

**Panel Study of Income Dynamics:
1975-21: Individual Integrated Post-Secondary Education Data System File
Release 1**

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Section I: Overview

The 1975-2021 College Codes File contains information about colleges or universities that Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners and Other Family Unit members had attended or were attending as reported in surveys administered between 1975 and 2021. From 1975 to 2011, only Reference Persons and Spouse/Partners were asked details about which college they attended. In 2013, the PSID began asking older OFUMS (those who are aged 16 or older and were in the Family Unit in the prior year) about what colleges they attended as well.

This file contains only few variables, namely relevant survey identifiers for individuals and their college codes using the National Center for Education Statistics' *Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS)* coding scheme. IPEDS collects a wide range of updated information about American colleges and universities each year. By coding reported colleges with IPEDS numbers, researchers are provided with the flexibility of merging IPEDS data with PSID data in order to access the up-to-date data collected about college characteristics.

Because individuals could potentially be identifiable by their college names, the 1975-2021 College Codes File is only available through the PSID under special contractual arrangements. For information about obtaining sensitive data through a secured contract, please review the guidelines at the PSID restricted use data webpage:
<http://simba.isr.umich.edu/restricted/RestrictedUse.aspx>.

Interview Information and the Coding Procedure

In 1975 we began collecting survey data on the name of the college that Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners attended. At that time, the question was asked for all Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners who had completed at least a year of college (i.e., reported 13 years of schooling). From 1976 through 1984, the same information was asked only for new Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners, that is, when a person became a Reference Person or a Spouse/Partner for the first time. In 1985, we updated education information for everyone, again asking all Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners in that year. Also, the question sequence was changed—college names were asked only if a degree had been received. From 1986 through 2007, this information was carried forward for the same Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners, with only new Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners being asked about education. In 2009, all Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners were once again re-asked college names (and the remainder of the education sequence), using the same questions as in 1985. In 2011, we went back to carrying forward this information for the same Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners, with only new Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners being asked about education. In 2013 forward we continued to ask new Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners about their education as usual, in addition we also asked returning Reference Persons/Spouses/Partners about any new education obtained since the last interview. Starting In 2013 we also started asked older OFUMS (those 16 years or older who were in the Family Unit) in the prior year about their educational attainment and details of colleges attended for highest degree and bachelor's degree if those were different.

Also relevant to college name coding is that from 1975 through 1984, the name of the college, but not its location, was asked. From 1985 forward, the city and state were added to the interview schedule. For the most part, Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners reported attending colleges whose names and locations clearly matched the official names of unit IDs (unitid) in the IPEDS database. However, some colleges and universities were not easily matched to an IPEDS unit ID. Reasons for this include:

- a college that is now defunct, has lost accreditation, or exists but does not have an IPEDS number;
- a college located outside of the United States;
- insufficient information to identify the college;
- the college name was unknown by the respondent, the respondent refused to provide the name of the college, the interviewer skipped the question in error, or the interview was missing. (Through 1992, the interviews were taken exclusively on paper, and a few of these had been misfiled and could not be located.); or
- the college does not exist.

IPEDS unitids are consistent across years, so when colleges change names, their unitids remain the same. In some cases respondents provided the names of large state colleges without specifying whether they studied on the main campus or a branch campus. In these cases, colleges were coded with the IPEDS unitid of the main campus of the university. Thus, for example, the variables IPEDS8 and IPEDS10 flag whether or not the campus of the IPEDS unitid in IPEDS7 or IPEDS9 respectively, was reported or not. If IPEDS8 or IPEDS10 = 1, then the researcher should proceed with caution when analyzing the institutional characteristics for these cases. In those cases, the IPEDS unitid may provide the researcher with a general sense of the institution, but should not be used as an accurate measure of geographic position, as the campus location which the student attended is unknown.

