

A. Codebook for the General Social Survey, 2012

The General Social Survey (GSS) is a public opinion poll that has been regularly conducted by the National Opinion Research Council since 1972. A version of the 2012 GSS is available at the Web site for this text and is used in many of the SPSS demonstrations and in end-of-chapter exercises. Our version of the 2012 GSS includes 49 variables for a randomly selected subsample of about 1500 of the original respondents. This codebook lists each item in the data set. The variable names are those used in the data files. The questions have been reproduced exactly as they were asked (with a few exceptions to conserve space), and the numbers beside each response are the scores recorded in the data file.

The data set includes variables that measure demographic or background characteristics of the respondents, including gender, age, race, religion, and several indicators of socioeconomic status. Also included are items that measure opinion on current and controversial topics such as abortion, capital punishment, and homosexuality.

Most variables in the data set have codes for "missing data." These codes are italicized in the listings below for easy identification. The codes refer to various situations in which the respondent does not or cannot answer the question and are excluded from all statistical operations. The codes are: *IAP* (the respondent was not asked the question), *DK* ("Don't know," that is, the respondent didn't have the requested information), and *NA* ("No answer," that is, the respondent refused to answer).

Please tell me if you think it should be possible for a woman to get a legal abortion if . . .

abany

She wants it for any reason.

1. Yes

2. No

0. *IAP*, 8. *DK*, 9. *NA*

abpoor

The family is very low income and can't afford any more children
(Same scoring as *abany*)

age

Age of respondent

18–89. Actual years

99. *NA*

attend	How often do you attend religious services?
	0. Never 1. Less than once per year 2. Once or twice a year 3. Several times per year 4. About once a month 5. 2-3 times a month 6. Nearly every week 7. Every week 8. More than once a week 9. <i>DK or NA</i>
bigbang	The universe began with a huge explosion. Is that true or false?
	1. True 2. False 0. <i>IAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>
cappun	Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?
	3. Favor 4. Oppose 0. <i>IAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>
childs	How many children have you ever had?
	1-7. Actual number 8. Eight or more 9. <i>DK, NA</i>
class	Subjective class identification
	1. Lower class 2. Working class 3. Middle class 4. Upper class 0. <i>IAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>
closeblk	In general, how close do you feel to blacks?
	1. Not at all close 5. Neither one nor the other 9. Very close 0. <i>IAP</i> , 98. <i>DK</i> , 99. <i>NA</i>
degree	Respondent's highest degree
	0. Less than high school 1. High school 2. Assoc./junior college 3. Bachelor's 4. Graduate 7. <i>IAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>
educ	Highest year of school completed
	0-20. Actual number of years 97. <i>IAP</i> , 98. <i>DK</i> , 99. <i>NA</i>
evolved	Human beings, as we know them today, developed from earlier species of animals.
	1. True 2. False 0. <i>IAP</i> , 8. <i>DK</i> , 9. <i>NA</i>

- fear Is there any area right around here—that is, within a mile—where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?
1. Yes
 2. No
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- fechld A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work.
1. Strongly disagree
 2. Disagree
 3. Agree
 4. Strongly agree
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- fefam It is much better for everyone involved if the man is the achiever outside the home and the woman takes care of the home and family.
1. Strongly agree
 2. Agree
 3. Disagree
 4. Strongly disagree
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- getahead Some people say that people get ahead by their own hard work; others say that lucky breaks or help from other people are more important. Which do you think is most important?
1. Hard work more important
 2. Hard work, luck equally important
 3. Luck more important
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- gunlaw Would you favor or oppose a law which would require a person to obtain a police permit before he or she could buy a gun?
1. Favor
 2. Oppose
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- happy Taken all together, how would you say things are these days—would you say that you are very happy, pretty happy, or not too happy?
1. Very happy
 2. Pretty happy
 3. Not too happy
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- hrs1 How many hours did you work last week?
- 1–89. Actual hours
 - 1. IAP, 98. DK, 99. NA

income06

Respondent's total family income from all sources

1. Less than 1000
2. 1000 to 2999
3. 3000 to 3999
4. 4000 to 4999
5. 5000 to 5999
6. 6000 to 6999
7. 7000 to 7999
8. 8000 to 9999
9. 10,000 to 12,499
10. 12,500 to 14,999
11. 15,000 to 17,499
12. 17,500 to 19,999
13. 20,000 to 22,499
14. 22,500 to 24,999
15. 25,000 to 29,999
16. 30,000 to 34,999
17. 35,000 to 39,999
18. 40,000 to 49,999
19. 50,000 to 59,999
20. 60,000 to 74,999
21. 75,000 to 89,999
22. 90,000 to 109,999
23. 110,000 to 129,999
24. 130,000 to 149,999
25. 150,000 or more
98. DK, 99. NA

letdie1

When a person has a disease that cannot be cured, do you think doctors should be allowed by law to end the patient's life by some painless means if the patient and his family request it?

1. Yes
2. No
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

letin1

Do you think the number of immigrants to America nowadays should be:

1. Increased a lot
2. Increased a little
3. Remain the same as it is
4. Reduced a little
5. Reduced a lot
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

marhomo

Homosexual couples should have the right to marry one another.

