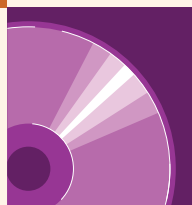
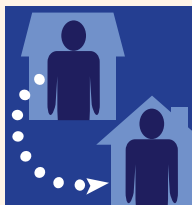
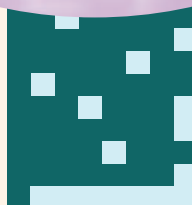


SIPP Tutorial

Survey of Income and Program Participation

Tutorial Roadmap: The Quick Reference Guide



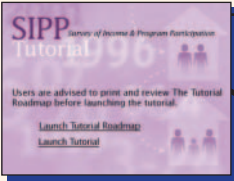
Demographic
Programs

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U
Helping You Make Informed Decisions



U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

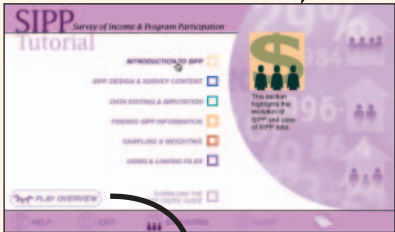
Launching the Tutorial



Click here to launch the Tutorial and go to the Home Page.

(If you don't see the entire tutorial page, adjusting your browser viewing options may help.)

Home Page



From the Home Page you may go on to the individual Tutorial sections, play an overview of the Tutorial, download a PDF version of the *SIPP Users' Guide*, or use the Bottom Navigation Bar to link to the Help section.



Click this button to play an overview movie of the Tutorial.

Tutorial Sections

The Tutorial features an Introduction to SIPP and five main sections. Some of the sections are divided into subsections (see page 4 of this guide for a complete list of sections). Each of the sections is represented by a color and an icon. In addition, the Help section can be accessed from any screen (see Bottom Navigation Bar on page 3).



Introduction to SIPP briefly describes the evolution and analytic uses of SIPP and compares it with other surveys.



Finding SIPP Information describes sources of information about SIPP and how to obtain them.



SIPP Design & Survey Content describes SIPP's sample design and survey content.



Sampling & Weighting discusses sampling and nonsampling errors in SIPP and how and why to use weights.



Data Editing & Imputation introduces the editing and imputation procedures applied to SIPP data.



Using & Linking Files describes how to use and link SIPP microdata files.

NAVIGATION TOOLS AND LINKS

Icon Navigation Bar

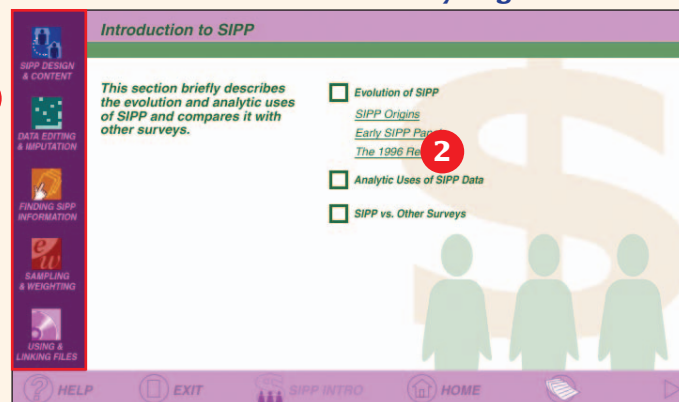
1 The section icons used on the Home Page are repeated throughout the Tutorial. From within each section you can go directly to another section by clicking on its corresponding icon on the Icon Navigation Bar. (You may use these buttons to proceed to a new section when you reach the last screen of each section.)

Section List of Topics

2 An introductory page for each section lists the topics and subtopics covered. Click to view topics of interest. The topics are repeated across the top of the Tutorial screens in each section (see Topic Navigation Bar below).

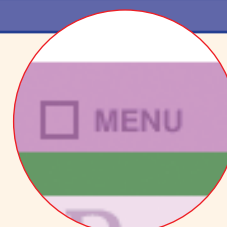
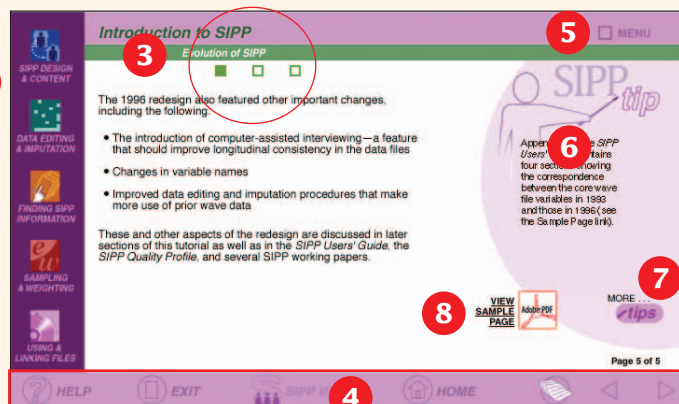
Evolution of SIPP
SIPP Origins
Early SIPP Panel
The 1996 Redesign

Section Introductory Page



Topic Navigation Bar

3 The colored boxes at the top of each screen indicate the number of topics, and the highlighted text shows the current topic within the section. As you scroll over each box, other topics appear. You can click to go directly to that topic.



