties last mo - DATE                             |
| le014         | went on special vacation last mo  |
| le011_14_     | went on special vacation last mo - DATE                                 |
| le005         | serious problem with close friend/relative last mo                      |
| le011_5_      | serious problem with close friend/relative last mo - DATE               |
| le015         | found a new partner last mo   |
| le011_15_     | found a new partner last mo - DATE                                      |
| le006         | became unemployed last mo   |
| le011_6_      | became unemployed last mo - DATE  |
| le007         | retired from job last mo  |
| le011_7_      | retired from job last mo - DATE   |
| le008         | made decision last mo to retire within next 6 months                    |
| le011_8_      | made decision last mo to retire within next 6 months - DATE             |
| le_hrs_ia     | employment status changed last mo                                       |
| le_hrs_h0     | worked for at least 1 hour last mo                                      |
| le_hrs_ib     | how employment status changed   |
| le011_11_     | employment status changed last mo - DATE                                |
| flweeklist_1_ | last week - day 1 - date  |
| flweeklist_2_ | last week - day 2 - date  |



|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| flweeklist_3_     | last week - day 3 - date   |
| flweeklist_4_     | last week - day 4 - date   |
| flweeklist_5_     | last week - day 5 - date   |
| flweeklist_6_     | last week - day 6 - date   |
| flweeklist_7_     | last week - day 7 - date   |
| le_hrs_ic_day1    | last week - day 1 (Mon) - hours worked                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day2    | last week - day 2 (Tues) - hours worked                                    |
| le_hrs_ic_day4    | last week - day 3 (Wed) - hours worked                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day3    | last week - day 4 (Thur) - hours worked                                    |
| le_hrs_ic_day5    | last week - day 5 (Fri) - hours worked                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day6    | last week - day 6 (Sat) - hours worked                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day7    | last week - day 7 (Sun) - hours worked                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day1_na | last week - day 1 (Mon) - did not work                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day2_na | last week - day 2 (Tues) - did not work                                    |
| le_hrs_ic_day3_na | last week - day 3 (Wed) - did not work                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day4_na | last week - day 4 (Thurs) - did not work                                   |
| le_hrs_ic_day5_na | last week - day 5 (Frid) - did not work                                    |
| le_hrs_ic_day6_na | last week - day 6 (Sat) - did not work                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_day7_na | last week - day 7 (Sun) - did not work                                     |
| le_hrs_ic_total   | last week - total hours worked   |
| le_hrs_hb         | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - current wv   |
| le_hrs_hb_hours   | typical hrs worked in a wk (when different from last wk)                   |
| le_hrs_hc         | best guess for typ hrs wrked in a wk (when it varies wk to wk)             |
| uas102_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv1, uas102  |
| uas195_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv2, uas195  |
| uas198_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv3, uas198  |
| uas204_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv4, uas204  |
| uas205_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv5, uas205  |
| uas211_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv6, uas211  |
| uas215_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv7, uas215  |
| uas218_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv8, uas218  |
| uas222_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv9, uas222  |
| uas228_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv10, uas228 |
| uas232_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv11, uas232 |
| uas285_le_hrs_hb  | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv12, uas285 |

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| uas291_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv13, uas291 |
| uas298_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv14, uas298 |
| uas305_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv15, uas305 |
| uas310_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv16, uas310 |
| uas316_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv17, uas316 |
| uas321_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv18, uas321 |
| uas329_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv19, uas329 |
| uas332_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv20, uas332 |
| uas336_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv21, uas336 |
| uas380_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv22, uas380 |
| uas384_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv23, uas384 |
| uas386_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv24, uas386 |
| uas391_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv25, uas391 |
| uas404_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv26, uas404 |
| uas406_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv27, uas406 |
| uas409_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv28, uas409 |
| uas416_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv29, uas416 |
| uas431_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv30, uas431 |
| uas433_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv31, uas433 |
| uas434_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv32, uas434 |
| uas440_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv33, uas440 |
| uas445_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv34, uas445 |
| uas456_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv35, uas456 |
| uas463_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv36, uas463 |
| uas469_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv37, uas469 |
| uas470_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv38, uas470 |
| uas477_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv39, uas477 |
| uas492_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv40, uas492 |
| uas495_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv41, uas495 |
| uas497_le_hrs_hb | typ hrs wrked in wk same as prev, something else, or varies - wv42, uas497 |
| le_hrs_ea        | extent which earnings vary mo to mo  |
| le_hrs_eb        | pay period - current wave  |
| uas102_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 1, uas102  |
| uas195_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 2, uas195  |
| uas198_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 3, uas198  |