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Neither agree nor disagree
4. Disagree
5. Strongly disagree
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

marital

Are you currently married, widowed, divorced, separated, or have you never been married?

1. Married
2. Widowed
3. Divorced
4. Separated
5. Never married
9. NA

- news How often do you read the newspaper?
1. Every day
 2. A few times a week
 3. Once a week
 4. Less than once a week
 5. Never
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- obey How important is it for a child to learn obedience to prepare him or her for life?
1. Most important
 2. 2nd most important
 3. 3rd most important
 4. 4th most important
 5. Least important
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- paeduc Father's highest year of school completed
- 0-20. Actual number of years
97. IAP, 98. DK, 99. NA
- parsol Compared to your parents when they were the age you are now, do you think your own standard of living now is much better, somewhat better, about the same, somewhat worse, or much worse than theirs was?
1. Much better
 2. Somewhat better
 3. About the same
 4. Somewhat worse
 5. Much worse
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- partnrs5 How many sex partners have you had over the past five years?
- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 0. No partners | 1. 1 partner |
| 2. 2 partners | 3. 3 partners |
| 4. 4 partners | 5. 5-10 partners |
| 6. 11-20 partners | 7. 21-100 partners |
| 8. More than 100 partners | |
| 9. 1 or more, don't know the number, 95. Several, 98. DK, 99. NA, -1. IAP | |
- pillok Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that methods of birth control should be available to teenagers between the ages of 14 and 16 if their parents do not approve?
1. Strongly agree
 2. Agree
 3. Disagree
 4. Strongly disagree
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

polviews

I'm going to show you a seven-point scale on which the political views that people might hold are arranged from extremely liberal to extremely conservative. Where would you place yourself on this scale?

1. Extremely liberal
2. Liberal
3. Slightly liberal
4. Moderate
5. Slightly conservative
6. Conservative
7. Extremely conservative
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

postlife

Do you believe there is life after death?

1. Yes
2. No
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

pray

About how often do you pray?

1. Several times a day
2. Once a day
3. Several times a week
4. Once a week
5. Less than once a week
6. Never
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

premarsx

There's been a lot of discussion about the way morals and attitudes about sex are changing in this country. If a man and a woman have sex relations before marriage, do you think it is always wrong, almost always wrong, wrong only sometimes, or not wrong at all?

1. Always wrong
2. Almost always wrong
3. Wrong only sometimes
4. Not wrong at all
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

pres08

In 2008, did you vote for Obama (the Democratic candidate) or McCain (the Republican candidate)? (Includes only those who said they voted in this election.)

1. Obama
2. McCain
3. Other, 6. No presidential vote, 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

racecen1

Race or ethnicity of respondent

1. White
2. Black
- *3. American Indian or Alaska Native
4. Asian American or Pacific Islander
5. Hispanic
0. IAP, 98. DK

- rank In our society there are groups which tend to be towards the top and those that are towards the bottom. Here we have a scale that runs from top to bottom. Where would you put yourself on this scale?
1. Top
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - 8.
 - 9.
 10. Bottom
0. IAP, 98. DK, 99. NA
- region Region of interview
1. New England (ME, VT, NH, MA, CT, RI)
 2. Mid-Atlantic (NY, NJ, PA)
 3. East North Central (WI, IL, IN, MI, OH)
 4. West North Central (MN, IA, MO, ND, SD, NE, KS)
 5. South Atlantic (DE, MD, WV, VA, NC, SC, GA, FL, DC)
 6. East South Central (KY, TN, AL, MS)
 7. West South Central (AK, OK, LA, TX)
 8. Mountain (MT, ID, WY, NV, UT, CO, AR, NM)
 9. Pacific (WA, OR, CA, AL, HI)
- relig What is your religious preference? Is it Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, some other religion, or no religion?
1. Protestant
 2. Catholic
 3. Jewish
 4. None
 5. Other
 8. DK, 9. NA
- satjob On the whole, how satisfied are you with the work you do? (Asked of those currently working or keeping house.)
1. Very satisfied
 2. Moderately satisfied
 3. A little dissatisfied
 4. Very dissatisfied
 0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA
- sex Respondent's gender
1. Male
 2. Female
- sexfreq About how many times did you have sex during the last 12 months?
0. Not at all
 1. Once or twice
 2. About once a month
 3. 2 or 3 times a month
 4. About once a week
 5. 2 or 3 times a week
 6. More than 3 times a week
 - 1. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

spanking

Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree that it is sometimes necessary to discipline a child with a good, hard spanking?

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Disagree
4. Strongly disagree
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

spkmslm

There are always some people whose ideas are considered bad or dangerous by other people. Consider a Muslim clergyman who preached hatred of the United States . . . should he be allowed to speak or not?

1. Yes, allowed
2. Not allowed
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

thnkself

How important is it for a child to learn to think for himself or herself to prepare him or her for life?

1. Most important
2. 2nd most important
3. 3rd most important
4. 4th most important
5. Least important
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

trust

Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

1. Can be trusted
2. Can't be trusted
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

tvhours

On the average day, about how many hours do you personally watch television?

