

Detailed Description of Making Connections Harmonized Datasets - Last updated 3/28/13

#	Dataset	File Name	Description	Inferential population	Inclusion Criteria	N	Sampling Weight	Notes	Longitudinal or Cross-Sectional
1	W1W2W3 Panel of All Households	file1_w1w2w3HH	All survey eligible households that completed an interview in all three waves. Such households either lived in the same housing unit in all three waves or were out-movers and were interviewed at their new units in wave 2 or at wave 3. Note that we did not follow movers without children at any wave, and so they cannot be part of the panel.	Households within the survey neighborhood at wave 1, with two exceptions: (1) adult-only households that moved after wave 1 or 2 and (2) households with children that moved <i>and</i> in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2 or 3. ^a	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123a ne .	1,892	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123a	1. Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households (MOVEID ^b =4) at waves 2 and 3.	Longitudinal
2	W1W2W3 Panel of Households with Children ^c	file2_w1w2w3HHwCHLD	A subset of File #1, this includes all survey eligible households with children at wave 1 and wave 2 and still have children at wave 3 and completed interviews at all three waves. Members of this subgroup can have stayed or moved with different combinations across all three waves, as long as they have completed interviews and report having children at all three waves.	Households with children within the survey neighborhood at wave 1, with one exception: households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2 or 3.	where WAVE_1_2_3_CHILD_PANEL eq 1 and WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123a ne .	1,120	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123a	1.Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households at waves 2 and 3.	Longitudinal
3	W1W2 Panel of All Households	file3_w1w2HH	All survey eligible households that completed an interview in waves 1 and 2 (and perhaps also wave 3). Such households either lived in the same housing unit in both waves or were out-movers and were interviewed at their new units in wave 2. Note that we did not follow movers without children at any wave, and so they cannot be part of the panel.	Households within the survey neighborhood at wave 1, with two exceptions: (1) adult-only households that moved after wave 1 and (2) households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12 ne .	3,716	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12	1. Excludes new households at wave 2. 2. Variables from wave 3 are omitted.	Longitudinal

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4	W1W2 Panel of Households with Children ^d	file4_w1w2HHwCHLD	A subset of File #3, this includes all survey eligible households with children at wave 1 that still have children at wave 2 and completed interviews at both waves (and may nor may not have been interviewed in wave 3). Members of this subgroup can have stayed or moved at wave 2, as long as they have completed interviews and report having children in both waves.	Households with children within the survey neighborhood at wave 1, with one exception: households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12 ne . and WAVE_1_2_CHILD_PANEL eq 1	2,233	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12	1. Excludes new households at wave 2. 2. Variables from wave 3 are omitted.	Longitudinal
5	W2W3 Panel of All Households	file5_w2w3HH	All survey eligible households that completed an interview in waves 2 and 3 (and perhaps also in wave 1). Such households either lived in the same housing unit in both waves or were out-movers and were interviewed at their new units in wave 3. Note that we did not follow movers without children at any wave, and so they cannot be part of the panel. Also note that movers at wave 2 are excluded.	Households within the survey neighborhood at wave 2, with two exceptions: (1) adult-only households that moved after wave 2 and (2) households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 3.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23a ne .	2,982	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23a	1. Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households at wave 3. 3. Variables from wave 1 are omitted.	Longitudinal
6	W2W3 Panel of Households with Children ⁴	file6_w2w3HHwCHLD	A subset of File #5, this includes all survey eligible households with children at wave 2 that still have children at wave 3 and completed interviews at both waves (and perhaps also in wave 1). Members of this subgroup can have stayed or moved at wave 3, as long as they have completed interviews and report having children in both waves. Also note that movers at wave 2 are excluded.	Households with children within the survey neighborhood at wave 2, with one exception: households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 3.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23A ne . and WAVE_2_3_CHILD_PANEL eq 1	1,619	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23a	1. Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households at wave 3. 3. Variables from wave 1 are omitted.	Longitudinal
7	W1W2W3 Panel of All Households in MC Neighborhoods	file7_w1w2w3HHinNeigh	All survey eligible households that completed an interview in all three waves and remained in the survey neighborhood. Such households either lived in the same housing unit in all three waves or were out-movers and were interviewed at their new units that were within the survey neighborhood boundaries in wave 2 and/or at wave 3. Note that we did not follow movers without children at any wave, and so they cannot be part of the panel.	Households in the survey neighborhood as of wave 1 that remained in the neighborhood for waves 2 and 3, with two exceptions: (1) adult-only households that moved after wave 1 and (2) households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2 or 3.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123a ne . and WAVE_1_2_3_NEIGH_PANEL eq 1	1,229	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123A	1. Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households at waves 2 and 3.	Longitudinal

