Documentation of codes changed for variables BPL, FBPL, and MBPL

In this document:

- Comparability of BPL, FBPL and MBPL in IPUMS-CPS and IPUMS-USA
- Codes changed

Comparability

BPL (Birthplace) indicates whether persons were born in the United States, and, if not, the foreign country where they were born. ATUS information on birthplace was collected during the final CPS interview, 2-5 months before the ATUS interview. Therefore, in August 2013, codes for BPL, FBPL and MBPL changed to be consistent between them and with IPUMS-CPS.

The IPUMS-CPS data on birthplace is recoded using the same BPL codes available in IPUMS-USA (add link), but fewer categories are included in the CPS than in the census. State of birth is supplied by the census but only a general "United States" is given in the CPS and ATUS. Residual categories like "Other Africa" and "Other" are more inclusive in the CPS than in the census.

Codes Changed

Table 1 Codes Changed for Countries

Country	New Codes	Codes Changed			Comments
		BPL	FBPL	MBPL	
Northern Mariana Islands	10750	10600	10600	10600	
Caribbean, n.s.	26091	20690	20690	20690	
Paraguay	30070	Added	Added		
Portugal	43600	Added			
Albania	45675	45710	45710	45710	
Montenegro	45770	45780	45780	45780	
Estonia	46100	Added	46300	46300	
Latvia	46200	46100	46100	46100	
Lithuania	46300	46200	46200	46200	
Moldova	46540			Added	
Mongolia	50300	50030	50030	50030	Mongolia was wrongly coded as part of China as 50300

Nepal	52200			52400	
Iran	53000			52200	Iran was moved from India/Southwest Asia to Middle East region
Cyprus	54300			53100	
Kuwait	54350			53600	
United Arab Emirates	54500			54300	
Guinea	60037	60024	60024	60024	
Ivory Coast	60038	60037	60037	60037	
Togo	60039	60038	60038	60038	
Somalia	60050			60053	
Tanzania	60060			60054	
Uganda	60065			60055	
Zimbabwe	60070			60057	
Zambia	60097	60080	Added	Added	BPL: Zambia was moved from Eastern Africa to Central Africa region
Africa, n.s	60099	60100	60100	60100	
Tonga	71022	71023		71023	
Samoa	71023	Added	Added	Added	
Marshall Islands	71024	71041	71043	71041	
Micronesia	72000	71042	71042	71042	

Table 2 Codes Deleted or Names Changed for Regions *

New Region /IPUMS-CPS Codes	Names Changed / Codes Deleted			Comment
	BPL	FBPL	MBPL	
South America			Deleted	
Former USSR	Russian Empire	Russian Empire	Russian Empire	
Eurasia	Central Asia	Central Asia	India/Southwest Asia	
Central Asia		Added	Added	
Africa		Deleted	Deleted	
Eastern Africa		Added		
Central Africa			Deleted	
Pacific Islands	Polynesia	Polynesia	Polynesia	

Note: Regions are not number coded in IPUMS-CPS so ATUS deleted inconsistent numeric codes for regions. In cases with wrong names or region labels, ATUS changed old names to be consistent with CPS regional names.