

Eldercare Module in ATUS

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Motivation: Why an Eldercare Module?

- Population 65 and over is increasing
 - 2011: 40 million people in the US (13%)
 - 2030: 72 million (nearly 20%)
- Eldercare is mainly provided by informal caregivers, family members, and friends
- Data on eldercare is limited.
 - In 2010, Federal Interagency Forum on Aging-Related Statistics identified caregiver of adults as a priority for new data collection
 - For ATUS, Expert panel, focus groups met since September 2005

Defining Eldercare

- What is eldercare?
 - Help an older adult who can't do it for him or herself
 - Age?
- What type of eldercare activities
 - ADL: Activities of Daily Living: personal care, dressing
 - IADL: Instrumental Activities of Daily Living: Housework, prepare meals, shopping for groceries...
- What information would be useful
- How should the ATUS collect eldercare information

Defining Eldercare

- 1) Distinguishing eldercare from the care of adults with disabilities
- 2) Determining when eldercare begins

“Eldercare is providing care or assistance to an individual because of a medical condition related to aging. This care can be provided either by a family member or a nonfamily member. There is an expectation that the care will be provided on a long-term basis. Care can be provided in either a care facility, such as a nursing home, or in a residential home setting” (Denton, 2012)

Defining Eldercare

- Condition related to aging: ongoing ailment or physical limitation that typically affects older people
- Focus in **need for care** instead of age
- Care is expected to be long-term, not temporary
- Informal, paid job were not included

Questionnaire: since 2011

- Identify providers:

“Not including financial assistance or help you provided as part of your paid job, since the 1st of [fill = 3 months ago], have you provided any care or assistance for an adult who needed help because of a condition related to aging?”

- Number of persons for whom eldercare is provided, how often
- For each recipient: relationship, age, household member, duration
- Identify activities when eldercare is provided if they provided the day before

Measures

- Characteristics of providers
- Characteristics of recipients and care provision (outside of extract system)
- Time spent in eldercare activities (not available yet)
- Time spent in secondary eldercare (not asked for personal care activities)