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8	W1W2 Panel of All Households in MC Neighborhoods	file8_w1w2HHinNeigh	All survey eligible households that completed an interview in waves 1 and 2 (but not 3) and remained in the survey neighborhood. Such households either lived in the same housing unit in both waves or were out-movers and were interviewed at their new units that were within the survey neighborhood boundaries in wave 2. Note that we did not follow movers without children at any wave, and so they cannot be part of the panel.	Households within the survey neighborhood at wave 1, with two exceptions: (1) adult-only households that moved after wave 1 and (2) households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12 ne . and WAVE_1_2_NEIGH_PANEL eq 1	2,975	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12	1. Excludes new households at wave 2. 2. Variables from wave 3 are omitted.	Longitudinal
9	W2W3 Panel of All Households in MC Neighborhoods	file9_w2w3HHinNeigh	All survey eligible households that completed an interview in waves 2 and 3 (and perhaps also 1) and remained in the survey neighborhood. Such households either lived in the same housing unit in both waves or were out-movers and were interviewed at their new units that were within the survey neighborhood boundaries in wave 3.	Households in the survey neighborhood at wave 2, with two exceptions: (1) adult-only households that moved after wave 2 and (2) households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 3.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23a ne . and WAVE_2_3_NEIGH_PANEL eq 1	2,191	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23a	1. Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households at wave 3. 3. Variables from wave 1 are omitted.	Longitudinal
10	W1W2W3 Panel of W1 Focal Children	file10_w1w2w3CHLD	Unlike Files #1-9, this is a child-level (rather than household-level) dataset in which each row contains the wave 1, 2, and 3 data for focal children selected at wave 1 and located again at waves 2 and 3. Note that a different child may have been selected as the focal child in wave 2, 3, or both due to the addition of new children to the household.	Children that lived in the survey neighborhood at wave 1, with one exception: those that moved and who were age 18 or over in wave 2 or 3.	where WCHLD_PANEL_WAVE123 ne .	946	WCHLD_PANEL_WAVE123	1. Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households at waves 2 and 3. 3. Do not use this child-level dataset to conduct analysis at the respondent or household level.	Longitudinal
11	W1W2 Panel of W1 Focal Children	file11_w1w2CHLD	This is a child-level (rather than household-level) dataset in which each row contains the wave 1 and 2 data for focal children selected at wave 1 and located again at wave 2 (and perhaps also at wave 3). Note that a different child may have been selected as the focal child in wave 2, 3, or both due to the addition of new children to the household.	Children that lived in the survey neighborhood at wave 1, with one exception: those that moved and who were age 18 or over in wave 2.	where WCHLD_PANEL_WAVE12 ne .	2,036	WCHLD_PANEL_WAVE12	1. Excludes new households at wave 2. 2. Do not use this child-level dataset to conduct analysis at the respondent or household level. 3. Wave 3 variables are omitted.	Longitudinal

#	Dataset	File Name	Description	Inferential population	Inclusion Criteria	N	Sampling Weight	Notes	Longitudinal or Cross-Sectional
12	W2W3 Panel of All Children	file12_w2w3CHLD	This is a child-level (rather than household-level) dataset in which each row contains the wave 2 and 3 data for <i>all children</i> in participating households at wave 2 who were located again in participating households at wave 3 (and perhaps also at wave 1). Note that a different child may have been selected as the focal child in wave 3 due to the addition of new children to the household. Also note that movers at wave 2 are excluded.	Children that lived in the survey neighborhood at wave 2, with two exceptions: (1) those that moved at wave 3 and did not stay with the wave 2 focal child and (2) those who moved and were age 18 or over in wave 3.	where WCHLD_PANEL_WAVE23 ne .	3,030	WCHLD_PANEL_WAVE23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). Excludes new households at wave 3. Do not use this child-level dataset to conduct analysis at the respondent or household level. 	Longitudinal
13	W1W2W3 Panel of Households Ever with Children	file13_w1w2w3HHeverwCHLD	Similar to File #2, this is a subset of File #1 but includes all survey eligible households that had 1 or more children at any (but not necessarily all) waves. Members of this subgroup can have stayed or moved with different combinations across all three waves, as long as they have completed interviews and report having one or more children in any wave.	Households that lived within the survey neighborhood at wave 1 and had children in any wave (1, 2, and/or 3), with one exception: households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2 or 3.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123A ne . and WAVE_1_2_3_EVERCHILD_PANEL eq 1	1,300	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE123A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). Excludes new households at waves 2 and 3. 	Longitudinal
14	W1W2 Panel of Households Ever with Children	file14_w1w2HHeverwCHLD	Like File #4, this is a subset of File #3. However, it includes all survey eligible households that had 1 or more children at wave 1 and/or wave 2 (but not necessarily both waves) and completed interviews at both waves (and may nor may not have been interviewed in wave 3). Members of this subgroup can have stayed or moved at wave 2, as long as they have completed interviews and report having children in wave 1 and/or wave 2.	Households that lived within the survey neighborhood at wave 1 and had children in wave 1 and/or 2, with one exception: households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 2.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12 ne . and WAVE_1_2_EVERCHILD_PANEL eq 1	2,436	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Excludes new households at wave 2. Variables from wave 3 are omitted. 	Longitudinal

