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How Does the Dramatic Rise of CPS Nonresponse Impact Labor Market Indicators?

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README

Data Availability

Raw files of the Current Population Survey (CPS) from Census are available for download from the National Bureau of Economic Research website: https://data.nber.org/cps-basic2/raw/

- The following files for this paper were downloaded on February 18, 2021:
    - cpsb199401.raw through cpsb202009.raw
- The following samples for this paper were downloaded on September 5, 2022:
    - cpsb202010.raw through cpsb202107.raw

Computational Requirements

Required Programs

- Stata (code was last run on version 18.0)

Descriptions of Programs

- The STATA program that calls all other scripts is main.do
- The STATA programs that main.do calls are found in /Stata-Code/ :
    - CPS_Extract.do extracts the variables we use from the raw cpsb files
    - aggregate_response_rates.do computes times series of CPS (non)response rates
    - mis_seperate_prepare.do generates files of all households of a particular MIS
    - eight_panel_generate.do generates a panel of matched individuals
    - eight_panel_generate_hh.do generates a panel of matched households
    - TimeSeriesPartial_vs_NeverResponse.do produces Figure 2
    - Attrition and LF status by MIS.do computes values for Table 1
    - flows_and_corrections1.do estimates labor force flow rates to fill in nonresponse
    - flows_and_corrections2.do produces the Flows Corrections
    - flows_and_corrections3.do produces the Flows Correction & Reweighting
    - Recreating_BLS_Weights.do accounts for BLS weights and produces Figure 4
    - flows_output_generation.do produces Figure 3
- The STATA programs called by are in Stata-Code/Function-Scripts/
    - flows2_flows_corr.do does actual flows corrections for flows_corrections2.do
    - flows3_flows_rw_corr.do does the actual adjustments for flows_corrections3.do

Memory and Runtime Requirements

The code was last run on a 4-core Intel i7 based desktop with 64 GB of memory, running MacOS version 12.7.1

Instructions

List of Steps

1. Download all files in /Stata-Code/ and /Stata-Code/Function-Scripts/, keeping the folder structure intact. Create a /Data/ and /Graphs/ folder at the same level as /Stata-Code/.

2. Download cpsb199401.raw through cpsb202107.raw from the NBER (https://data.nber.org/cps-basic2/raw/) and put in the /Data/ folder.

3. Open main.do and run.
    - This program takes 82 minutes (on the above machine) to run.

4. Open /Graphs/ to find .eps files of Figure 1 – 4 from the paper.

Sequential List of Figures, Tables, and Programs

Figure/ Table	Program	Intermediate Outputs	Final Outputs
Figure 1	aggregate_response_rates.do	aggregate_national_nonresponse.dta, aggregate_national_typea.dta,	Motivation.eps
Figure 2	TimeSeriesPartial_vs_NeverResponse.do	None	Share_Match_unMatch.eps
Figure 3	flows_output_generation.do	Corrections_LF.gph Corrections_EP.gph Corrections_U.gph	MainFigs_combined.eps
Figure 4	Recreating_BLS_Weights.do	BLSWeightsFilled.dta DemAdjCorr_LF.gph DemAdjCorr_EP.gph DemAdjCorr_U.gph	Fig4_combined.eps
Table 1	Attrition and LF status by MIS.do	None	Generates values for Table 1

Acknowledgements

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