# Using ICPSR Database: Finding Social Science Data

## Hsueh-Sheng Wu

## Center for Family and Demographic Research

## September 10, 2012

# Outline

- What is ICPSR?

- Why do sociology students need ICPSR?

- A brief overview of ICPSR website

- Log in or create an account for ICPSR website

- How to find ICPSR data

- How to analyze data online

- How to search and compare variables

- How to find publications

- ICPSR Summer program

- Conclusion

# What Is ICPSR?

The Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) is an international consortium of about 700 academic institutions and research organizations:

- Maintain an archive of more than 500,000 data files in political and social sciences

- Provide summer courses for researchers interested in learning issues of analyzing the data files, such as research design, statistics, data analysis, and social methodology

- Fund research on the emerging challenges of digital curation and data science

# Why do Sociology Students Need ICPSR?

- Sociologists try to describe, explain, and predict social phenomena. Without using social sciences data, sociologists do not have scientific findings, but personal ideas.

- Sociologists can learn new methods to analyze social sciences data

- Sociology students may need to use ICPSR:

  - When you need to analyze data for term papers, thesis, or dissertation

  - When you want to check the accuracy of other researchers' findings

  - When your professors ask you to find what data are available for a certain topic

  - When you want to collect your own data on a certain topic and need to know what questions have been used to measure this topic

  - When you want to know whether other researchers have examined some phenomena with the same data that you are interested in

BGSU

Center for Family and Demographic Research

# A Brief Overview of ICPSR Website
## (http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/landing.jsp)

# A Brief Overview of ICPSR Website (Continued)

- Find & Analyze Data

- Membership in ICPSR

- Deposit Data

- ICPSR Summer Program

- Resources for Instructors

- Data Management

BGSU

Center for Family and Demographic Research

# Create an Account for the ICPSR website

- Click on "Find & Analyze Data"
- Click on "Log in/Create account" (the upper left-hand side)
- You can log on with a facebook or gmail account if you would like to allow ICPSR to access some information from these accounts
- You can create a new accont by clicking on " ICPSR MyData"
- Click on "Create Account"
- Fill in all the information and click on "submit"
- A webpage shows "Account Information" and confirms your registration
- You can now log on to the account

# How to Find ICPSR Data

Click "Find & Analyze Data" and Use One of Two Ways to Find the Data

- Search data by using keywords
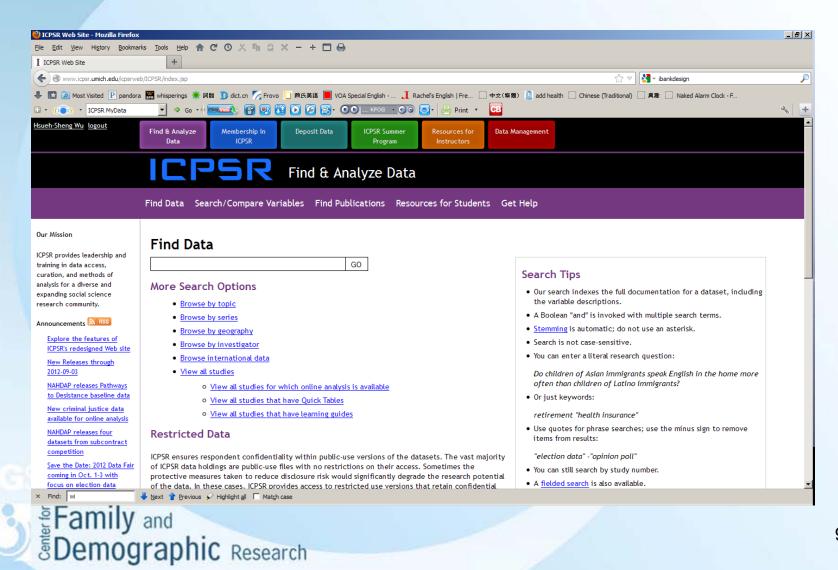  - Using the box below "Find Data"

- Browse data:
  - Browse by topic
  - Browse by series
  - Browse by geography
  - Browse by investigator
  - Browse international data
  - View all studies
    - View all studies for which online analysis is available
    - View all studies that have Quick Tables
    - View all studies that have learning guides

# How to Find ICPSR Data (Continued)

File   Edit   View   History   Bookmarks   Tools   Help

National Survey of Midlife Development in th...

https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/4652?q=midus&permit[0]=AVAILABLE

lowest fare

Most Visited   pandora   whisperings   词酷   dict.cn   Frovo   颜氏美語   VOA Special English - ...   Rachel's English | Fre...   中文(繁體)   add health   Chinese (Traditional)   興趣   Naked Alarm Clock - F...

