

UK Data Archive SN 6614 – Understanding Society Waves 1-13: Revisions November 2024

Date: 7th November 2024

This document describes revisions to the Understanding Society Waves 1-13 datasets, including Harmonised BHPS datasets, since the Waves 1-13 release in November 2023. The User Guides and on-line documentation can be consulted for a study-wide perspective and variable level information, respectively.

New variables

The variable `w_pergridflag`, Person answered H grid question, has been added to `w_indall` for waves 2 to 14 in order to allow the identification of the person who answered the household grid questions.

The variables `l_hhgstrtime`, Date and time at start of Hhgrid, and `l_hhgendtime`, Date and time at end of Hhgrid, in `l_child` and `l_indall`, have been split into individual component variables and the original variables removed to be in line with standard Understanding Society processing of such variables across all waves. The new variables are `l_hhgstrtdaty` (year), `l_hhgstrtdatm` (month), `l_hhgstrtdatd` (day), `l_hhgstrtdathh` (hours), `l_hhgstrtdatmm` (minutes), `l_hhgstrtdatss` (seconds), `l_hhgenddaty` (year), `l_hhgenddatm` (month), `l_hhgenddatd` (day), `l_hhgenddathh` (hours), `l_hhgenddatmm` (minutes), `l_hhgenddatss` (seconds).

Deleted variables

The variables `i_ypfuta`, future plans: 1st mention, and `i_ypfutb`, future plans: 2nd mention, have been removed from `i_youth` as those questions weren't asked in wave 9 and the variables therefore were released in error. Note: see Variable corrections below for changes to these variables in other waves.

The variables `w_psdqa_dv`, PSDQ: Authoritative parenting scale, `w_psdqb_dv`, PSDQ: Authoritarian parenting scale, `w_psdqc_dv`, Permissive parenting scale in `w_indresp` and `w_parstyle` for all applicable waves (3 to 13) have been deleted as the previously released versions contained errors. Their removal is a temporary measure, and the corrected versions will be released as soon as practicable. Before that, the Understanding Society team will make syntax available on the Understanding Society user syntax page to enable production of the correct versions.

The variable `m_childpno`, pno of child, has been removed from `m_indresp` which is consistent with all other waves.

Variable corrections

The variables `w_whodrive1` to `w_whodrive5`, pno of main driver of car, was miscoded in `w_hhresp` in waves 10 and 13. Option 0 (non-household member) was mistakenly coded as option 1 (Person 1) and so forth. Additionally, a few households incorrectly recorded non-resident members as drivers. This variable has now been recoded correctly.

In wave 13 questions were asked about gig economy jobs in the variables: `m_gigempjob*`, Gig economy job*. These questions, however, resulted in responses that were inaccurate. As a consequence, mid-wave 13, those questions were replaced with reworded questions resulting in a

second set of variables: m_gigempjob2*, Gig economy job*. In the previous release the two sets of variables were merged into one set of variables and released as m_gigempjob*. In this release the two sets of variables have been released separately in order for researchers to be able to process both instances according to their requirements. All variables are available in m_indresp.

In wave 13, the way respondents were asked about their current jobs changed from asking about their main job and second job to being able to report up to 13 different jobs. This resulted in the re-collection of all jobs from working people in the wave. This meant that in some cases even if they still held the same job as before their descriptions were different to before resulting in them being allocated a different job code. The wave 13 responses have been analysed against previous responses and where the job has been identified as being unchanged the released variables should now be consistent across the waves. The variables affected are: m_jbsoc10, Current job: SOC 2010 (available in SN 6931 only); m_jbsoc10_cc, Current job: SOC 2010, condensed; m_jbsoc00, Current job: SOC 2000 (available in SN 6931 only); m_jobsoc00_cc, Current job: SOC 2000, condensed; m_jbsoc20, Current job: SOC 2020 (available in SN 6931 only); and m_jobsoc20_cc, Current job: SOC 2020, condensed. All variables are in m_indresp.

The variable w_lvwhyp, why did partner leave the household – computed from Mover question, had previously in waves 2, 3 and 4 been incorrectly renamed w_lvwhy, Leavers...Why left, which already existed leading effectively to a variable appearing in different released datafile with different meanings and values. The variables have been separated as w_lvwhy in w_indsamp (Special Licence SN 6931 only) and w_lvwhyp in w_indresp.

The variables w_ypfuta, future plans: 1st mention, and w_ypfutb, future plans: 2nd mention, in w_youth in waves 4, 6, 8 and 12 are coded from free text questions which record what the respondent would like to do in 10 years. w_ypfutb is optional and therefore the respondent doesn't have to specify a second mention and in those cases they were not consistently coded. They are now consistently coded as 0 "not mentioned". Note: see Deleted variables above for the removal of these variables from wave 9.

The variable w_ypnetcht, hours using social media on weekdays, has been made consistent in w_youth and w_indresp in all waves by always coding it as -8, inapplicable, when w_ypsocweb, belong to social website, is equal to "no".

The variable w_clstat, Leaver's abode, which has not previously been released is now included in w_indsamp for all waves. It is only available in the Special Licence dataset SN6931.

The variable w_dieprisyr, Year to prison or died, is now available for all waves in w_indsamp. It is only available in the Special Licence dataset SN6931.

Special Licence geographical datasets

In all Wave 13 geographical Special Licence datasets there were occurrences included for which there was no match in w_hhsamp. Those superfluous entries have now been removed.

Miscellaneous changes

Various minor data corrections have been made.

Various missing and incorrect variable and value labels have been added or corrected as appropriate.