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| uas204_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 4, uas204  |
| uas205_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 5, uas205  |
| uas211_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 6, uas211  |
| uas215_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 7, uas215  |
| uas218_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 8, uas218  |
| uas222_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 9, uas222  |
| uas228_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 10, uas228 |
| uas232_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 11, uas232 |
| uas285_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 12, uas285 |
| uas291_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 13, uas291 |
| uas298_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 14, uas295 |
| uas305_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 15, uas305 |
| uas310_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 16, uas310 |
| uas316_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 17, uas316 |
| uas321_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 18, uas321 |
| uas329_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 19, uas329 |
| uas332_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 20, uas332 |
| uas336_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 21, uas336 |
| uas380_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 22, uas380 |
| uas384_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 23, uas384 |
| uas386_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 24, uas386 |
| uas391_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 25, uas391 |
| uas404_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 26, uas404 |
| uas406_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 27, uas406 |
| uas409_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 28, uas409 |
| uas416_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 29, uas416 |
| uas431_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 30, uas431 |
| uas433_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 31, uas433 |
| uas434_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 32, uas434 |
| uas440_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 33, uas440 |
| uas445_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 34, uas445 |
| uas456_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 35, uas456 |
| uas463_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 36, uas463 |
| uas469_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 37, uas469 |
| uas470_le_hrs_eb | pay period - wave 38, uas470 |

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| uas477_le_hrs_eb                 | pay period - wave 39, uas477   |
| uas492_le_hrs_eb                 | pay period - wave 40, uas492   |
| uas495_le_hrs_eb                 | pay period - wave 41, uas495   |
| uas497_le_hrs_eb                 | pay period - wave 42, uas497   |
| le_hrs_id_weekly                 | income - last week   |
| le_hrs_id_weekly_unf_results_0_  | income - last week - bracket response - min                              |
| le_hrs_id_weekly_unf_results_1_  | income - last week - bracket response - max                              |
| flweeklist_8_                    | last two weeks - day 1 - date  |
| le_hrs_id_biweekly               | income - last two weeks  |
| le_hrs_id_biweekly_unf_results_0 | income - last two weeks - bracket response - min                         |
| le_hrs_id_biweekly_unf_results_1 | income - last two weeks - bracket response - max                         |
| le_hrs_id                        | income - last month  |
| le_hrs_id_unf_results_0_         | income - last month - bracket response - min                             |
| le_hrs_id_unf_results_1_         | income - last month - bracket response - max                             |
| ssa_askr                         | whether R asked Social Security questions                                |
| ssa_askspouse                    | whether spouse asked Social Security questions                           |
| ss001                            | amount of Social Security benefits R received last mo                    |
| ss001_na                         | whether ss001 NA, as R received no Social Security benefits last mo      |
| ss002                            | amount of Social Security benefits R expects to receive next mo          |
| ss003                            | amount of Social Security benefits spouse received last mo               |
| ss003_na                         | whether ss001 NA, as spouse received no Social Security benefits last mo |
| ss004                            | amount of Social Security benefits spouse expected to receive next mo    |
| le009                            | major financial setback last mo  |
| le009_2                          | financial setback - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO                              |
| le009_2s1                        | financial setback - lost job or reduce wrk hrs/income, r or spouse       |
| le009_2s2                        | financial setback - med expenses for respondent/family                   |
| le009_2s3                        | financial setback - separated or divorced                                |
| le009_2s4                        | financial setback - lost spouse or partner                               |
| le009_2s5                        | financial setback - long term care for respondent/family                 |
| le009_2s6                        | financial setback - unpaid taxes or problem w IRS                        |
| le009_2s7                        | financial setback - fraud or lack of understanding about fin transaction |
| le009_2s8                        | financial setback - business losses                                      |
| le009_2s9                        | financial setback - investments  |
| le009_2s10                       | financial setback - penalties or higher-than-expected interest from loan |
| le009_2s11                       | financial setback - gambling losses                                      |

