### Questions & Responses

#### Current Cohabitation Status

- Do you have a boyfriend, girlfriend, or partner in this household?  
  - Yes
  - No

#### Marital Status-Based Measures

- What is this person [Person 1-5]'s marital status?  
  - Now married
  - Widowed
  - Divorced
  - Separated
  - Never married

- (Are/is) (you/[NAME]) now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married?  
  - Married, SPOUSE PRESENT
  - Married, SPOUSE ABSENT
  - Married
  - Widowed
  - Divorced
  - Separated
  - Never married

- Are you now married, widowed, divorced, separated, or never married?  
  - Married, SPOUSE PRESENT
  - Married, SPOUSE PRESENT
  - Widowed
  - Divorced
  - Separated
  - Never married

- Is (respondent) now - married, divorced, separated, or never married?  
  - Married
  - Widowed
  - Divorced
  - Separated
  - Never married

- (How about/And) [NAME]? Is [NAME] currently married, widowed, divorced, separated, or has (he/she) never married?  
  - Married
  - Widowed
  - Divorced
  - Separated
  - Never married

- What is [NAME]'s current marital status?
## Questions & Responses

- Married, SPOUSE PRESENT
- Widowed
- Divorced
- Separated
- Never married

### Marital History Measures

1. **How many times has this person [Person 1-5] been married?**
   - 1-X
   - Include "common-law" marriages; ignore marriages that were later annulled.
   - **(You/[NAME]) (have/has) only been married once is that correct?**
     - Yes
     - No

2. **(How about/And) (you/[NAME])...? (Have you/Has [NAME]) ever been widowed?**
   - Yes
   - No

3. **(How about/And) (you/[NAME])...? (Have you/Has [NAME]) ever been divorced?**
   - Yes
   - No

4. **Did (your/[NAME]’s) first marriage end in widowhood or divorce?**
   - Widowhood
   - Divorce

5. **Did (your/[NAME]’s) second marriage end in widowhood or divorce?**
   - Widowhood
   - Divorce

### Marriage Dates

1. **In the PAST 12 MONTHS did this person get-Married?**
   - Yes
   - No

2. **In what year did this person last get married?**
   - ENTER YEAR

3. **In what month and year did you get married?**
   - ENTER MONTH
   - ENTER YEAR
**United States Census Bureau**

**Questions & Responses**

**Agency, Survey, and Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACS</th>
<th>AHS</th>
<th>ATUS</th>
<th>CPS</th>
<th>Decennial Census</th>
<th>FHWAR</th>
<th>SIPP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

In what month and year did you get married for the first time?
ENTER MONTH
ENTER YEAR

In what month and year did you get married for the second time?
ENTER MONTH
ENTER YEAR

In what month and year did you get married most recently?
ENTER MONTH
ENTER YEAR

**Household Roster-Based Measures**

How is this person [Person 2-X] related to Person 1?

- Husband or wife (Spouse)
- Biological son or daughter
- Adopted son or daughter
- Stepson or stepdaughter
- Brother or sister
- Father or mother
- Grandchild
- Parent-in-law
- Son-in-law or daughter-in-law
- Other relative
- Roomer or boarder
- Housemate or roommate
- Unmarried partner
- Foster child
- Other non-relative

If not obvious, ask:
What is (your/[NAME]) relationship to [NAME REFERENCE PERSON]?
Spouse (Husband/Wife)
Unmarried Partner
Child
Grandchild
Parent (Mother/Father)
Brother/Sister
Other relative of reference person (Uncle, Cousin, Mother-in-law, Father-in-law, etc.)
Foster child
Housemate/Roommate
Roomer/Boarder
Other Non-relative of reference person

How is [NAME] related to you?
*Ask if not apparent
Spouse (husband/wife)
Unmarried partner
Child/Stepchild
Grandchild
### Questions & Responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency, Survey, and Year</th>
<th>United States Census Bureau</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACS 2011</td>
<td>AHS 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATUS 2011</td>
<td>CPS 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decennial Census 2010</td>
<td>FHWAR 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIPP 2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Parent (mother or father)**
- Brother/Sister
- Other related person (aunt, cousin, nephew, mother-in-law, etc.)
- Foster child
- Housemate/roommate
- Roomer/boarder
- Other nonrelative
- Nonhousehold child

