

IPUMS

Thank you for participating in the AMATYC webinar about the IPUMS data resource!

Below you will find links to tutorials and exercises that may be helpful in getting to know the IPUMS websites and data sets. Page 2 lists "starter variables" to help you filter through the information to find basic, usable variables on the IPUMS-USA website.

Websites

All IPUMS Data Projects

ipums.org

Twitter: @ipums

IPUMS-USA Website (site visited during the AMATYC webinar)

<https://usa.ipums.org/usa/>

Instructional Videos

You Tube Channel: MPCIPUMS

YouTube links for IPUMS-USA (used in AMATYC demo):

<https://usa.ipums.org/usa/tutorials.shtml>

Access videos for all data projects:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MPCIPUMS>

Written and Online Data Exercises

For all projects:

<https://pop.umn.edu/data-user-resources/data-support>

(AMATYC webinar viewers may wish to start with IPUMS-USA links.)

User Support

IPUMS has an excellent user support team.

Email: ipums@umn.edu

We would love to hear about your uses of IPUMS in teaching.

Please send me a note if you have any questions. I'd also be interested in collaborating on any training modules or syllabi you'd be willing to share.

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Introductory Guide to IPUMS-USA Variables

The AMATYC webinar was presented as an introduction to IPUMS data resources and focused on recent samples from the American Community Survey or recent censuses. Variables listed here are widely available across ACS samples from 2001 to present and in recent decades of the census from about 1970 to present.

As mentioned in the webinar, it is often easy to find evidence of group differences across sex, ethnicity, or geographic area. Starting with descriptive statistics, cross-tabulations, and comparisons of means for these variables is recommended for getting familiar with the data.

HOUSEHOLD VARIABLES:

Geography

Each variable identifies the same units, either is appropriate. Our users may prefer one to another if they have data from a different source that uses one of these coding schemes.

STATEICP or STATEFIPS Codes and labels identifying U.S. State of residence for the respondent.

Household characteristics, amenities, appliances

The economic variables expressed in dollar amounts are not adjusted for inflation across sample years. Web documentation points to resources to aid in such conversions if required.

FRIDGE	Refrigerator (2008-present)
STOVE	Stove or range (2008-present)
ROOMS	Number of rooms
BEDRMS	Number of bedrooms
VEHICLES	Vehicles available to the hh
FUELHEAT	Home heating fuel

BUILTYR2	Age of structure, decade
FARM	Farm status
OWNERSHP	Ownership of dwelling
MORTOTAL*	Total monthly mortgage payment
RENT*	Monthly contract rent
VALUEH*	House value

PERSON VARIABLES:

Demographic

Basic demographic characteristics. You should be able to find group differences across many of these characteristics.

SEX	Sex
AGE	Age
MARST	Marital status
RELATE	Relationship to head of HH

RACE	Race
HISPAN	Hispanic origin
ANCESTR1	Ancestry, first respons
CITIZEN	Citizenship status

Education, Work and Income

Be especially careful about codes for missing or not available (not asked the question) categories here.

SCHOOL	School attendance
EDUC	Highest grade of schooling
SCHLTYPE	Public or private school
EMPSTAT	Employment status

OCC	Occupation
IND	Industry
INCTOT*	Total personal income
INCWAGE*	Wage and salary income

*denotes continuous variable

Additional continuous variables are available in the Health Insurance and Occupational Standing topics. Other interesting variables can be found in Migration, Disability, and Travel Time to Work topics.