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| le009_2s12           | financial setback - mortgage payment higher than expected                |
| le009_2s13           | financial setback - rent increased                                       |
| le009_2s14           | financial setback - automobile accident or repair                        |
| le009_2s15           | financial setback - assistance to family members/friends outside your hh |
| le009_2s16           | financial setback - other  |
| le011_9_             | major financial setback last mo - DATE                                   |
| le016                | moved to a better neighborhood last mo                                   |
| le011_16_            | moved to a better neighborhood last mo - DATE                            |
| le010                | major legal problem last mo  |
| le011_10_            | major legal problem last mo - DATE                                       |
| le017                | birth of child/grandchild last mo  |
| le011_17_            | birth of child/grandchild last mo - DATE                                 |
| le_hrs_oopa1         | expenses from hospitals stays or outpatient procs                        |
| le_hrs_oopa2         | amount paid out-of-pocket for hospitals stays or outpatient procs        |
| le_hrs_oopb          | amount paid out-of-pocket for doctor/clinic visits                       |
| le_hrs_oopb_na       | whether there were no expenses related to doctor/clinic visits           |
| le_hrs_oopc          | amount paid out-of-pocket for dental bills                               |
| le_hrs_oopc_na       | whether there were no dental bills                                       |
| le_hrs_oopd          | amount paid out-of-pocket for other medical expenses                     |
| le_hrs_oopd_na       | whether there were other medical expenses                                |
| le_hrs_p1            | often troubled by pain last mo   |
| le_hrs_p2_option1    | how bad pain was last mo   |
| le_hrs_p3            | taken any over the counter pain meds last mo                             |
| le_hrs_p4            | taken any opioid pain meds last mo                                       |
| le001_previous       | suffered new illness/injury 2 mo ago                                     |
| le_hrs001a_previous  | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO                    |
| le_hrs001a_previous1 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - fell down                                  |
| le_hrs001a_previous2 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - accident at home                           |
| le_hrs001a_previous3 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - accident at work                           |
| le_hrs001a_previous4 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - accident elsewhere (not home/work)         |
| le_hrs001a_previous5 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - assaulted                                  |
| le_hrs001a_previous6 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - heart problem                              |
| le_hrs001a_previous7 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - heart disease                              |
| le_hrs001a_previous8 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - cancer or malignant tumor                  |
| le_hrs001a_previous9 | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - dementia/senility/memory impaired          |