#	Dataset	File Name	Description	Inferential population	Inclusion Criteria	N	Sampling Weight	Notes	Longitudinal or Cross-Sectional
15	W2W3 Panel of Households Ever with Children	file15_w2w3HHeverwCHLD	Like File #6, this is a subset of file #5. However, it includes all survey eligible households that had 1 or more children at wave 2 and/or wave 3 (but not necessarily both waves) and completed interviews at both waves (and may nor may not have been interviewed in wave 1). Members of this subgroup can have stayed or moved at wave 3, as long as they have completed interviews and report having children in wave 2 and/or wave 3.	Households that lived within the survey neighborhood at wave 2 and had children in wave 2 and/or 3, with one exception: households with children that moved and in which the focal child turned 18 or older by wave 3.	where WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23A ne . and WAVE_2_3_EVERCHILD_PANEL eq 1	1,794	WHHPOP_PANEL_WAVE23A	1. Does not include data from three sites that did not participate in wave 3 (Oakland, Hartford, and Milwaukee). 2. Excludes new households at wave 3. 3. Variables from wave 1 are omitted.	Longitudinal
16	W1 Cross-Section of All Households in MC Neighborhoods	file16_w1xsec	Because all interviews in wave 1 were conducted at sampled addresses within the survey neighborhoods (unlike in waves 2 and 3, when some households with children were followed to new locations), this file includes all households from wave 1, regardless of outcomes in waves 2 and 3.	Households in the survey neighborhood as of wave 1.	where whhpop ne .	7,495	whhpop	1. Variables from waves 2 and 3 are omitted.	Cross-Sectional
17	W2 Cross-Section of All Households in MC Neighborhoods	file17_w2xsec	This file includes all households that resided at a sampled address within the survey neighborhoods at wave 2, regardless of outcomes in waves 1 and 3.	Households in the survey neighborhood as of wave 2.	where whhpop_wave2_neigh_1 ne .	6,957	whhpop_wave2_neigh_1	1. Variables from waves 1 and 3 are omitted. 2. Includes new households at wave 2 (new occupants at wave 1 sampled addresses) as well as fresh cases (occupants of newly-constructed and/or newly-renovated housing units).	Cross-Sectional
18	W3 Cross-Section of All Households in MC Neighborhoods	file18_w3xsec	This file includes all households that resided at a sampled address within the survey neighborhoods at wave 3, regardless of outcomes in waves 1 and 2.	Households in the survey neighborhood as of wave 3.	where whhpop_wave3_neigh ne .	4,315	whhpop_wave3_neigh	1. Variables from waves 1 and 2 are omitted. 2. Includes new households at wave 3 (new occupants at wave 1 sampled addresses) as well as fresh cases (occupants of newly-constructed and/or newly-renovated housing units).	Cross-Sectional

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Footnotes

- a The sample design for Making Connections reflected AECF's particular interest in families *with children* . If at wave 2 and/or 3 NORC discovered that a given focal child had moved away from their previous address, they were followed to their new location and an interviewer attempted an interview with a primary caretaker. Households must have had children in the prior wave to be considered a "mover." Adult-only households remained eligible as long as they did not move from their original sampled address.
- b MOVEID key:
 0 = Stayer - Has not moved since previous wave or Previous NIR/OOS
 2 = Mover - Moved since previous wave
 4 = New household at sampled address
 6 = Aged-out focus child mover
 8 = Fresh case
- c In all three waves
- d In both waves

General Notes Re: Making Connections Harmonized Datasets

- 1 These files have been created to minimize the need for subsetting cases and making decisions about which sampling weights to apply. Data users are encouraged to contact NORC if they do not find a dataset which suits their analytical goals. We will consider requests for additional files. Due to the complexity of the Making Connections sample, we do not recommend that users attempt to merge files or create their own datasets.
- 2 Additional sampling weights are available upon request; namely, wave 1 focal child weights may be applied to the cross-sectional, household-level survey data to permit inferences about households with children in the survey neighborhoods. Please contact us at MakingConnections@norc.uchicago.edu for further information.
- 3 By "harmonized," we mean that the files combine the interview data from all sites. Additionally, we have harmonized the interview data across waves of the survey.
- 4 It is possible for the respondent and/or focal child to have changed across waves in the household-level longitudinal files. Conversely, in the child level longitudinal files, the same child will be represented across waves. Data users can identify whether the respondent and/or focal child changed using the following variables:
w2r_same_as_wave1_new
w2fc_same_as_wave1_new
w3r_same_as_wave2_new
w3fc_same_as_wave2_new