

Future of Families Census Tract Measures Restricted Use Data Appendage

Baseline, 1, 3, 5, 9, and 15 year Waves

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DATA APPENDAGE OVERVIEW

The Future of Families Census Tract Measures Restricted Use Data Appendage (ffgeo6_all_pub.dta) contains Census tract-level contextual data that correspond to the residence of respondents at Baseline and during the 1, 3, 5, 9, and 15-year follow-up waves of the Future of Families and Child Wellbeing Study (FFCWS). Variables consist of aggregate characteristics on individuals, families, households, and housing units within Census tracts and identifiers for the pseudo-tract of the residence. Contextual data at Baseline through Year 9 correspond to the residence of the biological mother and biological father at the year(s) in which they were interviewed. Contextual data for Year 15 correspond to the residence of the focal child's primary caregiver (PCG; biological mother, biological father, other family, or other non-family caregivers) at the time of the Year 15 interview.

FILE LAYOUT

The file contains 4,898 observations (one per family), sorted by *idnum*.

VARIABLE NAMING CONVENTION

Contextual variable names are 7-14 characters long. The first 3 characters contain the variable prefix. The next 4-5 characters contain the variable suffix, which includes an abbreviated description of the contextual data. The last 4 characters for the Year 15 data indicate if the variable was constructed from 2015 ACS 5-year estimates, the 2010 Census or the 2000 Census. The variable names are constructed as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Character</u>	<u>Indicates</u>
1	t	Census tract-level measure (all variables in appendage)
2	m	Mother residence
	f	Father residence
	p	Primary Caregiver (PCG) residence (15-year)
3	1	Baseline Interview
	2	First follow-up interview (1-year)
	3	Second follow-up interview (3-year)
	4	Third follow-up interview (5-year)
	5	Fourth follow-up interview (9-year)
	6	Fifth follow-up interview (15-year)
4-8	**** (e.g., phisp)	Contextual data (e.g., Percent of population Hispanic)
9-14	_cen00	Data source – 2000 Decennial Census
	_cen10	Data source – 2010 Decennial Census
	_acs15	Data source – American Community Survey, 2011-2015 5- year estimates

For example, variable tp6pfrgn_acs15: the prefix (position 1-3) tp6 refers to a Census tract-level measure (t) corresponding to the PCG’s residence (p) at the sixth follow-up interview (15- year) (6); the suffix (pfrgn_acs15) refers to percent of population foreign born, as found in the ACS 2015 5-year estimates data.

GEOGRAPHY

U.S. Census tracts

All contextual data are reported at the Census tract level and correspond to the current residence of respondents at each year. Census tracts are statistical subdivisions of a county, averaging about 4,000 inhabitants, and designed by the U.S. Census Bureau to be relatively permanent over time. All Census tracts that appear in Baseline through Year 9 use 2000 Census tract boundary definitions; tracts in Year 15 use the 2010 Census tract boundary definitions. For more information, visit the [U.S. Census website](#).

Geo-coding process

The primary residential addresses reported by focal children’s biological mothers and fathers or PCG were used to geo-code respondents into U.S. Census tracts according to 2000 Census tract boundary definitions for Baseline to Year 9, and U.S. Census tracts according to the 2010 Census tract definitions for Year 15.

Pseudo Census tract identifiers

To protect the privacy of respondents, the actual state, county, and Census tract of residence are not included in the current data appendage. However, it includes pseudo Census tract identifier variables (t*tract). These variables do not represent actual U.S. Census tracts, but are used to indicate which respondents live in the same Census tract. The pseudo Census tract identifiers are consistent between mothers and fathers, and across waves and contextual data appendages for Baseline through Year 9. Therefore, they can be used as an indicator of whether the focal children’s mothers and fathers resided in the same Census tract from one survey wave to the next.

Since the boundaries of Census tracts changed between the 2000 Census and 2010 Census, the pseudo identifiers at Year 15 do not match those from the earlier waves. The 2010 pseudo tract identifiers (tp6tract_cen10) are not consistent with those in previous waves (i.e., Baseline through Year 9). Boundaries of tracts are subject to change between Census years, and more than 2.5% of tracts in the 2010 Census report were listed as “substantially changed” tracts. A list of substantially changed tracts may be obtained at [U.S. Census website](#). Around 10-15% of the FFCWS sample resides in these “substantially changed” tracts.

Moving Indicators

Two new variables have been added to the restricted use census tract measures file to account for the different census tract boundaries utilized in 2000 (Baseline and Years 1, 3, 5, and 9) versus in 2010 (Year 15).