There were also situations where respondents provided a satellite or branch campus city/state but that satellite or branch campus did not have its own IPEDS unitid. In those cases, similar to the above situation, IPEDS8 or IPEDS10 are coded 2 and researchers should proceed with caution when analyzing the institutional characteristics for these cases. IPEDS8 or IPEDS10 are coded with 3 if the respondent volunteered it was an online only degree or the institution only does online courses.

Appendix A lists the main campuses or largest campuses of some colleges that appear in the data. If an observation is coded “1” for “campus undetermined”, it has been given the main campus IPEDS unitid; however, the individual may have attended any branch campus.

Same Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners and OFUMS

We stated that from 1976 through 1984 and from 1986 through 2011, education questions were not re-asked if a person remained Reference Person or Spouse/Partner. The PSID has traditionally brought forward this and other background information from the prior wave for such individuals, and the College Codes File is no exception. However, as noted above in section (Interview Information and Coding Procedure) starting in 2013 all returning Reference Persons/Spouses/Partners were asked for an education update. If an updated was recorded

then that is their highest degree information on their most current record, if no education update was given then we have pulled forward their education information from the prior wave. This simplifies analysis for waves in which only some Reference Persons and Spouses/Partners were asked college names. This same procedure applies to all OFUMs 16 years or older. In 2013, all eligible OFUMS (those 16 years or older who were in the Family Unit) in the prior year were asked about their education as a baseline measure. Starting in 2015, newly eligible OFUMs were asked the baseline series and in addition, returning OFUMs were asked for an education update.

Section II: Structure of the File

Number of Records and Sort Order

The 1975-2021 College Codes File contains a total of 116,752 records, one for each Reference Person/Spouse/Partner who reported attending college in family interview taken from 1975 through 2021. Starting in 2013, PSID also obtained more detailed educational information on other family unit members (OFUMS), namely their college attendance. These records are also included in this file. PSID individuals for whom we have no college information are not included in this file. The file is sorted, in ascending order, by "Year of Interview" (IPEDS2) and "Family Interview Number" (IPEDS3) and "Sequence Number" (IPEDS4) and "Which Highest Degree Mention" (IPEDS6).

Variables on the 1975-2021 College Codes File

The 1975-2021 College Codes File contains a total of ten variables. For detailed information on each variable, refer to discussions in the codebook, but briefly, the file contains a maximum of two mentions of IPEDS codes for Reference Person/Spouse/Partner for their highest degree and for OFUMs it contains their highest degree and their bachelor's degree if those are different. Please note that, like other PSID data releases, this data file contains numeric (rather than character) data fields.

Section III: Linking Records

The Yearly Family Interview (ID) Number (IPEDS3) is the main identifier that links the College Codes File with other PSID Family level data. Note that this identifier is not unique across waves and that the same family almost never receives the same value from one wave to the next. Family Interview Numbers are assigned based on the order in which the completed interviews are received in each wave. Therefore, it is crucial that the year of data be selected first, before merging with main family or individual data.

Using the 1975-2021 College Codes File with the Individual File

For linking to the Cross Year Individual File; users must link using three variables: Year of Interview (IPEDS2), Family Interview ID Number (IPEDS3) and Sequence Number (IPEDS4). For merging with individual data for 2021 records, the user must subset records for 2021 using IPEDS2 then the corresponding variables on the Cross Year Individual File.

As an example for 2021 records, the corresponding individual variables are:

IPEDS3=ER34901

IPEDS4=ER34902

Users should note that for each year of data, the corresponding variables on the individual file are different. For example, if one subsets the IPEDs file for Year=2019 then the corresponding individual level variables are:

IPEDS3=ER34701

IPEDS4=ER34702

Using the 1975-2021 College Codes File with the Family Files

Since family identifiers are not unique across waves of the PSID, the user must first select the wave of data that he/she wishes to link using the variable IPEDS2. Once College Codes File records have been selected for the wave in question, then IPEDS3 matches the yearly Family Interview Number for that wave. For any wave, Family Interview Number is the second variable on the family file.

