

Variable Definitions, march_cps_males.dta and march_cps_females.dta

Variable name	Definition
year	Year of survey, 1976 through 2010
age	Age in years
college_grad	=1 if a college graduate, =0 high school graduate
race4	=1 if white, non-Hispanic, =2 if black non-Hispanic, =3 if other race, non-Hispanic, =4 is Hispanic
veteran	=1 if a veteran
marital_status	=1 if married, =2 if divorced or separated, =3 if a widow, =4 if never married
wkswork1	Weeks worked in the previous year
uhrswork	Usual hours of worked per week in the previous year
weekly_earn	Usual weekly earnings in the previous year
hourly_wage	Average hourly wage (weekly earnings/usual hours per week)

The Current Population Survey is a monthly survey of 60,000 households. The results from this survey are used to document the current state of the labor market such as the monthly unemployment rate. In March of each year, the CPS conducts the “Annual Demographic Survey” which asks detailed questions about last year’s employment, health insurance status, etc. I have constructed a data set from the 1976-2010 March CPS for full time (30 or more hours per week) full year (40 or more weeks per year) workers aged 23-49. The two earnings variables are weekly earnings and an hourly wage. The data set contains only two education groups: those with a high school or a college degree.