First, an indicator was constructed to represent whether the primary caregiver moved to a different census tract between the Year 9 and Year 15 surveys, **cp6_moved_9_15**. PCG at Year 9 and PCG at Year 15 were compared to determine whether the PCG at both waves was (1) mother,

(2) father, (3) other PCG, (-3) not the same, or (-9) not in wave at Year 9 and/or Year 15. Whether the PCG reported moving between the Year 9 and Year 15 surveys was determined using 1 public use variable: p6j1.

Whether the PCG moved to a different census tract was determined using the PCG's report of whether they moved (p6j1) alongside census tract GEOIDs from geocoded data (including mother and father census tract GEOIDs at Year 9 and PCG GEOID at Year 15). The indicator of whether the PCG moved between Year 9 and Year 15 (**cp6_moved_9_15**) was coded as follows:

1=Yes – the PCG reported moving between surveys, and the PCG's census tract GEOID at Year 9 was different than their census tract GEOID at Year 15.

2=No – (a) the PCG reported not moving between surveys, or (b) the PCG reported moving between surveys but the PCG's census tract GEOID at Year 9 was the same as their census tract GEOID at Year 15 – indicating that they lived in the same census tract at Year 9 and Year 15.

-3=Missing – PCG was not the same at Year 9 and Year 15.

-7=Not applicable – PCG at Year 9 was someone other than mother or father.

-9=Not in wave at Year 9 and/or Year 15.

Note there were 181 PCGs who reported moving between the Year 9 and Year 15 surveys whose census tract GEOID did not change; these 181 PCGs were coded as “2 No” in this indicator. Additionally, there were 393 PCGs who reported not moving between the Year 9 and Year 15 surveys whose census tract GEOID did change; these 393 PCGs were also coded as “2 No” in this indicator.

Second, specifically for PCGs who did not move to a different census tract between the Year 9 and Year 15 surveys (**cp6_moved_9_15**=0), an indicator was constructed to represent whether the boundaries of the PCG's census tract of residence substantially changed between the 2000 census and the 2010 census.

A list of substantially changed 2010 census tracts was obtained from the [U.S. Census Bureau](#); “substantial changes” include merges, splits, and boundary changes. The list of substantially changed census tracts, including all 50 states plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, was merged into the restricted use census tract measures file. Based on whether a PCG's census tract of residence at Year 15 was listed in the substantially changed census tract file, the indicator of whether the PCG's census tract changed between 2000 and 2010 (**cp6_tractchanged_9_15**) was coded as follows:

1=Yes – PCG did not move to a different census tract but their census tract changed between 2000 and 2010 (i.e., between Year 9 and Year 15 surveys)

2=No – PCG did not move to a different census tract and their census tract did not change between 2000 and 2010

-6=Skip – (a) PCG moved to a different census tract between Year 9 and Year 15 surveys, or (b) PCG was not the same at Year 9 and Year 15, or (c) PCG at Year 9 was someone other than mother or father

-9=Not in wave at Year 9 and/or Year 15

Note that among the 181 PCGs who reported moving but whose census tract GEOIDs did not change from Year 9 to Year 15 (coded as “2 No” in cp6_tractchanged_9_15), none of the PCGs’ GEOIDs significantly changed between 2000 and 2010.

DATA SOURCES

U.S. Census Bureau

Contextual data in Baseline through Year 9 included in the current data appendage was obtained from the U.S. 2000 Decennial Census. Contextual data for Year 15 included in the current data appendage was obtained from the U.S. 2010 Decennial Census as well as the American Community Survey 2015 5-year estimates. Data was downloaded from data.census.gov/.

American Community Survey

In addition to using data from the 2010 Decennial Census, the contextual data for Year 15 includes data from the American Community Survey (ACS) 2015 5-year estimates. The ACS is an annual survey conducted by the Census Bureau, sampling about 3.5 million housing unit addresses in every county in the nation. It is designed to provide more up-to-date information about the population at a local level between each decennial census. The 5-year estimates used in Year 15 are based on data gathered between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2015. The 5-year estimates are preferable to the one-year ACS estimates because they give a more precise measure for small geographies, like Census tracts.

Data from the ACS is used in place of some Census data due to the change in Census data reporting. From 1970-2000, the Census had both a long- and short-form questionnaire. Every household received the short-form, and a sample received the long-form questionnaire. The long-form questionnaire included questions about educational attainment, income, employment, wealth, and country of origin. The 2010 Census did away with the long-form questionnaire, opting instead for a shorter, 10-question survey sent to all households. Since 2010, the ACS has gathered the data previously reported in the Census long-form questionnaire.

Variables found in both the 2010 Census and the 2015 ACS are both included in the current appendage. Those variables found in the ACS include the suffix “_acs15”, and the identifier “ACS 2015 5-year estimates” in the variable label.

For the 2015 ACS poverty level variables (p50pl-p200p), each level was reported by the ACS in age groups (i.e. under 6, 6 to 11, 12 to 17, etc.), while that same data was simply reported at each ratio level in the 2000 Census. To get a percentage of the total population at each poverty level, each age group was summed at each poverty level and divided by the total population of each tract.

