

# American Time Use Survey (ATUS) Data Dictionary:

## 2004 Survey Methodology Data

### Variables about ATUS

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The American Time Use Survey (ATUS) is sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and conducted by the Census Bureau.

## Important Information about the ATUS Survey Methodology Data Dictionary

### Introduction

The American Time Use Survey (ATUS) is sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and conducted by the Census Bureau. The purpose of this document is to provide information about the variables related to the quality and outcome of the interviews. This data dictionary describes the 2004 Case History file and the 2004 Call History file.

This document lists all the variables available on these two files and their valid values. It also provides directions on how to read the data dictionary. The ATUS User's Guide contains information about the sample selection, survey administration, data collection, and coding process (available on the ATUS website at <http://www.bls.gov/tus/atususersguide.pdf>).

Two additional data dictionaries describe other ATUS public use data files. One describes the 2004 ATUS-CPS file, which contains data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) public use files for persons selected to be surveyed for ATUS and members of their households. (The information on the ATUS-CPS file was collected two to five months before the ATUS interview and in some cases was out of date at the time of the ATUS survey.) The 2004 ATUS interview data dictionary describes the variables available on four files: the Roster file, the Activity file, the Who file, and the Respondent file. These variables are collected and assigned in the ATUS interview. These additional data dictionaries are available on the ATUS website at [http://www.bls.gov/tus/datafiles\\_2004.htm](http://www.bls.gov/tus/datafiles_2004.htm).

### Valid Values

Each variable has a number of valid values or a range of valid values. For example, TUINTDQUAL has two valid values: 1 for "interview should be used" and 2 for "interview should not be used." TUA/VDUR, on the other hand, has a range of valid values – any entry between 0 and 1440 is considered valid. Individual valid values or a range of valid values are listed under most variables in the data dictionary.

Many ATUS variables have the following possible valid values:

Value	Description
-1	Blank
-2	Don't know
-3	Refused

Since so many variables have these possible values, they are not shown as valid entries for each variable.

TUCASEID, the primary identifier for ATUS cases, does not list either valid values or a range of valid values. Also, variables that include both alpha and numeric characters (TUHINTID, TUINTID, TUA\_ID, TUC\_ID, and TUV\_ID) do not list either valid values or a range of valid values.

### 2004 Case History File

This file contains case-specific variables collected in ATUS in 2004 (that is, variables for which there is one value for each person selected to participate in ATUS). These include interviewer identifiers and case level outcome codes. The file also contains two data quality variables, TUINTDQUAL and TUDQUAL2, which were asked after each completed interview and used to assess the interviewer's perception of data quality. The file contains information about persons selected to participate in ATUS, including both those who completed the interview and those who did not. (Since only one person per household is selected to participate in ATUS, TUCASEID in this file identifies an individual.)

There is one record for each ATUS case.

Below is a simplified example. The TUCASEID identifies each ATUS case, so the example contains information from five cases selected to be in the ATUS sample. Each example case has associated variables listing the final outcome code (TUFINALCODE), the total number of reported activities (TUTOTACTNO), the average duration of reported activities (TUAVGDUR), and an interviewer identification number (TUINTID). Note that two of the cases do not report information for TUTOTACTNO and TUAVGDUR; this is because they were noncontacts, as is indicated by the value of TUFINALCODE. The actual ATUS Case History file contains additional variables and many more lines.

TUCASEID	TUFINALCODE	TUTOTACTNO	TUAVGDUR	TUINTID
20040101020210	001	27	42.4	AA01
20040101020211	001	16	90	AA02
20040101020212	118	-1	-1	BB01
20040101020213	118	-1	-1	AA01
20040101020214	001	31	46.5	BB01

**2004 Call History File**

This file contains call-specific variables collected in ATUS in 2004 (that is, variables for which there is one value per interview attempt). These include interviewer identifiers, call level outcome codes, and the date of each call attempt. The file contains information about persons selected to participate in ATUS, including both those who completed the interview and those who did not. (Since only one person per household is selected to participate in ATUS, TUCASEID in this file identifies an individual.)

There is one record for each ATUS call attempt.

Below is a simplified example. The TUCASEID identifies each ATUS case and TUATTMPTNO identifies each call attempt. The example contains information from two cases selected to be in the ATUS sample. The first case (20040101020210) was called twice, and the second call attempt resulted in a complete interview. The second case (20040101020211) was called three times before resulting in a complete interview. An anonymous interviewer identification number (TUHINTID) is associated with each call attempt. In general, the TUHINTID for the final call attempt will match the interviewer identification number for the case (TUINTID) on the Case History file, but not always. In some situations, an ATUS supervisor performs some action on the case after the final interview, causing the TUINTID to be the anonymous identification number of the supervisor rather than the final interviewer.