**What is [NAME]’s relationship to household respondent?**
- Reference person
- Spouse
- Son/Daughter
- Parent
- Brother/Sister
- Other relative
- Nonrelative

**What is [NAME]’s relationship to (reference person/you)?**
- Spouse (husband/wife)
- Unmarried partner
- Child (biological, step, or adopted)
- Grandchild
- Parent (mother/father)
- Brother/Sister
- Other relatives (uncle, cousin, mother-in-law, father-in-law, etc.)
- Foster Child
- Housemate/Roommate
- Roomer/Boarder
- Other non-relative

**What is [NAME]’s relationship to you?**
- Spouse (husband/wife)
- Unmarried partner
- Child (biological, step, or adopted)
- Grandchild
- Parent (mother/father)
- Brother/Sister
- Other relatives (uncle, cousin, mother-in-law, father-in-law, etc.)
- Foster Child
- Housemate/Roommate
- Roomer/Boarder
- Other non-relative

**What is [NAME OF HH MEMBER #1-12]’s relationship to you?**
- Spouse (husband/wife)
- Unmarried partner
- Child (biological, step, or adopted)
- Grandchild
- Parent (mother/father)
Questions & Responses

Brother/Sister
Other relatives (uncle, cousin, mother-in-law, father-in-law, etc.)
Foster Child
Housemate/Roommate
Roomer/Boarder
Other non-relative

Ask if necessary:
You said (you are/[NAME] is) [NAME's] spouse. Is that correct?
   Yes
   No

Ask if necessary:
Is [NAME's] spouse a member of this household?
   IF NO, ENTER (N)
   IF YES, ENTER THE SPOUSE'S LINE NUMBER
   ENTER (M) FOR MORE

Ask if necessary:
You said [NAME1] is [NAME2's] spouse. Is that correct?
   Yes
   No

What is the EXACT relationship of [NAME1] to [NAME2]? [NAME1] is [NAME2]'s...
   Spouse
   Unmarried partner
   Biological Parent
   Stepparent
   Step & adoptive parent
   Adoptive Parent
   Foster parent
   Other parent
   Biological child
   Step child
   Step & adopted child
   Adopted child
   Foster child
   Other child
   Grandparent
   Grandchild
   Paid employee
   Other relative
   Room/housemate
   Roomer/boarder
   Other non-relative
   Self
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions &amp; Responses</th>
<th>Agency, Survey, and Year</th>
<th>United States Census Bureau</th>
<th>Sex of Respondent and Household Member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is Person 1’s sex?</strong></td>
<td>ACS 2011</td>
<td>AHS 2011</td>
<td>ATUS 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is this person [Person 2-X]’s sex?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>[Are/Is] (you/[NAME]) male or female?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex of respondent</strong></td>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex of each household member</strong></td>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is [NAME]’s sex?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is (respondent’s) sex?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
<td><strong>Female</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Surveys**

ACS: American Community Survey  
AHS: American Housing Survey  
ATUS: American Time Use Survey  
CPS: Current Population Survey  
Decennial Census: United States Census Bureau  
FHWAR: National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation  
SIPP: Survey of Income and Program Participation

**NOTES**

**Note a:** Cohabitation question is asked for those ages of 15 and over who are not living with a spouse, and who are living with at least one non-related adult age 15 and over. For more information about this question, see Dr. Rose Kreider’s working paper.  
[http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps08/twps08.pdf](http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps08/twps08.pdf)

**Note b:** The direct question wording for relationship to reference person in CPS was retrieved from the CPS Interviewing Manual.  

**Note c:** The response “foster child” was not available to respondents in the 2010 Decennial Census.

**Note d:** The CPS-FSS is not included because there are no additional valid measures beyond what is found in the CPS.

This project was supported with a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, grant number 5 UO1 AEOOOOI-05. The opinions and conclusions expressed herein are solely those of the author(s) and should not be construed as representing the opinions or policy of any agency of the Federal government.

National Center for Family & Marriage Research  
website: [http://ncfmr.bgsu.edu](http://ncfmr.bgsu.edu)  
e-mail: ncfmr@bgsu.edu