

## Understanding Society User Support - Support #1151

### Carrying forward variables across waves, creating 'how long lived at address' variable

02/25/2019 11:27 AM - Natasha Codioli

|   |                       |                    |            |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------|------------|
| <b>Status:</b>  | Resolved              | <b>Start date:</b> | 02/25/2019 |
| <b>Priority:</b>  | Normal                | <b>% Done:</b>     | 100%       |
| <b>Assignee:</b>  | Natasha Codioli       |                    |            |
| <b>Category:</b>  | Questionnaire content |                    |            |
| <b>Description</b><br>Hi Understanding Society Support team,<br><br>I want to create a variable that tells me how long an individual has lived at their current address. I am using data from waves 1-8 in long format.<br><br>I noticed the variable mvyr is mostly missing for waves 2-8, so am assuming it's only asked on the first instance, and again if the person has moved. I have used the code below to carry forward this data if it is missing in later waves, and to calculate the number of years they have lived at their current address.<br><br><pre>mvdecode mvyr istrtdat, mv(-1/-99) gen home_yrs = istrtdat - mvyr  foreach x in 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 {   bysort pidp(wave): replace home_yrs=home_yrs<sup>1</sup>+`x'-1 if home_yrs==. &amp; wave==`x' }</pre><br>Can I check with you that the above calculation looks correct, or whether there is an easier way generally to carry forward response? One problem I've noticed with this calculation is that there is a much higher proportion of people who have lived in their home less than a year in wave 1 compared to later waves.<br><br>Thanks for your help,<br><br>Natasha |                       |                    |            |

#### History

##### #1 - 02/25/2019 06:03 PM - Stephanie Auty

- Status changed from New to In Progress
- Assignee changed from Alita Nandi to Stephanie Auty
- % Done changed from 0 to 10
- Private changed from Yes to No

Many thanks for your enquiry. The Understanding Society team is looking into it and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Best wishes,  
Stephanie Auty - Understanding Society User Support Officer

##### #2 - 03/15/2019 10:39 AM - Stephanie Auty

- Status changed from In Progress to Feedback
- Assignee changed from Stephanie Auty to Natasha Codioli
- % Done changed from 10 to 60

Dear Natasha,

w\_mvyr is only asked of new entrants, which you can see from the Universe in the online documentation and also in the questionnaires: [https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/dataset-documentation/wave/8/datafile/h\\_indresp/variable/h\\_mvyr](https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/dataset-documentation/wave/8/datafile/h_indresp/variable/h_mvyr)

Other variables you will find useful in identifying people who have moved are listed in the Household Changes index term: <https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/dataset-documentation/index/household-changes> and in the questionnaires in the Annual Event History module:

Please be careful to read the Universe carefully, for example w\_adcts is only asked of people who are at the same address as previously, as if they are not at the same address it is implied that they have moved. Some useful variables may be w\_origadd and w\_ff\_all\_moved which are computed rather than asked as a question.

Best wishes,  
Stephanie

**#3 - 03/15/2019 10:42 AM - Stephanie Auty**

- % Done changed from 60 to 70

Dear Natasha,

Just to add, the month and year of moving are recorded in w\_plnowm and w\_plnowy4.

Best wishes,  
Stephanie

**#4 - 08/10/2022 11:42 AM - Understanding Society User Support Team**

- Status changed from Feedback to Resolved

- % Done changed from 70 to 100

**#5 - 08/22/2023 01:15 PM - Understanding Society User Support Team**

- Category changed from Data analysis to Questionnaire content