TUCASEID	TUATTMPTNO	TUATTMDATE	TUOUTCOMECODE	TUHINTID
20040101020210	1	20040102	118	AA01
20040101020210	2	20040102	001	BB01
20040101020211	1	20040103	118	AA02
20040101020211	2	20040103	118	AA01
20040101020211	3	20040110	001	BB01

**ATUS Naming Conventions and Definitions**

ATUS variables are named according to specified rules. All variables on the two survey methodology files begin with "TU," which indicates that the variables were either (1) collected or assigned during the ATUS interview, or (2) computed by the processing system. The remaining characters after the "TU" consist of a descriptive name.

Not all ATUS variables are on the public use files. Some variables are omitted to protect the confidentiality of ATUS respondents as required by law.

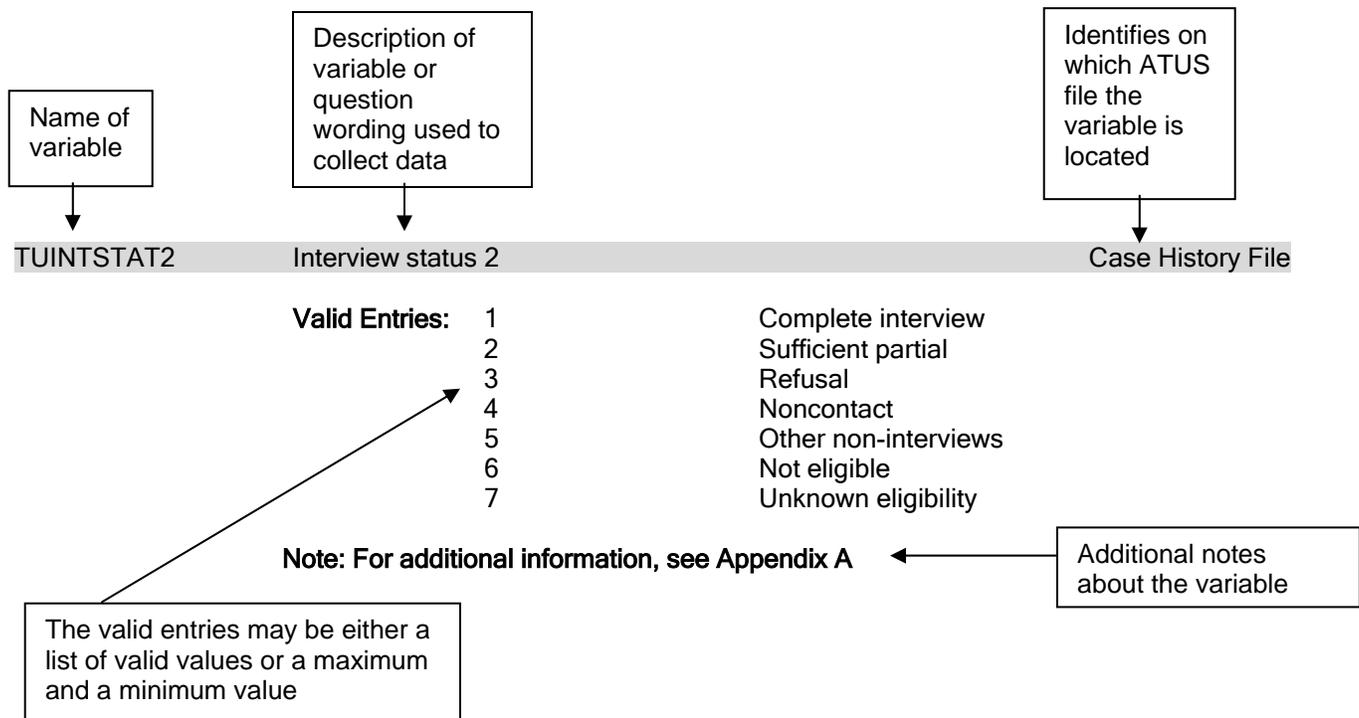
**ATUS Interviewers and Coders**

Four of the variables available on the Case History file and one of the variables on the Call History file are unique anonymous identification numbers: TUHINTID, TUINTID, TUA\_ID, TUC\_ID, and TUV\_ID. Every person who interviews or codes ATUS data is assigned a unique anonymous identification number, and each person can both interview and code. A case is never interviewed and coded by the same person. All cases are coded twice to ensure accuracy and consistency, and those cases that have been coded differently are resolved by an adjudicator. A person's unique identification number is always the same, whether that person is coding, interviewing, or adjudicating.

