Technical Definitions and Sample Specifications

Definitions

1. **All indicators are based on children living with at least one parent**, that is, children with a mother or father (or both) in the home. Parents include biological, step or adoptive mothers or fathers. The opposite-sex cohabiting partner of a parent is included as a 'father' or 'mother' for the purposes of these indicators. All information about parents pertains only to parents living in the child's home.

2. **Children in immigrant families are foreign-born or have at least one foreign-born parent in the home.** Children are classified as first generation if they are foreign born, or as second generation if they are U.S.-born and a parent is foreign-born. The country of origin classification is based on the child's country of birth if the child is foreign born. If the child is U.S.-born, the classification is based on the mother's country of birth if the mother is foreign-born, otherwise it is based on the father's foreign country of birth. Caribbean, English speaking includes all islands where English is the primary language, except Jamaica which is report separately. Other West Asia includes Cyprus, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Turkey, and Yemen, PDR (South). The classification of Hmong is based on ancestry/ethnicity question in Census 2000, and takes priority over country of birth.

3. **Children in native-born families** are U.S.-born with all parents in the home U.S.-born. These children are sometimes referred to as being third and later generation. Children of Puerto Rican origin may be in one of two groups within native-born families. Children born on the island of Puerto Rico or who have a parent in the home that was born on the island of Puerto Rico are classified as Puerto Rican, island-origin. Otherwise Puerto Rican children are classified as Puerto Rican, mainland origin. For children identified with multiple race/ethnic categories, the priority of assignment is: Hispanic/Latino origin, Black, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, American Indian, and White.

Sample

All results are calculated by Donald J. Hernandez, Nancy A. Denton, and Suzanne E. Macartney from the Census 2000 5% IPUMS microdata sample created by Steven Ruggles, Matthew Sobek, Trent Alexander, Catherine A. Fitch, Ronald Goeken, Patricia Kelly Hall, Miriam King, and Chad Ronnander. *Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Version 3.0* [Machine-readable database]. Minneapolis, MN: Minnesota Population Center [producer and distributor], 2004. The URL for the IPUMS site: http://usa.ipums.org/usa/. All estimates are weighted to represent the populations indicated as of 2000 for the U.S., that is, for persons living in the 50 states or the District of Columbia.

Estimates for Tables 1-12

All Tables

1. **The denominator for each indicator**, unless otherwise noted, is all children in the indicated age range with at least one parent in the home.

2. **Children are the unit of analysis for all indicators.** But because children are embedded in families, the sample size criterion for most specific table cells is based on the number of independent nuclear family observations. A nuclear family observation consists of one or more children and their parent(s). Except as noted below in this section, if there are less than 89 nuclear families in the sample for a given estimate, the number of independent observations for the denominator was deemed too small to sustain a reliable estimate and is not reported in the table.

Translated into weighted **n's**, this sample criterion represents 1,780 families (1 in 5 sample, 89 * 20 = 1780).

Some estimates in the data tables are specifically about characteristics or circumstances of mothers or fathers. In this case, the sample size criterion for reliable estimates is based on the number of mothers or the number of fathers in the sample. For example, 'Mother is a high school graduate' is shown in a table cell if at least 89 mother cases are in the sample for the denominator of the estimate for that table cell.

Some indicators pertain specifically to children themselves, that is, the value for the indicator is not necessarily shared with siblings. For estimates based on child's own characteristics, for example, 'Child is potentially bilingual', the sample size criterion is based on the number of individual child observations. At least 89 child observations must be available for the denominator of the indicator for that table cell.

3. **Double dashes (--) occupying a table cell** indicate the underlying sample size (of nuclear families, mothers, fathers, children, or children in a specified age group, etc.) is too small to sustain a reliable estimate.

4. **Comparisons between two small groups of children** require a difference of approximately 12 percentage points to be statistically significantly different from zero with a .05 level of confidence.

Table 1. Percent and Number of Children Ages 0-17, by Immigrant Country or Race-Ethnic Origin

1. Weighted sample estimates are presented. A single dash (-) occupying a cell indicates zero.

Table 2. Family Composition in the Home

1. The minimum sample size criterion for publication of estimates is based on the number of nuclear families.

2. Other adult relatives include all relatives ages 18 or more who are not the child, the child's parent, the child's sibling, or the child's grandparent.

