



ATUS Exercise: Combining Module Data

Learning goals

- Learn how to identify years of data on the sample selection page in which specific modules were fielded
- Select appropriate weights for use with modules
- Combine weights from more than one module for analysis

Summary

In this exercise, you will analyze the relationship between health and watching television (using a TUV based on a BLS definition). You will create an extract containing Well-Being and Eating and Health module data, including appropriate weights. You will generate a new variable to create a single weight for analysis and generate estimates of the relationship between health and watching television.

Part 1: Create an extract that combines Well-Being and Eating and Health Module data from ATUS-X

1. Which years of data should be included in your dataset if you want all Well-Being and Eating and Health Module data?

2. Which weights should you include in your extract? *Hint*: see exercise 4 to determine which weights you should include.

3. Which module variables allow you to know whether an ATUS respondent completed the Well-Being or Eating and Health Modules?

4. Create an extract that includes Well-Being and Eating and Health Module data and the following variables: BLS_LEIS_TV (TUV), SEX, GENHEALTH, appropriate weights, and flags for whether respondents participated in the module (see questions 1-3 for years of data, weights, and module flags).

Part 2: Understand the data

5. How many ATUS respondents were in the survey when the modules were fielded but did not participate?

- a. Well-Being Module: _____
- b. Eating and Health Module: _____

6. Please list the module and number of module respondents in each of the following years:

- a. 2013: _____
- b. 2014: _____

7. Are any ATUS respondents in both the Well-Being Module and the Eating and Health Module? Explain.



8. Do all module respondents provide information about their self-reported health? What does this mean for your analysis?

Part 3: Construct and recode variables for analysis

9. Create a self-reported health variable that excludes missing data (refused, don't know, or not in universe). How many respondents have non-missing information on self-reported health? _____

10. What weight will you use since data come from both the Well-Being and Eating and Health Modules? *Hint:* you may need to create a new variable.

11. Using weights, estimate the average amount of time spent watching television by self-reported health status. Because ATUS has a complex survey design, use the survey commands in your statistical package.

Excellent: _____ Very Good: _____

Good: _____

Fair: _____

Poor: _____

12. ATUS data are cross-sectional. What are the implications of this for the direction of the relationship between health and television watching?



Part 1 Answers: Create an extract that combines Well-Being and Eating and Health Module data from ATUS-X

1. Which years of data should be included in your dataset if you want all Well-Being and Eating and Health Module data? Well-Being: 2010, 2012, 2013; Eating and Health: 2006-2008, 2014-2016
2. Which weights should you include in your extract? *Hint: see exercise 4 to determine which weights you should include.* WBWT and EHWT
3. Which module variables allow you to know whether an ATUS respondent completed the Well-Being or Eating and Health Modules? WB RESP and EH RESP
4. Create an extract that includes Well-Being and Eating and Health Module data and the following variables: BLS_LEIS_TV (TUV), SEX, GENHEALTH, appropriate weights, and flags for whether respondents participated in the module (see questions 1-3 for years of data, weights, and module flags).

Part 2 Answers: Understand the data

5. How many ATUS respondents were in the survey when the modules were fielded but did not participate?
 - a. Well-Being Module: 2522
 - b. Eating and Health Module: 1024
6. Please list the module and number of module respondents in each of the following years:
 - a. 2013: Well-Being Module, 10378
 - b. 2014: Eating and Health Module, 11212
7. Are any ATUS respondents in both the Well-Being Module and the Eating and Health Module? Explain. None because the modules were fielded in different years and ATUS respondents are only ever surveyed one time.



8. Do all module respondents provide information about their self-reported health? What does this mean for your analysis? No, not all module respondents report their health. This means that respondents missing data on health should be omitted from analyses.

Part 3 Answers: Construct and recode variables for analysis

9. Create a self-reported health variable that excludes missing data (refused, don't know, or not in universe). How many respondents have non-missing information on self-reported health? 103648
10. What weight will you use since data come from both the Well-Being and Eating and Health Modules? *Hint: you may need to create a new variable.* Create a new variable that takes the value of WBWT if the respondent participated in the Well-Being Module and takes the value of EHWT if the respondent participated in the Eating and Health Module.
11. Using weights, estimate the average amount of time spent watching television by self-reported health status. Because ATUS has a complex survey design, use the survey commands in your statistical package.
- Excellent: 126.2
Very Good: 149.0
Good: 169.1
Fair: 215.6
Poor: 283.3
12. ATUS data are cross-sectional. What are the implications of this for the direction of the relationship between health and television watching? We must be careful about assuming causality and acknowledge the reciprocal relationship between health and time use. It could be that health influences the way people spend their time and the way people spend their time influences their health.