Detroit, MI - Wayne Count   Go   KFOG   Print   CB

<< Back to search results     | midus |     REVISE SEARCH     Result 1 of 13   >>

# National Survey of Midlife Development in the United States (MIDUS II), 2004-2006

**Principal Investigator(s):** Ryff, Carol, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Almeida, David M., Pennsylvania State University; Ayanian, John S., Harvard University; Carr, Deborah S., University of Wisconsin-Madison; Cleary, Paul D., Harvard University; Coe, Christopher, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Davidson, Richard, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Krueger, Robert F., University of Minnesota; Lachman, Marge E., Brandeis University; Marks, Nadine F., University of Wisconsin-Madison; Mroczek, Daniel K., Purdue University; Seeman, Teresa, University of California-Los Angeles; Seltzer, Marsha Mailick, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Singer, Burton H., Princeton University; Sloan, Richard P., Columbia University; Tun, Patricia A., Brandeis University; Weinstein, Maxine, Georgetown University; Williams, David, University of Michigan

**Summary:** In 1995-1996, the MacArthur Midlife Research Network carried out a national survey of 7,108 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... (more info)

**Series:** Midlife Development in the United States (MIDUS) Series

## Access Notes

- This study was originally provided by NACDA.

## Dataset(s)

**Study-Level Files**

Documentation:   Documentation.pdf (MIDUS_items_index)   Documentation.pdf (field_report)   Documentation.pdf (naming)   Documentation.pdf (readme)
Documentation.pdf (sampdesc)

**DS1: M2_P1_Aggregate Data**

Documentation:   Codebook.pdf   Documentation.pdf (age)   Documentation.pdf (occ_ind_coding)   Documentation.pdf (scales)   Questionnaire.pdf (phone)
Questionnaire.pdf (saq)

Download:   SAS   SPSS   Stata   ASCII   Delimited   All Dataset Files   (151,042 KB)
ASCII +   SAS Setup   SPSS Setup   Stata Setup   Other

Analyze Online:   SDA

**Quick Download**

(4 datasets; 166,177 KB)

**Table of Contents**
**ICPSR 4652**

Top of page
Access Notes
Dataset(s)
Study Description
Citation
Funding
Scope of Study
Methodology
Version(s)
Related Publications
Variables
Instructional Resources
Utilities
Update Notification
Metadata Exports

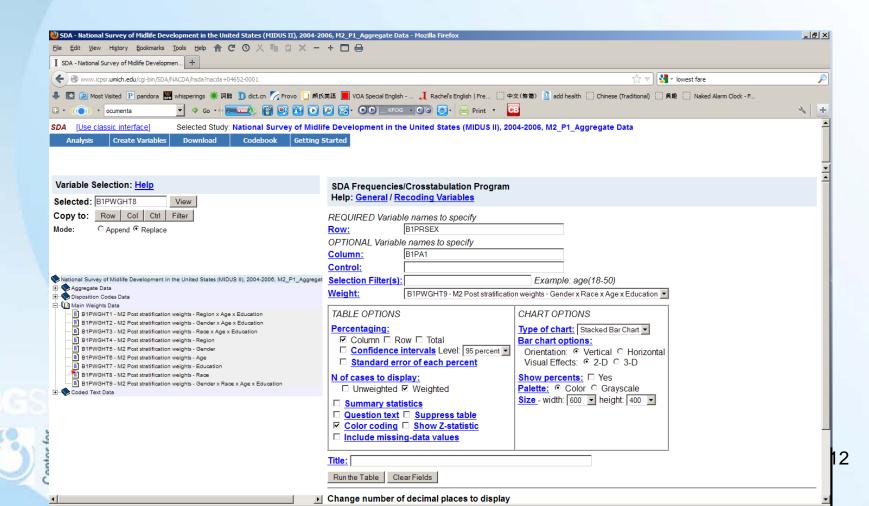Center for **Family** and **Demographic** Research

10

# How to Find ICPSR Data (Continued)

- Types of Data
  - Data files for SAS, SPSS, or Stata
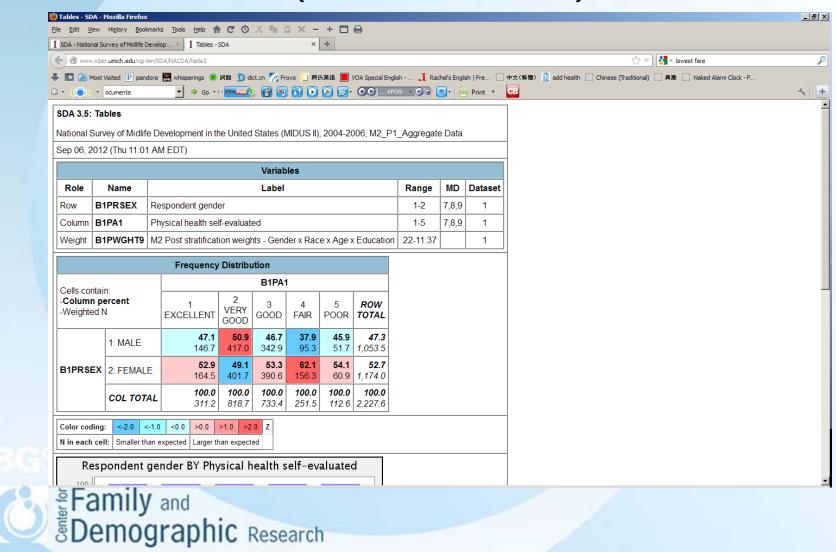  - The ASCII file and the setup files for SAS, SPSS, or Stata

