

Bart Orriens

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USCDornsife

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Insights from Understanding America Study

UnderStandingAmericaStudy

Meet the UAS

The UAS is a probability-based Internet panel of currently about 14,583 respondents. The sample size is still growing. Respondents typically are asked to answer surveys once or twice a month. The UAS collects several types of information:

- Core surveys at a two-year frequency
- Quarterly demographic surveys (My Household)
- High frequency surveys, often for special populations
- One-off surveys or experiments
- Special surveys, such as burst designs, and passive measurements using wearables.
- Data collected passively, such as from activity trackers, wearable air quality monitors, or electronic financial transactions

Survey data are generally made available for registered users at the end of the field period of a survey, with some exceptions for a limited embargo period.



Explore Now

In this newsletter

- Data product updates
- User Statistics
- Enclave access information
- Free UAS survey minutes
- UAS Response rates
- Send us your publication citations

UAS Data Products

Name	Description	updated
Comprehensive File	UAS core surveys standardized and harmonized. New in this release: UAS HRS Wave 16 derived variables for	June 2024

	Pensions, Social Security, Employment History, Demographics, and Family Structure	
Cognitive comprehensive file	Longitudinal combination of all UAS cognitive tests	Nightly
EMA Burst file & Monthly Events	Aggregated data from an NIH-funded EMA burst study, including a monthly survey among ages 50+	May 2021
COVID-19 Corona Virus	Longitudinal data from the Understanding Coronavirus in America study that tracked attitudes and behaviors bi-weekly from March 10 2020 and monthly from February 2021.	July 2021
Drug Use Supplement	Tracked monthly variation in drug use patterns and related characteristics (USC Institute for Addiction Science)	May 2022
Full panel monthly events (coming soon)	Funded by the current U01, the series tracks Life Satisfaction, Overall health, PHQ4 depression and anxiety, HRS Pain, PSS4 Stress, and PROMIS measures for Lonines, Anger, Positive Affect, and Meaning and Purpose. Also tracks life event shocks in employment, health, and financial situation. Invidivudal files available, longitudinal aggregated file available soon.	

Other Projects:

We are currently working on the production of data files with information on physical activity measured with Fitbits (part of the ALiR project, with physical activity information on approximately 1,000 UAS respondents) and on air quality measured with wearable monitors for about 1000 respondents.

From: American Life in Realtime: a benchmark registry of health data for equitable precision health



A framework for social, structural and environmental determinants of health.

Recruitment experiments: We have compiled a document describing the implementation and the results of each recruitment experiment performed in the UAS since 2016. The document is available for download on the UAS webpage ([UAS Recruitment Experiments Description](#)). It will be updated regularly with the details of new recruitment experiments.



Free minutes: Consider submitting a proposal to add survey questions, at no cost, to the UAS

We are currently considering proposals for surveys and experiments which focus on factors affecting inequality and health disparities over the life course. Items, measures, experiments, and longitudinal designs welcome. Submission deadlines are March 15, 2024, June 15, 2024, September 15, 2024, and December 15, 2024.

How/why are you offering free survey minutes? Thanks to a recently awarded grant from the National Institute on Aging, with support from the Social Security Administration, we are able to offer free question time to researchers. The aim is to obtain input from the broader research community on topics of importance to our funded study of inequality and health disparities.

Proposal Submission Form

Click for information and to submit your proposal.

More information about the program at the [link](#), or write to us at

UAS-L@maillist.usc.edu if you have questions.

**Please remember to acknowledge UAS as the source
in all publications based on UAS Data!**

**Have you published studies based on UAS data?
Please send us your citations to add to our [publication list](#)!
Just email to uas-l@maillist.usc.edu**

We continue to offer free data housing services to survey authors for publications based on UAS data

In support of open-science data transparency, and due to an increasing number of journals that require published manuscripts to make their data available for replication, we are offering a new free service to UAS survey authors. We will house your published analytic data files, or create fully de-identified files that you may house elsewhere. Send an email to uas-l@usc.edu to request this service

Access to UAS data and Data Products

Visit the UAS website (UASData.usc.edu) for information on creating a data user account. Registered users may download de-identified survey data directly. Restricted data is available through the UAS enclave.

We distinguish three tiers of data security:

Tier 1: Coded data that includes no direct or indirect identifiers and no open text fields. Download directly from the data site.

Tier 2: Sensitive data – e.g. political data; UAS data linked to external data at other than state level by UAS staff. Can include blinded location indicators. Does not include any direct or indirect identifiers. Submit a sensitive DUA addendum.

Tier 3: Restricted access data is available only in the DataLinkage enclave. This includes UAS survey data linked with program data from SSA, CMS, NDI, social media data, and location crosswalks at the census track, zip code, or county level.

At this time, forty-two researchers are using the UAS enclave, working on 12 projects.

UAS Registered Users

Total Active	1900
Covid access	651
Sensitive access	70
Enclave access	42

Downloads by Type

Survey STATA, CSV	14286
Nonresponse	2460
Timings (CSV)	1352
Platform STATA, CSV	1934
Codebook (PDF)	184895

AAPOR (XLS)	6931
Addon	481424
User data sets	372
Documentation	59600
Newsletter	27779
Election 2020 (STATA)	249

Popular Downloads

USC Dornsife National 2020 Election Tracking Poll Methodology	12285
UAS Covid-19 Survey Longitudinal Files Crosswalk	7903
UAS COVID-19 Longitudinal Files Data Description	6976
UAS Covid-19 Survey National Sample Longitudinal File	2402
UAS Comprehensive File	1094
UAS Covid-19 Survey Los Angeles County Sample Longitudinal File	334
UAS Component File	303
UAS Monthly Events Panel Dataset	235

Response rates between 70-80%



We track response rates of all cores surveys, broken down by wave and demographics. These are posted [here](#), and are updated every quarter.



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Ideas for future newsletters?

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