3. The 'responsible grandparent' indicator is based on the following question in Census 2000: "Is this grandparent currently responsible for most of the basic needs of any grandchild(ren) under the age of 18 who live(s) in this house or apartment?"

Table 3. Family Mobility and Immigrant Situation

1. 'Parents in the home foreign-born' refers to one parent in a single-parent family or both parents in a two-parent family.

2. For 'Child moved in the past 5 years', sample size criterion is based on the number of child observations for children ages 5 to 17 years.

Table 4. Limited English Proficiency

1. Persons are classified as English-fluent if they speak English exclusively or very well. Otherwise they are classified as Limited English Proficient (LEP).

2. For 'Child English-fluent and speaks another language at home' and 'Child Limited English Proficient (LEP)', sample size criteria are based on the number of child observations for children ages 5 to 17 years.

3. For 'Child LEP and father LEP' the sample size criterion is based on the number of father observations in which fathers have at least one child age 5-17 years. For 'Child LEP and mother LEP' the sample size criterion is based on the number of mother observations in which mothers have at least one child age 5-17 years.

4. For 'Father LEP' sample size criterion is based on the number of father observations. For 'Mother LEP' sample size criterion is based on the number of mother observations.

5. For 'Both father and mother Limited English Proficient', the denominator is children in two-parent families and sample size criterion is based on the number of two-parent families.

6. For 'Linguistically Isolated Household', a household consists of all people who occupy a housing unit, regardless of their relationship.

Table 5. Parental Education

1. Sample size criterion for reporting estimates is based on the number of father observations for all indicators of father's educational attainment, and based on mother observations for all indicators of mother's educational attainment.

2. Father or mother "college grad" includes those with at least a bachelor's degree.

Table 6. (Part 1 of 4) Parental Employment

1. Sample size criterion for reporting estimates is based on the number of father observations for all indicators of father's employment, and based on mothers for all indicators of mother's employment.

Table 6. (Part 2 of 4) Parental Employment

1. The sample size criterion for reporting estimates is based on the number of nuclear families.

Table 6. (Part 3 of 4) Parental Employment

1. Headings specify the denominator, i.e. children in one-parent families or all children.

2. For estimates under the heading, 'Percent of children in one-parent families with:', sample size criterion is the number of one-parent families. For indicators 'Father works more than full-time', 'Mother works more than full-time', and 'Two-parents work more than full-time' the sample size criterion is based on the number of nuclear families.

Table 6. (Part 4 of 4) Parental Employment

1. Subheadings specify the denominators, i.e. children with father H.S. grad, or children with father not H.S. grad, etc.

2. For indicators under the heading 'Fathers Employed Full-Time' the sample size criterion is based on fathers.

3. For indicators under the heading 'Mothers employed full-time' the sample size criterion is based on mothers.

4. Persons are classified as English-fluent if they speak English exclusively or very well. Otherwise they are classified as Limited English Proficient (LEP).

Table 7. Parental and Other Household Member Earnings

1.   A household consists of all people who occupy a housing unit, regardless of their relationship.

2.   For 'Fathers below 100% of minimum wage' and 'Fathers 100% to below 200% minimum wage' the sample size criterion is based on the number of employed fathers.

3.   For 'Mothers below 100% of minimum wage' and 'Mothers 100% to below 200% minimum wage' the sample size criterion is based on number of employed mothers.

4.   For 'Teens ages 15-17 earning $2,500+ per year' the denominator and sample size criterion is based on the number of children ages 15 to 17 years.

Table 8. (All) Poverty

1.   For a detailed discussion of the basic budget poverty measure compared to the official U.S poverty measure, see the following citation: Donald J. Hernandez, Nancy A. Denton, and Suzanne E. Macartney "Child Poverty in the U.S.: A New Family Budget Approach with Comparison to European Countries". In Helmut Wintersberger, Leena Alanen, Thomas Olk, and Jens Qvortrup (eds.) *Children's Economic and Social Welfare.* Odense: University Press of Southern Denmark (forthcoming in 2007). For additional discussion and results of the official poverty measure see the U.S. Census Bureau website at www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/poverty.html.