Appendix A: Multiple Campus List for State Universities

State	Main Campus Name	Main Campus Location
Alabama	Alabama State University	Montgomery
Alabama	Auburn University	Auburn
Alabama	The University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa
Alaska	University of Alaska	Fairbanks
Arizona	Arizona State University	Tempe
Arizona	University of Arizona	Tucson
Arkansas	University of Arkansas	Fayetteville
California	California Polytechnic University	San Luis Obispo
California	California State University	Fullerton (The Cal-State system does not have a main campus. Fullerton is the largest campus by enrollment in the Cal-State system)
California	University of California	Los Angeles (The UC system does not have a main campus. UCLA is the largest campus in the UC system)
Chicago, Ill	City Colleges of Chicago	Harry S Truman College is the largest.
Colorado	Colorado State University	Fort Collins
Colorado	University of Colorado	Boulder
Connecticut	University of Connecticut	Storrs
Delaware	University of Delaware	Newark
Delaware	Delaware State University	Dover
Florida	Florida State University	Tallahassee
Florida	University of Florida	Gainesville
Georgia	Georgia State University	Atlanta
Georgia	University of Georgia	Athens
Hawaii	University of Hawaii	Manoa
Idaho	Idaho State University	Pocatello
Idaho	University of Idaho	Moscow
Illinois	Illinois State University	Normal
Illinois	University of Illinois	Urbana-Champaign
Indiana	Indiana State University	Terre Haute
Indiana	Indiana University	Bloomington
Iowa	Iowa State University	Ames
Iowa	University of Iowa	Iowa City
Kansas	Kansas State University	Manhattan

Kansas	University of Kansas	Lawrence
Kentucky	Kentucky State University	Frankfort
Kentucky	University of Kentucky	Lexington
Louisiana	Louisiana State University	Baton Rouge
Maine	University of Maine	Orono
Maryland	University of Maryland	College Park
Massachusetts	University of Massachusetts	Amherst
Michigan	Michigan State University	East Lansing
Michigan	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor
Minnesota	Minnesota State University	Moorhead
Minnesota	University of Minnesota	Twin cities, Minneapolis/Saint Paul
Mississippi	Mississippi State University	Starkville
Mississippi	University of Mississippi	Oxford
Missouri	Missouri State University	Springfield
Missouri	University of Missouri	Columbia
Montana	Montana State University	Bozeman
Nebraska	University of Nebraska	Lincoln
Nevada	University of Nevada	Las Vegas
New Hampshire	University of New Hampshire	Durham
New Jersey	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	New Brunswick
New Mexico	New Mexico State University	Las Cruces
New Mexico	University of New Mexico	Albuquerque
New York	State University of New York (SUNY)	Buffalo is the largest in the SUNY system
North Carolina	North Carolina State University	Raleigh
North Carolina	University of North Carolina	Chapel Hill
North Dakota	North Dakota State University	Fargo
Ohio	Ohio State University	Columbus
Ohio	Ohio University	Athens
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State University	Stillwater
Oklahoma	University of Oklahoma	Norman
Oregon	Oregon State University	Corvallis
Oregon	University of Oregon	Eugene
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania State University	State College/University Park
Rhode Island	University of Rhode Island	Kingston

South Carolina	South Carolina State University	Orangeburg
South Carolina	University of South Carolina	Columbia
South Dakota	South Dakota State University	Brookings
South Dakota	University of South Dakota	Vermillion
Tennessee	Tennessee State University	Nashville
Tennessee	The University of Tennessee	Knoxville
Texas	Texas State University	San Marcos
Texas	The University of Texas	Austin
Utah	University of Utah	Salt Lake City
Utah	Utah State University	Logan
Vermont	University of Vermont	Burlington
Virginia	University of Virginia	Charlottesville
Washington	University of Washington	Seattle
Washington	Washington State University	Pullman
West Virginia	West Virginia State University	Institute
West Virginia	West Virginia University	Morgantown
Wisconsin	University of Wisconsin	Madison
Wyoming	University of Wyoming	Laramie