

VARIABLES AVAILABLE IN ELDERCARE DATA FILES

RECTYPE Record type

Eldercare registers have value 5, label R

CASEID ATUS case ID

LINENO Line number of eldercare recipient

YEAR Survey year

HH_EC Eldercare recipient is a household member

HH_EC reports whether or not eldercare recipient is a household member.

Eldercare can be provided in either a care facility, such as a nursing home, or in a residential home setting for a household or non-household member.

Users may refer to LINENOR for more information about line number of eldercare recipient. If recipient is a household member, recipient's line number is the same as ATUS person number; if not a household member, recipient's line numbers = new line numbers (last household person number+1).

RELATER Who did you give this care to?

RELATER reports the relationship of eldercare recipients to the ATUS respondent.

In January 2013, response options 264 (Grandmother/Great-grandmother), 265 (Grandfather/Great-grandfather), 260 (other related person), and 300 (Other non-relative specified) were added to RELATER to better match the relationship categories on the household roster (RELATE).

ECAGE Age of eldercare recipient

ECAGE reports the age of the eldercare recipient.

For household members, this is the age on the diary day; for non-household members it is the person's age on the first of the month for the month corresponding to 3 months before the interview. With the age of 65 as a lower bound, activities done for someone under the age of 65 would not be considered eldercare.

ECAGE is top coded to 85. All those age 80 through 84 have ECAGE==80. Those age 85 or above have ECAGE=85.

ELENGTH How long have you provided care to this recipient?

ELENGTH reports how long respondent has provided care to the recipient.

This variable is top coded at "more than 1 year". Therefore, users may refer to ECYEAR to learn specifically about how many years respondents have provided care to the recipients.

ECYEAR How many years have you provided care for this recipient?

ECYEAR reports how many years the respondent has provided care to the eldercare recipient.

This variable only includes respondents who provided more than 1 year of eldercare to recipient. Temporary conditions that do not require ongoing care, such as a broken leg, is excluded from the definition of eldercare.

USING THE ELDERCARE DATA

The ATUS eldercare data are organized hierarchically. That is, for any ATUS respondent, there may be more than one individual to whom he or she has provided care (i.e. care recipient). Each care recipient is listed on a separate record in the data. Care recipients may be linked to ATUS respondents via CASEID and the ATUS person line number, which is always "1" for ATUS respondents.