**Organization of the Survey Methodology Data Dictionary**

Variables are listed in the data dictionary in alphabetical order.

Below is a sample entry from the ATUS survey methodology data dictionary:



### Linking ATUS Public Use Files

Each of the ATUS public use files contains useful information, but in order to produce most estimates, the files must be linked. All of the public use files contain the variables TUCASEID, which is the ATUS identification number. Two other variables that can be used for linking in conjunction with TUCASEID are TULINENO (person line number) and TUACTIONITY\_N (activity line number).

File	Linking Variables
Case History file	TUCASEID
Call History file	TUCASEID
Respondent file	TUCASEID TULINENO (always equal to 1 on the Respondent file)
Roster file	TUCASEID TULINENO
Activity file	TUCASEID TUACTIONITY_N
Who file	TUCASEID TUACTIONITY_N TULINENO
ATUS-CPS file	TUCASEID TULINENO

The ATUS public use files can also be linked to CPS public use files by using variables on the ATUS-CPS file. For more information about linking to the CPS public use files, refer to the 2004 ATUS-CPS data dictionary.

## 2004 ATUS Data Dictionary: Public Survey Methodology Data

<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>File</u>
TUA_ID	Unique anonymous adjudicator ID	Case History File
	* <b>Note:</b> 1st and 2nd digits AA-ZZ, 3rd and 4th digits 00-99. All cases are coded twice. TUA_ID is the identification number of the adjudicator who reviews cases that were coded differently.	
TUATTMDATE	Date of call attempt	Call History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 20031114                      Min Value 20041231                      Max Value	
	* <b>Note:</b> Call attempt date is in YYYYMMDD format.	
TUATTMPTNO	Call attempt number	Call History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 1                      Min Value 999                      Max Value	
TUAVGDUR	Average duration of all reported diary activities (in minutes)	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 0                      Min Value 1440                      Max Value	
TUC_ID	Unique anonymous coder ID	Case History File
	* <b>Note:</b> 1st and 2nd digits AA-ZZ, 3rd and 4th digits 00-99. All cases are coded twice. TUC_ID is the identification number of the first coder.	
TUCASEID	ATUS Case ID (14-digit identifier)	All Files
TUCPSDP	Is the ATUS designated person the same as the CPS respondent?	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 1                      Yes, same person 2                      No, different person	
	* <b>Note:</b> The CPS respondent does not have to be the same for all eight months of CPS. TUCPSDP identifies whether the ATUS designated person is the same as the CPS respondent for the final (month 8) CPS interview.	
TUDQUAL2	Collected from interviewer after interview: why do you think the data should not be used?	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 1                      Respondent intentionally providing wrong answer 2                      Respondent trying to provide correct answer, but could not correctly remember his/her activities 3                      Respondent deliberately reported very long duration activities 4                      Other	
	* <b>Note:</b> The interviewer asked this question if TUINTQUAL = 1	
TUFINALCODE	Final outcome code for each TUCASEID	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 001                      Complete interview 002                      Sufficient partial 014                      Not eligible: designated person underage 015                      Not eligible: designated person not a household member 017                      Not eligible: designated person moved out 018                      Other: designated person absent, ill, or hospitalized 019                      Not eligible: designated person institutionalized 021                      Other: language barrier 022                      Unknown eligibility: unpublished number or non-listed number 023                      Unknown eligibility: incorrect phone number 024                      Not eligible: designated person in Armed Forces 029                      Other: other non-interview	

