

## Understanding Society User Support - Support #185

### Pre-participation unemployment spell

08/26/2013 05:00 PM - Chris Martin

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	08/26/2013
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Assignee:</b>			
<b>Category:</b>	Questionnaire content		
<b>Description</b>			
Hello,			
Is there a variable that records if a participant experienced a spell of unemployment <b>before</b> they began participating in BHPS? I have looked but haven't been able to find such a variable, but I wanted to be sure that no such variable exists.			
Thanks, Chris			

#### History

##### #1 - 08/27/2013 08:58 AM - Redmine Admin

- % Done changed from 0 to 10

Generally, a strength of the study is the long, individually linked time series of data of the annual event kind (e.g. spells of employment in the past year). BHPS did however carry life history event items, that could be used to establish e.g. if someone ever worked. Please see user guide, p. 232; "At Wave Two and Wave Three a range of lifetime history information was collected, covering, marriages (BMARRIAG), cohabitation spells (BCOHABIT), children (BCHILDAD, BCHILDNT), lifetime employment status (BLIFEMST) and a lifetime job history (CLIFEJOB)". Source: <https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/bhps/documentation/vola/vola.html>

The Thesaurus provides an overview of the employment items, which might also be of interest;  
<https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/bhps/documentation/volb/indexes/subjcat5.html#Employment:%20Not%20Working/Seeking%20Work>

Jakob

##### #2 - 09/12/2013 04:01 PM - Redmine Admin

- Status changed from New to Closed

- % Done changed from 10 to 100