**Documentation for CPS92 04 Data** 

Each month the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the U.S. Department of Labor

conducts the "Current Population Survey" (CPS), which provides data on labor force

characteristics of the population, including the level of employment, unemployment, and

earnings. Approximately 65,000 randomly selected U.S. households are surveyed each

month. The sample is chosen by randomly selecting addresses from a database

comprised of addresses from the most recent decennial census augmented with data on

new housing units constructed after the last census. The exact random sampling scheme

is rather complicated (first small geographical areas are randomly selected, then housing

units within these areas randomly selected); details can be found in the *Handbook of* 

Labor Statistics and is described on the Bureau of Labor Statistics website

(www.bls.gov).

The survey conducted each March is more detailed than in other months and asks

questions about earnings during the previous year. The file **CPS92\_04** contains the data

for 1992 and 2004 (from the March 1993 and 2005 surveys). These data are for full-time

workers, defined as workers employed more than 35 hours per week for at least 48 weeks

in the previous year. Data are provided for workers whose highest educational

achievement is (1) a high school diploma, and (2) a bachelor's degree.

Series in Data Set:

FEMALE:

1 if female; 0 if male

YEAR:

Year

AHE :

**Average Hourly Earnings** 

BACHELOR: 1 if worker has a bachelor's degree; 0 if worker has a high school degree