APPLIED DEMOGRAPHY

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

Learning Objectives:

Skill

- Using software to access and analyze census data
- Identifying independent and dependent variables
- Employing control variables
- Forming testable hypotheses using quantitative data
- Learning how to construct, read, and interpret bivariate tables displaying frequencies and percentages
- Creating visual tools representing quantitative data in the form of charts or graphs
- Identifying population trends over time
- Translating data findings to inform decision making

Substance

- To assess:

    - Marital trends over time

    - Martial Choices using variables of age, race and education

Create, and analyze the following tables to uncover marriage/divorce patters over time.

How to Open Datasets in WebCHIP

1. Go to http://www.ssdan.net/datacounts
2. Click on the "Data" in the menu bar
3. From there, click "Browse" on the left sidebar. Find the category in the drop-down box and select it. (e.g. centrend, cen1990)
4. Scroll down through the list of data sets until you find the dataset. Highlight and click "submit." (e.g. marr502k.dat)
5. You can also click the hyperlink to launch the dataset in WebCHIP (e.g. e.g. category/dataset)

Section A: Martial Trends

Exercise 1
Produce a table with the marital distribution from 1950 to 2000. Use census data from 1950 to 2000 in **centrend/marr502k.dat**. Then create a Percent Down Table with "Marital" as the row variable and "Year" as the column variable.

Exercise 2
Produce a table with the marital distribution for people aged 15-24 from 1950 to 1990. Use census data from 1950 to 2000 in **centrend/marr502k.dat**. Omit the following categories from the "Age" variable: 25-34, 25-44, 25-54, 55-64 and 65+. Create a Percent Down Table with "Marital" as the row variable and "Year" as the column variable, and "Age" as the control variable.

Exercise 3
Produce a table with the marital distribution of different age groups in 2000. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/marital2k.dat**. Create a Percent Across Table with "Age" as the row variable and "Marital" as the column variable.

Exercise 4
Produce a table with the marital distribution from 1950 to 2000 for blacks and non-blacks. Use census data from 1950 to 2000 in **centrend/marr502k.dat**. Create a Percent Down Table with "Marital" as the row variable and "Year" as the column variable and "Race" as the control variable.

Exercise 5
Produce a table with the 2000 marital distribution for all major race/ethnic groups in the U.S. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/marital2k.dat**. Create a Percent Across Table with "RaceLat" as the row variable and "Marital" as the column variable.

Exercise 6
Produce a table with the educational levels of never married women of ages 23 to 28 in 2000 U.S. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/mrr2k_yw.dat**. Create a Percent Across Table with "Age" as the row variable and "MarStatus" as the column variable.

Exercise 7
Produce a table with the educational levels of never married women of ages 23 to 28 in 2000 U.S. for a race/ethnic group of your choice. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/mrr2k_yw.dat** . Omit the race and ethnic groups that are not of interest to you from the "RaceLat" variable Create a Percent Across Table with "Age" as the row variable, "MarStus" as the column variable and "Race" as the control variable.

Section B: Marriage Choices

Exercise 8
Produce a table with the age distributions of married men and women in 2000 U.S. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/marital2k.dat**. Omit the following categories from the "Marital" variable: widowed, divorced, separated, and nevmrrd. Create a Percent Across Table with "Gender" as the row variable, "Age" as the column variable and "Marital" as the control variable.

Exercise 9
Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/spage2kyw.dat**. Create a Marginals frequency table. Copy (CRTL+C) the distribution for wife's age and paste it into Excel. Then use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/spage2kym.dat**. Create a Marginals frequency table. Copy (CRTL+C) the distribution for husband's age and paste it into Excel. Compare data

Exercise 10
Produce a table with the race/ethnicities of the spouses of white men in 2000 U.S by age group. Please note that the information in the ALL row tells you what proportion of white men choose to marry individuals of different race/ethnicity. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/sprac2k-m.dat**. Omit the following categories from the "HRaceLat" variable: black, latino, asian, and nlother. Create a Percent Across Table with "HAge" as the row variable and "WRaceLat" as the column variable, and "HRaceLat" as the control variable.

Exercise 11
Produce a table with the race/ethnicities of the husbands of white, black Asian and Latina women ages 25-34 in 2000 U.S. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/sprac2k-m.dat**. Omit the following categories from the "WRaceLat" variable: nlother. Omit the following categories from the "WAge" variable: 15-24, 35-44, 45-54, and 55+. Create a Percent Across Table with "WRaceLat" as the row variable, "HRaceLat" as the column variable and "Wage" as the control variable.

Exercise 12
Produce a table with the educational attainment of the husbands of women ages 25-34 in 2000 U.S. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/sped2k-m.dat**. Omit the following categories from the "WAge" variable: 15-24, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64 and 65+. Create a Percent Across Table with "WEduc" as the row variable, "HEduc" as the column variable and "WAge" as the control variable.

Exercise 13
Produce a table with the race/ethnicity of the husbands of black and Latino women ages 25-34 with a college education in 2000 U.S. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/sprac2k-m.dat**. Omit the following categories from the "RaceLat" variable: white, asian and nlother. Omit the following categories from the "WAge" variable: 15-24, 35-44, 45-54 and 55+. Omit the following categories from the "WEduc" variable: hsgrad and somecoll. Create a Percent Across Table with "WRaceLat" as the row variable, "HRaceLat" as the column variable and "Wage" and "WEduc" as the control variables.

Exercise 14
Produce a table with the educational attainment of the husbands of black and Latino women ages 25-34 with a college education in 2000 U.S. Use census data from 2000 in **cen2000/sped2k-m.dat**. Omit the following categories from the "RaceLat" variable: nlwhite, asian and nlother. Omit the following categories from the "WAge" variable: 15-24, 35-44, 45-54 and 55+. Omit the following categories from the "WEduc" variable: hsgrad and somecoll. Create a Percent Across Table with "WRaceLat" as the row variable, "HEduc" as the column variable and "WAge" and "WEduc" as the control variables.