

**Variable Definitions, teen\_employment\_1990\_2013.dta**  
**For more information about the March CPS, see <https://cps.ipums.org/cps/>**

The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly survey of labor market outcomes. For example, it is the survey that generates the monthly unemployment rate. Along with the basic monthly survey, most months have special supplements where more detailed questions on particular topics are addressed. Each March, survey participants also answer the “Annual Social and Employment Supplement” which asks questions about labor market outcomes in the previous year. This is the data set that is used to calculate poverty rates for the US. This data has been harmonized by the IPUMS project and downloadable at ipums.org. One can use data from all months of the CPS but because the March CPS data has been harmonized over many years, I use it mainly for convenience for this project. Some of the variables in the survey include questions about whether the respondent is currently employed, how many hours/week does someone work, and what industry are they employed. I have taken questions that measure employment as of March of the year of the survey. Data has been aggregated to the state/year cell and the key variables are the fraction of teens aged 16-19 that are employed as of March. I have downloaded data from 1990-2013 (24 years) for 50 states and DC for a total of  $24 \times 51 = 1224$  observations. I have added to this data set two variables. One is the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as of March of the year as well as the minimum wage that was in effect at the state level in a particular year. The CPI data is available from The St Louis Fed (<https://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/>) and the nominal minimum wage data was taken from Neumark, Salas and Wascher (<https://sites.google.com/site/jmisalas/data-and-code>). Make sure to turn the minimum wage into a the real minimum wage for your econometric work.

Variable	Definition
<i>Employment variables</i>	
employed	Fraction of teens aged 16-19 that are employed
workpt	Fraction of teens aged 16-19 that are employed part time (< 30 hours/week)
workft	Fraction of teens aged 16-19 that are employed full time ( $\geq$ 30 hours/week)
emp_retail	Fraction of teens aged 16-19 that are employed in the retail sector
emp_retailft	Fraction of teens aged 16-19 that are employed full time in the retail sector
emp_retailpt	Fraction of teens aged 16-19 that are employed part time in the retail sector
emp_rest	Fraction of teens 16-19 that are employed in the restaurant sector
emp_restft	Fraction of teens 16-19 that are employed full time in the restaurant sector
emp_restpt	Fraction of teens 16-19 that are employed part time in the restaurant sector
inschool	Fraction of teens aged 1-19 that are enrolled in school
 <i>Each of the variables above are calculated for sex different subgroups: those 16-17, 18-19, males, females, white non-Hispanics, and minorities. The letters at the end of the variable identify the group. Therefore employedf is the variable employed for females (fraction of females aged 16-19 that are employed) while employedm is the same variable for males.</i>	
 Variables that end in	
f	Are for females
m	Are for males
1617	Are for those aged 16-17
1819	Are for those aged 18-19
w	Are for white, non-Hispanics
min	Are for minorities (e.g., people who are not white, non-Hispanic).
 <i>Other variable</i>	
state	State FIPS code, numeric variable, 1-56, for each state. Check here <a href="http://www.columbia.edu/~sue/state-fips.html">http://www.columbia.edu/~sue/state-fips.html</a>
year	Survey year
cpi	The Consumer Price Index in March where 1982-1984=100
minwage	The nominal minimum wage in effect in March of the state and year