



Programming an Employment Event History Calendar in the PSID

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About the PSID

- Nationally representative sample of 8,700 U.S. families
- Panel survey conducted since 1968
- Survey instrument programmed in Blaise and C#.net

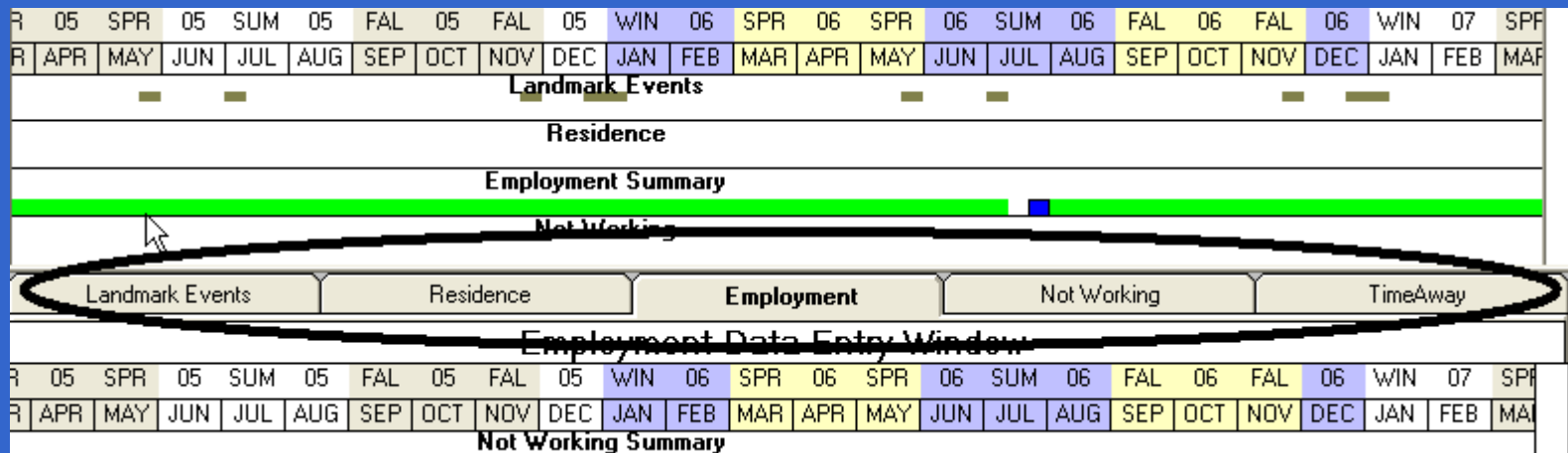
First Experience with EHC

- Main survey instrument reprogrammed in Blaise
- Early EHC for employment programmed in Visual Basic
- Limitations prevented the use of DLLs
- Unstructured format of the EHC meant a decline in data integrity

Labor Force Participation

- Central concept of the PSID
- Need to distinguish between types of spells
- All 52 weeks
- For time spent out of the labor force:
 - actively looking for employment
 - periods of not looking

Types of Spells- Older Version



Goals of the New EHC

- Provide visual guide to the interviewer of the domains and how they relate to each other
- Provide a combination of hard and soft consistency checks to help resolve inconsistencies on the spot
- Write data back to the Blaise bdb to avoid manipulating multiple data sources

Employment - New Version

I'd like to know about all of the work for money that you have done for the past two years, from January 1, 2007, to the present. Please include self-emp any other kind of work that you have done for pay. Start with any job that you had during this time.

What (is/was) the name of this employer?

When did you start and when did you stop working for this employer? Please give me all of your start and stop dates if you have worked for (yourself/himself/herself/this employer) more than once.

IF NECESSARY: This information will help us to process employment information you gave us. The name itself will never be released as part of data fr

IWER: If no employer name is given by R, ask for job title or anything that can help identify the job.

IWER: Before exiting timelines, probe for any other work for pay, no matter how small.

Head	2007												2008						
	Winter		Spring			Summer			Fall				Winter		Spring			Sur	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	J
+ Residence	CLICK this bar to activate Residence domain												CLICK this bar to activate Residence domain						
123 MAIN STREET	#																		
+ Job	CLICK this bar to activate Employment domain												CLICK this bar to activate Employment dom						
Smith Brothers	?												#						
Parmalat													#						#
Time Away	CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain												CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain						
+ Someone else s...																			
+ Own sick															#				
+ Vacation																#			
+ On Strike																			
+ Temporary Layoff																			
Not Working	CLICK this bar to activate Not Working domain												CLICK this bar to activate Not Working dom.						
+ 2007 Looking																			
+ 2007 Not looking																			
+ 2008 Looking																			
+ 2008 Not looking																			

Checking for Gaps

PSID Employment EHC - IW Date: 4/23/2009 (Version: 3/30/09)

Cross Check Timelines Exit Show Full Text **CTT Test Notes**

We're interested in time COLIN spent away from work last year, during 2008.

1. Did COLIN miss any work because someone else was sick? (When was that?)
2. (Did COLIN miss any work) because COLIN was sick? (When was that?)
3. (Did COLIN miss any work) for a vacation or time off? (When was that?)
4. (Did COLIN miss any work) because COLIN was on strike? (When was that?)
5. (Did COLIN miss any work) because COLIN was temporarily laid off from work? (When was that?)

PROBE each Time Away: Any others?

