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)