The 2015 ACS variable for median rent as a percent of income (mrphi) had values of 10.0- and 50.0+, which were recoded to 9.9 and 50.1 respectively.

Additional information about the ACS and multi-year estimates is available on the

[U.S. Census website](https://www.census.gov/data). Data was downloaded from data.census.gov.

Random “noise”

Some random noise has been introduced into the data to ensure that respondents’ Census tracts cannot be identified on the basis of the characteristics provided in this file. This noise should have no impact on analyses.

MISSING VALUES

All missing values for contextual variables are coded using similar conventions found in other FFCWS data files. More specifically, the following three missing codes are used:

-9 <i>Not in wave</i>	The respondent did not participate in interview/assessment.
-7 <i>N/A</i>	The respondent participated in interview/assessment; however, the respondent’s residence could not be determined.
-3 <i>Missing</i>	The respondent participated in interview/assessment and the residence was determined; however, contextual data is unavailable.

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DATA DICTIONARY

Note: Variable names listed in the data dictionary exclude the 4-character length prefixes. Please refer to the *Variable Naming Convention* section for more information about variable prefixes.

Variable	Description	U.S. Census 2000 ¹	U.S. Census 2010	ACS 2015 5-year Estimates ²
phisp	Percent of population Hispanic	X	X	X
pwhte	Percent of population non-Hispanic White	X	X	X
pblck	Percent of population non-Hispanic Black	X	X	X
pamin	Percent of population non-Hispanic American Indian/Native American	X	X	X
pasia	Percent of population non-Hispanic Asian	X	X	X
ppaci	Percent of population non-Hispanic Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	X	X	X
pothr	Percent of population non-Hispanic other race	X	X	X
pfrgn	Percent foreign born	X		X
pchbr	Percent of female population of childbearing age (15-49)	X	X	X
pfhhr	Percent of family households with kids <18 headed by females	X	X	X
mpphh	Mean number of persons per household	X	X	X
psch	Percent of population 16-19 enrolled in school	X		X
p25hs	Percent of 25+ population with HS+ education	X		X
p25b	Percent of 25+ population with bachelor's or higher	X		X
pemp	Percent of civilian labor force (16+) employed	X	X	X

¹ Data from the U.S. Decennial Census 2000 used in Baseline to Year 9.

² Data from the U.S. Decennial Census 2010 and ACS 2015 5-year Estimates used in Year 15.

Variable	Description	U.S. Census 2000	U.S. Census 2010	ACS 2015 5-year Estimates
puemp	Percent of civilian labor force (16+) unemployed	X	X	X
pvach	Percent of housing units vacant	X	X	X
pbf40	Percent of housing units built before 1940	X		X
prent	Percent of occupied housing units renter-occupied	X	X	X
pnoph	Percent of occupied housing units without phone service	X		X
pplum	Percent of housing units lacking complete plumbing	X		X
rphi	Median gross rent as percent of HH income	X		X
mrent	Median monthly gross rent	X		X
mhval	Median housing value	X		X
myear	Median year built	X		X
ppuba	Percent of households on public assistance	X		X
pfbpl	Percent of families below poverty level	X		X
pfmga	Percent of persons who occupied a managerial or professional occupation	X		X
pb10k	Percent of families with income <\$10K	X		X
p1014	Percent of families with income \$10K to \$14,999	X		X
p1524	Percent of families with income \$15K to \$24,999	X		X
p2534	Percent of families with income \$25K to \$34,999	X		X
p3549	Percent of families with income \$35K to \$49,999	X		X
p5074	Percent of families with income \$50K to \$74,999	X		X

Variable	Description	U.S. Census 2000	U.S. Census 2010	ACS 2015 5-year Estimates
p7599	Percent of families with income \$75K to \$99,999	X		X
p100k	Percent of families with income \$100K to \$149,999	X		X
p150k	Percent of families with income \$150K+	X		X
mhinc	Median HH income	X		X
p50pl	Percent of persons with income less than .50 of poverty line	X		X
p74pl	Percent of persons with income .50 to .74 of poverty line	X		X
p99pl	Percent of persons with income .75 to .99 of poverty line	X		X
p124pl	Percent of persons with income 1.00 to 1.24 of poverty line	X		X
p149p	Percent of persons with income 1.25 to 1.49 of poverty line	X		X
p174p	Percent of persons with income 1.50 to 1.74 of poverty line	X		X
p184p	Percent of persons with income 1.75 to 1.84 of poverty line	X		X
p199p	Percent of persons with income 1.85 to 1.99 of poverty line	X		X
p200p	Percent of persons with income 2.00 & over poverty line	X		X