IF DK WHEN, CHECK "Don't Know When" box, THEN ASK: How m

Head	2007												2008							
	Winter			Spring			Summer			Fall			Winter		Spring		Summer			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	
+ Residence	CLICK this bar to activate Residence domain												CLICK this bar to activate Residence domain							
123 MAIN ST	#																			
+ Job	CLICK this bar to activate Employment domain												CLICK this bar to activate Employment domain							
Wellcome Trust	#																			
Not Just Windows																				
Fast Track																				
Time Away	CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain												CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain							
+ Someone else s...																				
+ Own sick																				
+ Vacation																				
+ On Strike																				
+ Temporary Layoff																				
Not Working	CLICK this bar to activate Not Working domain												CLICK this bar to activate Not Working domain							
+ 2007 Looking																				
+ 2007 Not looking																				
+ 2008 Looking																				
+ 2008 Not looking																				

Employment + Not Working lines don't cover entire time period from 2007 to present, please fill in gaps.


OK

CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain

Incorrect Reporting of Time Away

Head	2007												2008									
	Winter			Spring			Summer			Fall			Winter			Spring			Summer			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	
+ Residence	CLICK this bar to activate Residence domain												CLICK this bar to activate Residence domain									
123 MAIN ST	#																					
+ Job	CLICK this bar to activate Employment domain												CLICK this bar to activate Employment domain									
Wellcome Trust	#															?						
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Time Away	CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain												CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain									
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+ 2007 Looking																						
+ 2007 Not looking																						
+ 2008 Looking																						
+ 2008 Not looking																						

Warning

 Time Away cells you just entered do not correspond with an employment period, do you want to continue?

Yes No

Starting Time

Year: 2008, Month/Season: May, Day/3rd of Month: 2

Ending Time

Year: 2008, Month/Season: May, Day/3rd of Month: 7

Reason for Time Away: Vacation

Notes:

OK Cancel Delete

Visual Cues: Don't Know When

The image shows a survey interface with a table and a dialog box. The table has columns for categories and a grid of cells. A blue bar at the top of the table says "CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain". A yellow bar with question marks is below the "Own sick" row. A dialog box is open over the table, titled "Duration", with fields for Months (0), Weeks (1), and Days (0). It also has a checked "Don't Know When" checkbox, a "Reason for Time Away" dropdown (set to "Own sick"), a "Notes" text area, and "OK", "Cancel", and "Delete" buttons.

Time Away	this bar to activate Time Away domain	CLICK this bar to activate Time Away domain
+ Someone else s...		
+ Own sick		??
+ Vacation		
+ On Strike		
+ Temporary Layoff		
Not Working	this bar to activate Not Working domain	
+ 2007 Looking		
+ 2007 Not looking		
+ 2008 Looking		
+ 2008 Not looking		

Don't Know When

Reason for Time Away
Own sick

Notes

OK Cancel Delete

Cross Check Timelines

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PROBE each Time Away: Any others?

IF DK WHEN, CHECK "Don't Know When" box, THEN ASK: How many times?

Head	2007											
	Winter			Spring			Summer			Fall		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
+ Residence	CLICK this bar to activate Residence domain											
123 MAIN ST	#	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
+ Job	CLICK this bar to activate Employment domain											
Wellcome Trust	#	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not Just Windows		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Programming

BLOCK BEmploy

Fields

AQSN : TAQSN

sXML /"Xml string for easy alien router programming":string[2000]

sDisplay /"display for summery screen" : string[1000] {part of xXML}

sSpanDisplay /"display for summery screen" : string[1000] {part of xXML}

sYear /"Start Year " : 1901..9997,DK,EMPTY

eYear /"End Year " : 1901..9997,DK,EMPTY

sMonthSeason /"Start Month/Season (start month)" : 1..24,DK,EMPTY

eMonthSeason /"End Month/Season (End month)" : 1..24,DK,EMPTY

sDay / "Start Day (start day of the event)": 1..43,DK,EMPTY

eDay / "End Day (End day of the event)": 1..43,DK,EMPTY

Employer / "Event Description": string[100],DK,EMPTY

Notes / "Event Notes": string[200],DK,EMPTY

ENDBLOCK

EmploySection : Array [1..10] OF BEmploy

Programming

The screenshot displays a survey programming interface. At the top, a calendar grid is visible, showing months and days. Below the calendar, there is a form with several sections:

- Starting Time:** Includes fields for Year, Month/Season, and Day/3rd of Month.
- Ending Time:** Includes fields for Year, Month/Season, and Day/3rd of Month, with a **Current** checkbox.
- Address:** Includes fields for City, State, Zip, and Country.
- Notes:** A text area for additional information.
- Specify:** A list of reasons for moving or stopping school, each with a checkbox:
 - 1. Take a job; stopped school
 - 2. Nearer to work
 - 3. More space; better place
 - 4. Smaller; less expensive
 - 5. Own a home; got married
 - 6. Better area; close to family
 - 7. Evicted; divorced; job transfer; foreclosed
 - 8. Other (specify)
 - 9. DK

Buttons for **OK**, **Cancel**, and **Delete** are located on the right side of the form.

Programming

CHECK NotWorkNotValid = 0

InVOLVING (BCDE1, EmployEHCRouter.EHCINTRO)

"One or more Employment and Not Working lines overlap for more than one cell, please reconcile and correct."

Conclusion

- EHC superior method for data collection for certain types of retrospective information
- Like to take advantage of the flexibility without compromising data integrity
- Given the interviewer visual cues, consistency checking and clear warnings about potential conflicts
- All the data is stored in bdb for easier processing

Thank You

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