<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>File</u>
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 100 Not eligible: miscellaneous 104 Other: invalid input 106 Refusal: Congressional case 108 Not eligible: case deleted as sample reduction 109 Refusal: hostile break-off, interview progress achieved 110 Refusal: by parent 111 Refusal: by individual 112 Refusal: by parent/guardian/gatekeeper 113 Unknown eligibility: unproductive call counter 116 Refusal: pre-refusal based on explicit refusal or hostile break-off 118 Noncontact: incomplete callbacks, unable to contact or call back 119 Noncontact: temporarily unavailable, absent, ill, or hospitalized 120 Not eligible: temporarily unavailable, institutionalized 121 Other: unresolved language barrier 123 Unknown eligibility: privacy detectors 124 Noncontact: never contacted, confirmed number 125 Unknown eligibility: never contacted, unconfirmed number 126 Other: instrument error 127 Unknown eligibility: never tried, no telephone number household 130 Refusal: diary contained less than 5 activities 131 Refusal: don't know/refuse equals more than 180 diary minutes 132 Refusal: diary contains less than 5 activities and don't know/refuse equal more than 180 diary minutes 133 Refusal: other data quality issues  <b>* Note:</b> If the ATUS designated respondent is deceased, the case is considered not eligible and is suppressed	
TUHINTID	Unique anonymous ATUS interviewer ID for each call attempt	Call History File
	<b>* Note:</b> 1st and 2nd digits AA-ZZ, 3rd and 4th digits 00-99	
TUINTDQUAL	Collected from interviewer after interview: is there any reason this interview should not be used?	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 1 Yes 2 No	
TUINTID	Unique anonymous ATUS interviewer ID	Case History File
	<b>* Note:</b> 1st and 2nd digits AA-ZZ, 3rd and 4th digits 00-99	
TUINTSTAT1	Interview status 1	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 1 Complete interview or sufficient partial 2 Eligible non-interview (refusal, noncontact, other non-interview) 3 Not eligible 4 Unknown eligibility	
	<b>* Note:</b> This variable is a recode of TUFINALCODE. Definitions are listed in Appendix A.	
TUINTSTAT2	Interview status 2	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b> 1 Complete interview 2 Sufficient partial 3 Refusal 4 Noncontact 5 Other non-interviews 6 Not eligible 7 Unknown eligibility	
	<b>* Note:</b> This variable is a recode of TUFINALCODE. Definitions are listed in Appendix A.	

<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>File</u>
TUOUTCOMECODE	Final outcome code for each call attempt	Call History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b>	
	001 Complete interview	
	002 Sufficient partial	
	014 Not eligible: designated person underage	
	015 Not eligible: designated person not a household member	
	017 Not eligible: designated person moved out	
	018 Other: designated person absent, ill, or hospitalized	
	019 Not eligible: designated person institutionalized	
	021 Other: language barrier	
	022 Unknown eligibility: unpublished number or non-listed number	
	023 Unknown eligibility: incorrect phone number	
	024 Not eligible: designated person in Armed Forces	
	029 Other: other non-interview	
	100 Not eligible: miscellaneous	
	104 Other: invalid input	
	106 Refusal: Congressional case	
	108 Not eligible: case deleted as sample reduction	
	109 Refusal: hostile break-off, interview progress achieved	
	110 Refusal: by parent	
	111 Refusal: by individual	
	112 Refusal: by parent/guardian/gatekeeper	
	113 Unknown eligibility: unproductive call counter	
	115 Sufficient partial, with planned callbacks for more data	
	116 Refusal: pre-refusal based on explicit refusal or hostile break-off	
	118 Noncontact: incomplete callbacks, unable to contact or call back	
	119 Noncontact: temporarily unavailable, absent, ill, or hospitalized	
	120 Noncontact: temporarily unavailable, institutionalized	
	121 Other: unresolved language barrier	
	123 Unknown eligibility: privacy detectors	
	124 Noncontact: never contacted, confirmed number	
	125 Unknown eligibility: never contacted, unconfirmed number	
	126 Other: instrument error	
	127 Unknown eligibility: never tried, no telephone number household	
TUTOTACTNO	Total number of activities reported in diary	Case History File
	<b>Valid Entries:</b>	
	1 Min Value	
	90 Max Value	
TUV_ID	Unique anonymous verifier ID	Case History File
	<b>* Note:</b> 1st and 2nd digits AA-ZZ, 3rd and 4th digits 00-99. All cases are coded twice. TUV_ID is the identification number of the second coder.	

## Appendix A

### TUINSTAT1

<b>TUINSTAT1</b>	<b>TUINSTAT1 Definition</b>	<b>TUFINALCODE Values</b>
1	Complete and sufficient partial	001, 002
2	Eligible non-interview	018, 021, 029, 104, 106, 109, 110, 111, 112, 116, 118, 119, 121, 124, 126, 130, 131, 132, 133
3	Not eligible	014, 015, 017, 019, 024, 100, 108, 120
4	Unknown eligibility	022, 023, 027, 113, 123, 125, 127

### TUINSTAT2

<b>TUINSTAT2</b>	<b>TUINSTAT2 Definition</b>	<b>TUFINALCODE Values</b>
1	Complete	001
2	Sufficient partial	002
3	Refusal	106, 109, 110, 111, 112, 116, 130, 131, 132, 133
4	Noncontact	118, 119, 124
5	Other	018, 021, 029, 104, 121, 126
6	Not eligible	014, 015, 017, 019, 024, 100, 108, 120
7	Unknown eligibility	022, 023, 027, 113, 123, 125, 127