IFSS_BRTHPLCE: U.S. region R born

Summary for Variable Group: Childhood background

This variable group provides information about the respondent's family when she was growing up. It includes information on whether she lived with each parent, whether her parents were married, education levels of both parents, the number of children her mother had, when her mother had her first child, and whether her mother worked.

IFSS_BRTHPLCE

U.S. region R born

Availability

1995 NSFG
1988 NSFG
1960 GAF
1955 GAF

Source Variables	Source Questions	
BRTHPLCE	N/A	1995 NSFG
BRTHPLCE	N/A	1988 NSFG
RES_BPLG	101-102	1960 GAF
RES_BPLG	3	1955 GAF

Description

This variable is designed to ascertain the region in the United States in which the respondent was born.

General Comparability Notes

Summary: The assignment of states to regions varies somewhat by study, particularly the inclusion, exclusion, or aggregation of Alaska and Hawaii in response categories. Question text varies, particularly in 1960, where the variable was derived from the respondent's migration record. Respondent universe is completely comparable and includes all respondents in every year.

Based on definitions of regions developed by the U.S. Census Bureau, this variable identified the place of birth of the respondent at a level of geographic granularity which in later surveys was intended to protect respondent identification while providing some level of geographic detail for users of the data. Users interested in the foreign-born population who participated in these surveys should see IFSS_BRNOUT. In 1995 and 1988, region of birth was recoded based on the following specifications:

1995:

"Geographic region of birth" (BRTHPLCE) (1988 NSFG = VAR926)

If R provided an answer for "in what country/state were you born" (IA-10 PLCBRN: BRNSTCD or BRNCNTCD NE 97, 98, or 99), BRTHPLCE=IA-10 PLCBRN (BRNSTCD or BRNCNTCD).

Else: -- If R has been living at current address all her life (IA-3 STRTADD=1189), or
-- If R has been living in current county of residence all her life (IA-4 STRTCTY=1189), or
-- If R has been living in current state of residence all her life (IA-5 STRTST=1189)

Then BRTHPLCE=current state of residence (IA-1 RSTATE).

Else -- If R has been living at 1990 address all her life (IA-8 STAY1990: MONTHS_S=99 and IA8 STAY1990: YEARS_S=99), BRTHPLCE=1990 state of residence (IA-6 ADD1990: ASTATE).

State of residence is recoded as follows:

If R was born in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania, then BRTHPLCE=1.

If R was born in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, or Kansas, then BRTHPLCE=2.

If R was born in Delaware, Maryland, D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, or Texas, then BRTHPLCE=3.

If R was born in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, or Hawaii, then BRTHPLCE=4.

If R was born in Puerto Rico (IA-10 PLCBRN: BRNSTCD=72 or IA-6 ADD1990: A90STCD=72), then BRTHPLCE=5.

If R was born elsewhere outside of the 50 United States (IA-10 PLCBRN: BRNCNTCD=nonmissing, not 72; or IA-6 ADD1990: A90STCD>51, not 72), then BRTHPLCE=6.

1988:

If the respondent was born in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, or Pennsylvania then she was born in the Northeast, code 1.

If R was born in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, or Kansas, then she was born in the Midwest, code 2.

If R was born in Delaware, Maryland, D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, or Texas, then she was born in the South, code 3.

If R was born in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, or Hawaii, then she was born in the West, code 4.

If R was born in Puerto Rico then code 5.

If R was born elsewhere outside of the 50 United States then code 6.

BRTHPLCE in 1988 was recoded from Question A4 which asked "In what state were you born?" Users can access this original variable if they want to know the state of birth of the respondent.

In 1960 respondents were not directly asked where they were born; rather, those who have not lived in the first place reported for all of their lives were asked to list every place they have lived. Page 38 of the original questionnaire included a chart entitled "Respondent's Migration Record" which allowed the interviewer to first record the place of birth and then include additional locations where the respondent resided before the interview date. The answer provided to the first place in which the respondent lived is included in variable RES_BPLG. A similar approach was utilized in 1955: the respondent was first asked how long she had lived in the location the interview took place. If she had not live in that place for her entire life, she was asked in what state or country she was born [Questions 2 and 3 of the Personal Data section of the questionnaire].

For both 1955 and 1960, information about the place of birth appeared in various formats. Variables recording county, whether the location was in a Standard Metropolitan Area (SMA) or not (see IFSS_METRO), and size of place appear in 1955, and size of place appears in 1960. Region was a summary variable across both years according to the following designations:

0 Other foreign countries
1 Southern United States: AL, AR, DE, DC, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC,TN, TX, VA, WV
2 Northeastern United States: CT, ME, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT
3 North Central United States: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, WI
4 Western United States: AZ, CA, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA WY
5 Other U.S. (state unknown) or Alaska, Hawaii, or born abroad to American parents
6 Mexico, Puerto Rico, Central America and South America and other Caribbean
7 Canada
8 Europe
9 Not Ascertained

Users should note that Alaska and Hawaii were not included with the Western U.S. in the 1960 GAF. In addition, Puerto Rico is aggregated with Latin America, whereas it is a separate response category in 1988 and 1995.

See also:
IFSS_BRNOUT