Table 8. (Part 1 of 6) Poverty

1.   Basic Budget Poverty is an alternative poverty measure based on costs for a decent standard of living including food, housing, other necessities, transportation to work, child care and health insurance.

Table 8. (Part 2 of 6) Poverty

1.   Subheadings specify the denominators, i.e. children with fathers completing 0-8 years of school, or children with fathers not H.S. graduates.

2.   For 'Children with father 0-8 years of school' the sample size criterion is based on the fathers who completed 0-8 years of school.

3.   For 'Children with father not HS grad' the sample size criterion is based on the fathers without a high school degree.

4.   For 'Children with father HS grad or more education' the sample size criterion is based on the fathers with a high school degree or more education.

Table 8. (Part 3 of 6) Poverty

1.   Subheadings specify the denominators, i.e. children with fathers working full-time, or children with both parents working full-time, etc.

2.   For 'Children with father working full-time' the sample size criterion is based on the number of fathers employed full-time.

3.   For 'Children with both parents working full-time' the sample size criterion is based on the number of two-parent families in which both parents work full-time.

4.   'For Children with parent(s) in U.S. less than 10 years, the sample size criterion is based on the number of mothers or fathers in U.S. less than 10 years.

Table 8. (Part 4 of 6) Poverty

1.   Subheadings specify the denominators, i.e. children with fathers English fluent, or children with fathers Limited English Proficient (LEP), etc.

2.   For 'Children with fathers English fluent' the sample size criterion is based on the fathers who are English fluent.

3.   For 'Children with fathers Limited English Proficient' the sample size criterion is based on the fathers who are Limited English Proficient.

4.   For 'Children in Linguistically Isolated Households' or 'Children not in Linguistically Isolated Households' the sample size criterion is based on the number of household observations fitting each description.

Table 8. (Part 5 of 6) Poverty

1.   Headings specify the denominators, i.e. For Officially Poor children or For children Not Officially Poor.

2.   Under the heading 'For Officially Poor children' the sample size criterion for each indicator is based on the number of nuclear families in official poverty. The exception is 'Child moved in past 5 years'. In this case the sample size criterion is based on the number of child observations for children ages 5 to 17 years who are officially poor.

3.   Under the heading 'For children not Officially Poor' the sample size criterion for each indicator is based on the number of nuclear families not in official poverty. The exception is 'Child moved in past 5 years'. In this case the sample size criterion is based on the number of child observations for children ages 5 to 17 years who are not officially poor.

Table 8. (Part 6 of 6) Poverty

1.   Headings specify the denominators, i.e. For Basic Budget Poor children or For children Not Basic Budget Poor.

2.   Under the heading 'For Basic Budget Poor children' the sample size criterion for each indicator is based on the number of nuclear families in Basic Budget poverty. The exception is 'Child moved in past 5 years'. In this case the sample size criterion is based on the number of child observations for children ages 5 to 17 years who are Basic Budget poor.

3.   Under the heading 'For children not Basic Budget Poor' the sample size criterion for each indicator is based on the number of nuclear families not in Basic Budget poverty. The exception is 'Child moved in past 5 years'. In this case the sample size criterion is based on the number of child observations for children ages 5 to 17 years who are not Basic Budget poor.

4.   Housing 'costs' included in this calculation are the sum of mortgage, rent, property taxes, property insurance and utility costs. Utilities include electricity, gas, fuel and water, but not the cost of maintenance, telephone, or television service.

Table 9.

1.   Housing 'costs' included in this calculation are the sum of mortgage, rent, property taxes, property insurance and utility costs. Utilities include electricity, gas, fuel and water, but not the cost of maintenance, telephone, or television service.

Table 10. Enrollment in Pre-K/Nursery School, Kindergarten, Grade School or Any School

1.   Subheadings specify the denominators, i.e. Age 3, Age 4, or Age 5.

2.   For enrollment in pre-k/nursery school, sample size criteria are based on the number of child observations for the year of age indicated. For example, enrollment in pre-k/nursery school at age 3 is reported if at least 89 three year-old children are in the sample for a particular table cell.

Table 11. Number Enrolled in Pre-K/Nursery School, Kindergarten, Grade School or Any School

1.   Weighted sample estimates are presented. A single dash (-) occupying a cell indicates zero.