

UnderStandingAmericaStudy

Registered Data User Newsletter **Quarter IV, 2017**

Welcome to the Center for Economic and Social Research quarterly data user newsletter, providing you with a quick update on UAS data news and happenings. Follow us on Twitter @UAS_CESR.

Did you miss a newsletter? They are archived online at <https://uasdata.usc.edu>

Check out our redesigned UAS data pages
We aimed to improve usability and function...

Did we succeed? Let us know - fill out our brief User Survey

[HTTP://SURVEY.USC.EDU/UASDATA/INDEX.PHP](http://survey.usc.edu/uasdata/index.php)

(the link is also available from the *Contact Us* menu at uasdata.usc.edu)

NEW Release: UAS Comprehensive File

Harmonized HRS variables asked of all adults*, plus cognitive test results, and more! Now Online.

There is now an easier way to explore the health and financial data of the UAS. Researchers interested in the UAS can now download the Comprehensive File!

The UAS Comprehensive File merges the data from a number core surveys in the UAS that are repeated every two years. It includes basic demographics as well as data on cognitive tests, personality, financial literacy, subjective well-being, health, retirement, several surveys dealing with financial management, preparation for retirement and

knowledge of Social Security rules. It includes the harmonized version of the UAS-Health and Retirement Study (UAS-HRS).

Currently, the file contains data of Wave 1 of the following core surveys: UAS1, UAS2, UAS6, UAS16, UAS18, UAS20-UAS25 (the HRS surveys), UAS26 and My Household (the quarterly brief demographic survey). The UAS Comprehensive Data File can also be linked with any of the UAS surveys not already included. These files and their updated documentation, are posted at uasdata.usc.edu. For more information contact us at uas-l@usc.edu.

**With support from the Social Security Administration, The National Institute on Aging, and the Society of Actuaries, UAS has undertaken a project to collect measures corresponding to the University of Michigan's Health and Retirement Study (HRS), and to provide a standardized comprehensive public use data set that includes HRS and other relevant UAS variables. We are also creating a web-based visualization tool that will allow users to interactively explore these datasets on a variety of key indicators through customizable animated charts and tables. We will provide more information in subsequent newsletters as this project unfolds.*

Newly Updated UAS Weighting Procedures

Two stages, with adjustment to regional benchmarks

In the Understanding America Study (UAS), sample weights are survey-specific. They are constructed in two steps: base weights adjust for unequal probabilities of sampling, then a final post-stratification adjustment aligns the sample to benchmarks along certain socio-demographic dimensions. The updated procedures now include regional benchmarks in that final adjustment. Please refer to the updated [UAS Weighting Procedures](#) document for details.

Data User Tip: Sample weights are constructed only for the nationally representative core sample (sampltype = 1). UAS members belonging to the special purpose samples of Native Americans and Los Angeles County residents have zero base weight and zero final post-stratification weight.

Questions? Contact us at uas-l@usc.edu.

UAS Data Usage

Sept 1 - Oct 10, 2017

File type	# downloads
Survey data sets	272

Non-response files	6
Timings data files	8
Platform data files	6
Survey codebooks	416
zip files (HRS or Election data)	23

We are happy that our data is being accessed and used, but a little surprised at the small number of non-response file downloads. We provide these data for every UAS survey to allow you to conduct your own non-response analysis.

Have a burning research question?

Add it to the Quarterly UAS Omnibus!

Next UAS Omnibus: January 2018

- Ask a minimum of 3 questions, on a sample of 1000 respondents, from a representative probability-based panel, recruited from among all US households.
- No extra charge for linking to database of socio-demographic and analytic data
- Panel response rates of 70-80%
- English and Spanish, standard

Check out our [Price Calculator](#) or [contact UAS](#) for more information

Recent UAS Publications

Anya Samek, "[What are the effects of recipient contribution requirements on public support for social programs?](#) The Evidence Base Blog, September 28 (2017)

Carvalho, Leandro, and Dan Silverman., [Complexity and Sophistication](#). Working paper, University of Munich (2017)

Chard, Richard, David Rogofsky, Joanne Yoong., [Wealthy or Wise: How Knowledge Influences Retirement Savings Behavior](#) Journal of Behavioral and Social Sciences 4:3 (2017)

[Here is the List of All UAS Publications](#)

Have you sent us yours ?

Please forward references to papers, presentations, blog posts etc. that are based on UAS data. Tracking them is a UAS funding requirement. We will feature your research in these newsletters and add your citation to our permanent online list.

Remember to acknowledge UAS as the source in all publications based on UAS Data

The project described in this paper relies on data from survey(s) administered by the Understanding America Study (UAS) which is maintained by the Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) at the University of Southern California. The content of this paper is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of USC, CESR, or UAS.

Questions? Feedback? Ideas for future newsletters?

Contact us at uas-l@mymaillists.usc.edu or visit <http://uasdata.uas.edu>

Understanding America Study
Dornsife Center for Economic and Social Research
University of Southern California

PO Box 77902
Los Angeles, CA 90007-9983.

To look at other survey data sets, visit <https://uasdata.usc.edu>

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