- 00-24. Actual hours
- 1. IAP, 98. DK, 99. NA

wwwhr

Not counting e-mail, about how many hours per week do you use the Web?

- 0-120. Actual hours
- 1. IAP, 998. DK, 999. NA

xmarsex

What is your opinion about a married person having sexual relations with someone other than the marriage partner?

1. Always wrong
2. Almost always wrong
3. Wrong only sometimes
4. Not wrong at all
0. IAP, 8. DK, 9. NA

B. Codebook for States Database

AbortRate	Number of legal abortions per 1000 women, 2008
Asian	Percentage of the population Asian, 2010
Asslt10	Number of assaults per 100,000 population, 2010
BirthRate	Number of births per 1000 population, 2009
Black	Percentage of the population black, 2010
Burg10	Number of burglaries per 100,000 population, 2010
Carthft10	Number of car thefts per 100,000 population, 2010
College	Percentage of the population with a bachelor's degree or more
CommTime	Average travel time to work, 2009
CopSpend	Spending on police per capita, 2007
DeathRate	Number of deaths per 1000 population, 2009
DivRateWmn	Divorce rate per 1000 women, 2009
edspend	Spending on education K-12 per pupil
FamPoor00	Percentage of families below the poverty line in 2000
FamPoor09	Percentage of families below the poverty line in 2009
ForBorn	Percentage of the population foreign-born, 2009
Hispanic	Percentage of the population Hispanic, 2009
Hom10	Number of homicides per 100,000 population, 2010
Hom95	Number of homicides per 100,000 population, 1995
HS	Percentage of the population with a high school degree or more 2009
InfantMort	Deaths of infants age 0-1 per 1000 live births, 2007
Internet	Percentage of households using the Internet, 2010
Larc10	Number of larcenies per 100,000 population, 2010
MarRateWmn	Number of marriages per 1000 women, 2009
MdHHInc	Median household income, 2009
Older	Percentage of the population 65 years of age or older, 2010
PopDense	Number of people per square mile, 2010
PopGrow	Population growth rate, 2000-2010
PopRank	Rank of population size, 2010
Rape10	Number of rapes per 100,000 population, 2010
Robb10	Number of robberies per 100,000 population, 2010
State	Name of state
SthDUMMY	South (0)/Non-South (1)

TeenBirths	Percentage of births to teenage mothers, 2009
TrafDths09	Traffic fatalities per 100 million miles driven, 2009
TrafDths90	Traffic fatalities per 100 million miles driven, 1990
Unemplmnt	Unemployment rate, 2012
Voters	Percentage of the population voting for president, 2008
White	Percentage of the population white, 2010
WmnRep	Percentage of women in the state legislature, 2010
Younger	Percentage of the population 18 and younger, 2010

C. CODEBOOK FOR INTERNATIONAL POPULATION (*Intl-POP*) DATABASE

BirthRate	Number of births per 1000 population, 2012
CellPhones	Subscribers per 100 population
DepRatio70	Dependency ratio, 1970: Number of people younger than 15 and older than 65 as a ratio to people between 15 and 65
DepRatio10	Dependency ratio, 2010 (see DepRatio70 for definition)
DthRate	Number of deaths per 1000 population, 2012
GESecondary	Gender equality at the secondary level of education: Ratio of females to males
GNicap	Gross national income per capita
IncLevel	Income level (World Bank classification), 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low income 2. Lower middle income 3. Upper middle income 4. High income
IncomeIneq	Income inequality (GINI index): Higher scores = more inequality in the distribution of income
INFM	Infant mortality rate: Death rate for ages 0–1, 2012
LEMen	Life expectancy at birth for men, 2012
LEWomen	Life expectancy at birth for women, 2012
LifeExp	Overall life expectancy at birth, 2012
LOD	Level of development: Collapsed income level <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low income 2. Middle income 3. High income

Migrate	Net migration rate per 1000 population, 2012
Nation	Name of nation
PctPopOld	Percentage of population older than 65
PctPopYng	Percentage of population younger than 15
Popgro	Projected 2050 population as a multiple of 2012 population. For example, a score of 2 on this variable means that the population is projected to double by 2050.
Region	Region of the world <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. East Asia and the Pacific 2. Eastern Europe and Central Asia 3. Latin America and the Caribbean 4. Middle East and North Africa 5. South Asia 6. Sub-Saharan Africa 7. Western Europe 8. North America 9. Oceania
Religiosity	Percentage of the population who agree that "religion is an important part of everyday life."
Rights	Civil and political rights <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free 2. 3. Partly free 4. 5. 6. Not free
TFR	Total fertility rate: Average number of children a woman has in her lifetime
Urban	Percentage of the population living in urban areas

D. CODEBOOK FOR STATE CRIME TRENDS (CRIMETRENDS84-10) DATABASE

AggAssault	Number of aggravated assaults per 100,000 population
Burglary	Number of burglaries per 100,000 population
CarTheft	Number of auto thefts per 100,000 population
Homicide	Number of homicides per 100,000 population
Robbery	Number of robberies per 100,000 population
Year	Years from 1984 to 2010