

# Stata Codes for “Reasons for Nonparticipation”

Cole Dreier\* and Shigeru Fujita†

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The accompanying Stata codes reproduce the data in Fujita (2014) “On the Causes of Declines in the Labor Force Participation Rate.” The resulting dataset is a monthly time series (unadjusted for seasonality) of the breakdown of reasons for nonparticipation, giving the share of the population that is retired, disabled, wants a job, doesn’t want a job – in school, and doesn’t want a job - not in school.

There are eight Stata codes. The only file that needs to be run is `reasons_master.do`, which calls the following seven codes.

- `reasons_extract.do` extracts raw cps data into Stata format.
- `reasons_extract_weights.do` extracts new weights for 2000-20002 into Stat format.
- `reasons_merge_weights.do` merges new weights with the respective full dataset and replaces the old weights.
- `reasons_append.do` appends each monthly dataset into a master file containing micro data for each month and year.
- `reasons_breakdown.do` creates the 5 reason for nonparticipation categories.
- `reasons_collapse.do` collapses the master data set by month into a monthly time series.
- `reasons_convert.do` converts level data into population shares.

There are two sets of raw data needed for this process. First, the monthly CPS data are available at either [the NBER monthly CPS page](#) or [the Census Bureau ftp site](#). Regardless of the source, our codes assume that the raw data is saved in the format `cpsYYYYMM.dat`. For example, the January 1998 file should be named `cps199801.dat`. Second, the updated Census 2000 weights for 2000-2002 are available at the following [NBER page](#). The files should be saved as `rwYYYYMM.dat`. Save all raw data files in the folder specified in `reasons_master.do`.

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\*Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia; Email: [cole.dreier@phil.frb.org](mailto:cole.dreier@phil.frb.org).

†Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia; Email: [shigeru.fujita@phil.frb.org](mailto:shigeru.fujita@phil.frb.org).