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| le_hrs001a_previous10     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - diabetes                                       |
| le_hrs001a_previous11     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - influenza                                      |
| le_hrs001a_previous12     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - pneumonia                                      |
| le_hrs001a_previous13     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - kidney disease                                 |
| le_hrs001a_previous14     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - chronic lung disease                           |
| le_hrs001a_previous15     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - arthritis or rheumatism                        |
| le_hrs001a_previous16     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - osteoporosis                                   |
| le_hrs001a_previous17     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - surgery/jt replacement due to arthritis        |
| le_hrs001a_previous18     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - high blood pressure or hypertension            |
| le_hrs001a_previous19     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - shingles                                       |
| le_hrs001a_previous20     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - emotional/nervous/psychiatric prob             |
| le_hrs001a_previous21     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - sleep disorder                                 |
| le_hrs001a_previous22     | new illness/injury 2 mo ago - other  |
| le001_followup            | suffered new illness/injury last 2 mo - followup                             |
| le002_previous            | close relative suffered serious illness 2 mo ago                             |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous   | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO             |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous1  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - fell down                           |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous2  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - accident at home                    |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous3  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - accident at work                    |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous4  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - accident elsewhere (not home/work)  |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous5  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - assaulted                           |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous6  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - heart problem                       |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous7  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - heart disease                       |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous8  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - cancer or malignant tumor           |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous9  | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - dementia/senility/memory impaired   |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous10 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - diabetes                            |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous11 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - influenza                           |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous12 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - pneumonia                           |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous13 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - kidney disease                      |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous14 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - chronic lung disease                |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous15 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - arthritis or rheumatism             |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous16 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - osteoporosis                        |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous17 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - surgery/jt replace due to arthritis |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous18 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - high blood pressure or hypertension |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous19 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - shingles                            |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous20 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - emotional/nervous/psychiatric prob |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous21 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - sleep disorder                     |
| le_hrs001a_rel_previous22 | relative w new illness/injury 2 mo ago - other                              |
| le002_followup            | close relative suffered serious illness last 2 mo - followup                |
| le003_previous            | death of someone close to you 2 mo ago                                      |
| le003_followup            | death of someone close to you last 2 mo - followup                          |
| le005_previous            | serious problem with close friend/relative 2 mo ago                         |
| le005_followup            | serious problem with close friend/relative last 2 mo - followup             |
| le006_previous            | became unemployed 2 mo ago  |
| le006_followup            | became unemployed last 2 mo - followup                                      |
| le007_previous            | retired from job 2 mo ago   |
| le007_followup            | retired from job last 2 mo - followup                                       |
| le009_previous            | major financial setback 2 mo ago  |
| le009_2_previous          | financial setback - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO                                 |
| le009_2_previous1         | financial setback 2 mo ago - lost job or reduce wrk hrs/income, r or spouse |
| le009_2_previous2         | financial setback - med expenses for respondent/family                      |
| le009_2_previous3         | financial setback - separated or divorced                                   |
| le009_2_previous4         | financial setback - lost spouse or partner                                  |
| le009_2_previous5         | financial setback - long term care for respondent/family                    |
| le009_2_previous6         | financial setback - unpaid taxes or problem w IRS                           |
| le009_2_previous7         | financial setback - fraud or lack of understanding about fin transaction    |
| le009_2_previous8         | financial setback - business losses   |
| le009_2_previous9         | financial setback - investments   |
| le009_2_previous10        | financial setback - penalties or higher-than-expected interest from loan    |
| le009_2_previous11        | financial setback - gambling losses   |
| le009_2_previous12        | financial setback - mortgage payment higher than expected                   |
| le009_2_previous13        | financial setback - rent increased  |
| le009_2_previous14        | financial setback - automobile accident or repair                           |
| le009_2_previous15        | financial setback - assistance to family members/friends outside your hh    |
| le009_2_previous16        | financial setback - other   |
| le009_followup            | major financial setback last 2 mo - followup                                |
| le010_previous            | major legal problem 2 mo ago  |
| le010_followup            | major legal problem last 2 mo - followup                                    |
| le013_previous            | positive change in financial situation 2 mo ago                             |
| le013_2_previous          | pos fin change 2 mo ago - MULTIPLE RESPONSE COMBO                           |

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| le013_2_previous1  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - assistance from friends or family                     |
| le013_2_previous2  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - repaid a loan   |
| le013_2_previous3  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - sold property   |
| le013_2_previous4  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - pay lower rent  |
| le013_2_previous5  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - new benefits from pension/Social Security             |
| le013_2_previous6  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - new payments from government/welfare program          |
| le013_2_previous7  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - got a raise   |
| le013_2_previous8  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - higher earnings from business/self-employment         |
| le013_2_previous9  | pos fin change 2 mo ago - new job   |
| le013_2_previous10 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - paid off mortgage                                     |
| le013_2_previous11 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - paid off car loan                                     |
| le013_2_previous12 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - paid off student loan                                 |
| le013_2_previous13 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - completed med treatment / paid off med-related debt   |
| le013_2_previous14 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - paid off other debt                                   |
| le013_2_previous15 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - high return on investment                             |
| le013_2_previous16 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - spouse got a raise                                    |
| le013_2_previous17 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - child now financially indie / reduction in ed expense |
| le013_2_previous18 | pos fin change 2 mo ago - other   |
| le013_followup     | positive change in financial situation last 2 mo - followup                     |
| le014_previous     | went on special vacation 2 mo ago   |
| le014_followup     | went on special vacation last 2 mo - followup                                   |
| le016_previous     | moved to a better neighborhood 2 mo ago   |
| le016_followup     | moved to a better neighborhood last 2 mo - followup                             |
| le017_previous     | birth of child/grandchild 2 mo ago  |
| le017_followup     | birth of child/grandchild last 2 mo - followup                                  |
| cs_001             | HOW PLEASANT INTERVIEW  |
| le_tothours        | hours worked per week   |
| le_earn_m_full     | monthly earnings  |
| totevents          | number of life events   |
| anyevent           | whether experienced at least one event  |
| oop_hosp           | amount paid out-of-pocket for hospitals stays                                   |
| oop_doc            | amount paid out-of-pocket for doctor/clinic visits                              |
| oop_dent           | amount paid out-of-pocket for dental bills                                      |
| oop_othmed         | amount paid out-of-pocket for other medical expenses                            |