

# National Survey of Midlife Development in the United States (MIDUS)

## Data Notes

### 1 Sample description

In 1995-1996, the MacArthur Midlife Research Network carried out a national survey of over 7,000 Americans aged 25 to 74 (NATIONAL SURVEY OF MIDLIFE DEVELOPMENT IN THE UNITED STATES (MIDUS), 1995-1996 [ICPSR 2760]). The purpose of the study was to investigate the role of behavioral, psychological, and social factors in understanding age-related differences in physical and mental health. The study was innovative for its broad scientific scope, its diverse samples (which included twins and the siblings of main sample respondents), and its creative use of in-depth assessments in key areas (e.g., daily stress and cognitive functioning). A description of the study and findings from it are available at <http://www.midus.wisc.edu>. With support from the National Institute on Aging, a longitudinal follow-up of the original MIDUS samples: core sample (N = 3,487), metropolitan over-samples (N = 757), twins (N = 998 pairs), and siblings (N = 950) was conducted in 2004-2006. Guiding hypotheses for it, at the most general level, were that behavioral and psychosocial factors are consequential for physical and mental health. MIDUS II respondents were aged 35 to 86. Data collection largely repeated baseline assessments (e.g., phone interview and extensive self-administered questionnaire), with additional questions in selected areas (e.g., cognitive functioning, optimism and coping, stressful life events, and caregiving). To add refinements to MIDUS II, an African American sample (N = 592) was recruited from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, who participated in a personal interview and completed a questionnaire paralleling the above assessments. Also administered was a modified form of the mail questionnaire, via telephone, to respondents who did not complete a self-administered questionnaire. Overall, complete data were collected from nearly 5,900 individuals.

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/4652/documentation>

### 2 Project web

<http://www.midus.wisc.edu/>

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/2760?archive=ICPSR&q=MIDUS>

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/4652?archive=ICPSR&q=MIDUS>

### 3 Years covered

Wave I [1995-1996]

Wave II [2004-2006]

### 4 Longitudinal

Yes

### 5 Publicly available

Yes, through the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/2760?archive=ICPSR&q=MIDUS>

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/4652?archive=ICPSR&q=MIDUS>

[To download data, you must belong to member institution]

### 6 Web-accessible analysis

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/2760/sda>

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/4652/sda>

### 7 FAQ page

Not Available

## 8 Data specific bibliography

<http://www.midus.wisc.edu/findings/>

## 9 Data citation

Wave I -- Brim, Orville G., Paul B. Baltes, Larry L. Bumpass, Paul D. Cleary, David L. Featherman, William R. Hazzard, Ronald C. Kessler, Margie E. Lachman, Hazel Rose Markus, Michael G. Marmot, Alice S. Rossi, Carol D. Ryff, and Richard A. Shweder. National Survey of Midlife Development in the United States (MIDUS), 1995-1996 [Computer file]. ICPSR02760-v6. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2010-01-06. doi:10.3886/ICPSR02760

Wave II -- Ryff, Carol, David M. Almeida, John S. Ayanian, Deborah S. Carr, Paul D. Cleary, Christopher Coe, Richard Davidson, Robert F. Krueger, Marge E. Lachman, Nadine F. Marks, Daniel K. Mroczek, Teresa Seeman, Marsha Mailick Seltzer, Burton H. Singer, Richard P. Sloan, Patricia A. Tun, Maxine Weinstein, and David Williams. Midlife Development in the United States (MIDUS II), 2004-2006 [Computer file]. ICPSR04652-v1. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2007-03-22. doi:10.3886/ICPSR04652

## 10 List serve/user group/help line

<http://www.midus.wisc.edu/helpdesk.php>

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