# How to analyze data online

- Some ICPSR data sets can be analyzed on line
- You can create cross-tabulations on two variables
- You will still need to download and analyze data if you want more complex analyses
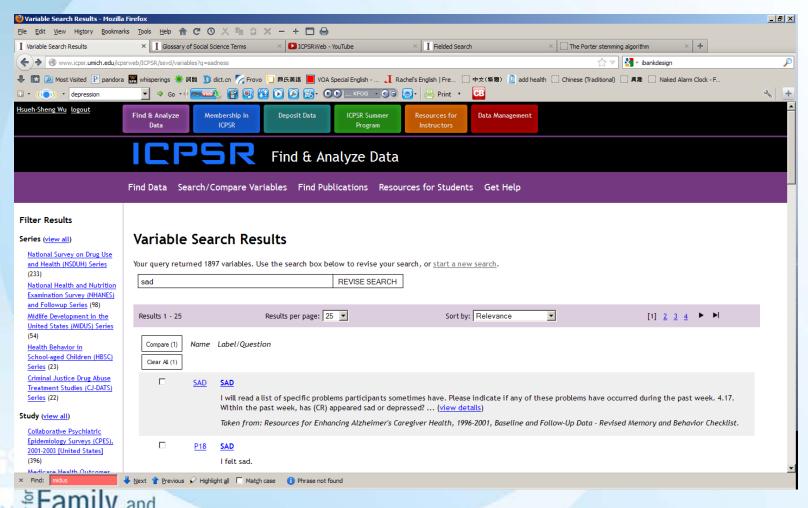
# How to analyze data online (Continued)

# How to Search and Compare Variables

Click "Find & Analyze Data" → "Search/Compare Variables"

- Search variables by using keywords
  - List the variables for all ICPSR public data files
- Browse variables:
  - Browse the variables for particular studies
  - Browse the variables for particular series of studies

# How to Search and Compare Variables (Continued)

# How to Find Publications

Click "Find & Analyze Data" → "Find Publications"

- Search literature by using keywords
  - List the variables for all ICPSR public data files
- Browse literature:
  - View all citations
  - Browse by author
  - Browse by journal
  - Browse by study

# How to Find Publications(Continued)

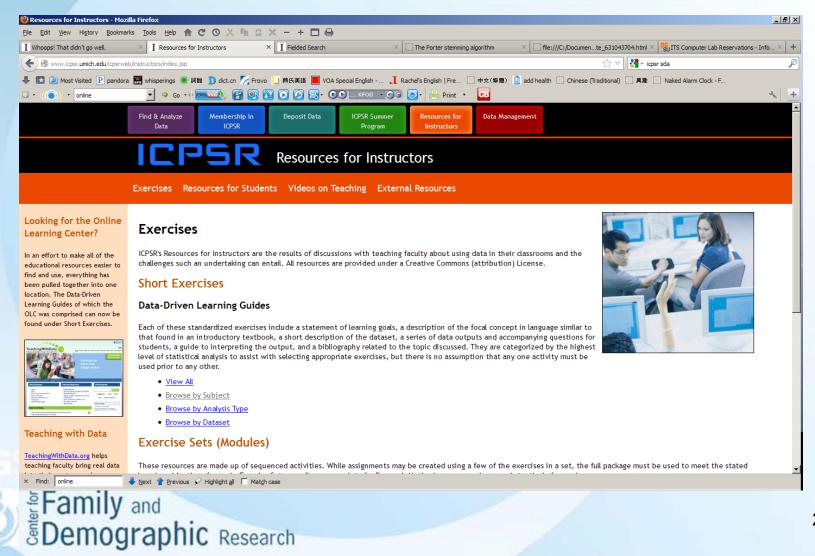# Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research

- ICPSR summer program provides basic and advanced training in the methodologies and technologies for social-science researchers

- The 2013 schedule will be available in February 2013

- You can look at 2012 schedule (http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/sumprog/courses) to see what courses had been offered before

# Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research (Continued)

# Resources for Instructor

# Resources for Instructors (Continued)

- Exercises
  - Data-Driven Learning Guides
- Resources for Students
  - Webinars and Tutorials
- Videos on Teaching
- External Resources

# Conclusion

- ICPSR provides the access to many social sciences data

- Graduate students may need ICPSR data for their term papers, thesis, or dissertations.

- Some data sets may not be available on ICPSR.  You can Google the name of the data or search the Excel file that CFDR has compiled for various data sets (R:\CFDR\Public\Data\Public Data Info.xlsx).

- For additional help with using ICPSR website, feel free to contact me at wuh@bgsu.edu and 372-3119.