Understanding Society User Support - Support #2169

understanding society dataset timeline

10/24/2024 02:04 PM - Raffaele Ciula

Status:	Resolved	**Start date:**	10/24/2024
Priority:	High	**% Done:**	100%
Assignee:	Understanding Society User Support Team		
Category:	Data documentation		

Description

Dear ISER staff,

my name is Raffaele Ciula and I would like to use the Understanding society dataset to assess the effect of the universal credit on child health using a longitudinal quasi-experimental analysis.

I have few questions regarding the structure of the understanding society dataset:

I would like to make a difference between outcome variables between the wave seven and the wave nine.
First question: does the wave 7 include years 2015-2017? Does this mean that this wave includes three years 2015, 2016, 2017?
Does the wave 9 include the years 2017-2019? Does this mean that thus wave includes years 2017, 2018, 2019?
Also, as the wave 7 (2015-2017) and the wave 9 (2017-2019) have an overlapping year, does this mean that I cannot use these waves to make differences of outcome variables between those waves (for example the difference between health status for a child in the period 2015-2017 (wave 9) and the health status of the same child in the period 2013-2015 (wave 7))? Please reply clearly, as the previous person was not clear at all. Do not use, it is possible or it is not possible in your reply, either I make a mistake by making a difference for a given child about a variable between wave 9 and 7 or it is always fine to make this difference. I really need a clear, detailed answer.

Best Regards,
Raffaele Ciula

History

#1 - 10/24/2024 05:21 PM - Understanding Society User Support Team

- *File clipboard-202410241718-9vpgg.png added*

- *Category set to Data documentation*

- *Status changed from New to Feedback*

- *% Done changed from 0 to 50*

- *Private changed from Yes to No*

Let's go step by step.

> does the wave 7 include years 2015-2017? Does this mean that this wave includes three years 2015, 2016, 2017?

Wave 7 includes interviews collected from January 2015 to January 2017, but each household and respondent is interviewed just once during this time. Understanding Society started with a complex sample of 30000 households across the whole UK, therefore interviewing all of them in a shorter period was not feasible.

> Does the wave 9 include the years 2017-2019?

In the same way, Wave 9 includes interviews collected from January 2017 to May 2019.

> Does this mean that thus wave includes years 2017, 2018, 2019?

I'm not sure I fully understand this question, which wave do you mean? If Wave 9, then yes, Wave 9 data is a collection of interviews collected in these 3 years.

> Also, as the wave 7 (2015-2017) and the wave 9 (2017-2019) have an overlapping year, does this mean that I cannot use these waves to make differences of outcome variables between those waves (for example the difference between health status for a child in the period 2015-2017 (wave 9) and the health status of the same child in the period 2013-2015 (wave 7))?

The overlap is for the fieldwork periods, there is of course no overlap at the individual level since the individuals are interviewed at approximately one year intervals. The example data for one person can then look like this (g_ is wave 7, i_ is wave 9, you are looking at the interview dates and the mental health GHQ caseness score and the change in it):

pidp	g_istrtdaty	g_istrtdatm	g_istrtdatd	g_scghq2_dv	i_istrtdaty	i_istrtdatm	i_istrtdatd	i_scghq2_dv	change in mental health (i_scghq2_dv - g_scghq2_dv)
123	2015	August	25	5	2017	August	4	1	-4

You can calculate change similarly for any other variable available.

Referring to your example, you will be comparing the health status of the same child at the date of the interview in wave 7 and at the date of the interview in wave 9 (for child data collected from parents this will be parent's interview date, check the variable names I provided in the other issue you created; for child data collected in the youth interview this will be intdatd_dv intdatm_dv intdaty_dv).

I'd recommend downloading the data to get familiar with the structure. Also, refer to the User Guide, especially the section on the survey timeline:
https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/survey-timeline/

Additionally, the Introduction to Understanding Society Moodle course may be useful:
https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/help/training/introduction-to-understanding-society-self-paced-moodle/

If you have further questions, please add them to this thread rather than starting a new one.

Best wishes,
Piotr Marzec
UKHLS User Support

#2 - 10/30/2024 03:06 PM - Understanding Society User Support Team

- Status changed from Feedback to Resolved

- % Done changed from 50 to 100

Answered in https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/2170

Files

clipboard-202410241718-9vpgg.png	7.65 KB	10/24/2024	Understanding Society User Support Team