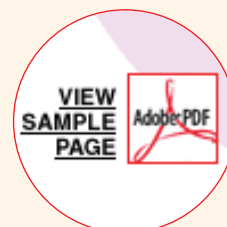
5 Click on the MENU button on any screen to return to the introductory page and list of topics for the section you are currently viewing.



6 SIPP Tips provide helpful advice for analysts using the SIPP panel files.

7 To access a list of all SIPP Tips sorted by topic, click on the MORE Tips button. You can also access the Tips from the Help screen.

MORE ...
tips



8 PDF Links When you click the PDF links at the bottom of selected pages, supplementary information from the SIPP Users' Guide will be displayed in a separate window. (Close this window to return to the tutorial.)

4 Bottom Navigation Bar

Click this button to link to the Help section.*

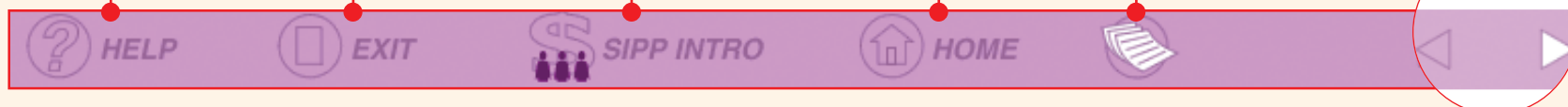
Click this button to exit the tutorial.

Click this button to go to the Introduction section of the Tutorial.

Click this button to return to the Home Page.

Click this button to download a printable PDF version of the section you are viewing. (Your browser's print function will print only the page you are viewing.)

Click these arrow buttons to go forward or backward a page. A white arrow indicates that more pages are available on the topic. A missing forward arrow indicates the end of a section. Use the Icon Navigation Bar to proceed to a new section.



*(See an enlargement of the Help section on page 5.)

Table of Contents

Introduction to SIPP

- Evolution of SIPP
- Analytic uses of SIPP data
- SIPP vs. other surveys

SIPP Design and Survey Content

This section is divided into two subsections:

Sample Design and Interview Procedures

- Organizing principles
- Selection of sampling units
- Oversampling
- Identifying sample members
- Interview procedures
- Following rules
- Types of nonresponse

Survey Content

- SIPP interview
- Core content
- Topical content

Data Editing and Imputation

- Types of missing data
- Problems with missing data
- Handling missing data
- Data editing and imputation goals
- Effects on variance estimation
- Processing SIPP data
- Confidentiality procedures

Finding SIPP Information

- Published estimates from SIPP
- SIPP public use microdata files
- Sources for obtaining SIPP microdata
- Other sources of info about SIPP

Sampling and Weighting

This section is divided into two subsections:

Sampling and Nonsampling Errors

- Computing sampling error
- Sources of nonsampling error
- Effects of nonsampling error on estimates

Sampling Weights

- Purpose of using weights
- Weights in SIPP files
- Choosing weights
- Using weights in analyses

Using and Linking Files

This section is divided into six subsections:

SIPP Public Use Files

- Types of SIPP data files
- Common features across SIPP data files

Using the Core Wave Files

- File structure
- Using the data dictionary
- Identification/description variables
- Family-level income variables
- Topcoding
- Using allocation flags
- Weight variables

Using Topical Module Files

- File structure and content
- Variable names, reference periods, and sample universe
- Using the data dictionary
- Identification/description variables
- Topcoding
- Using allocation flags
- Weight variables

Using the Full Panel Files

- File structure
- Using the data dictionary
- Identification/description variables
- Income variables
- Using allocation flags
- Weight variables

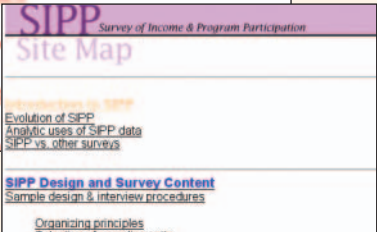
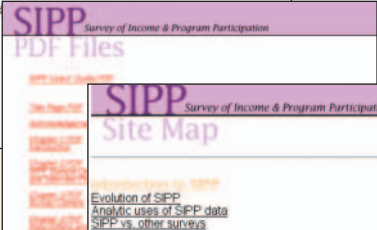
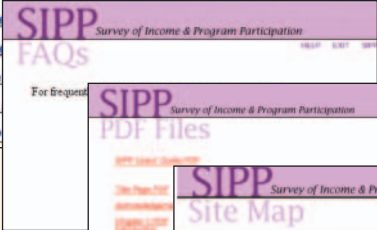
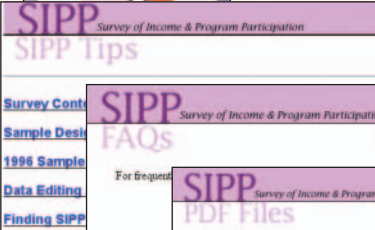
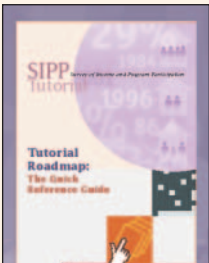
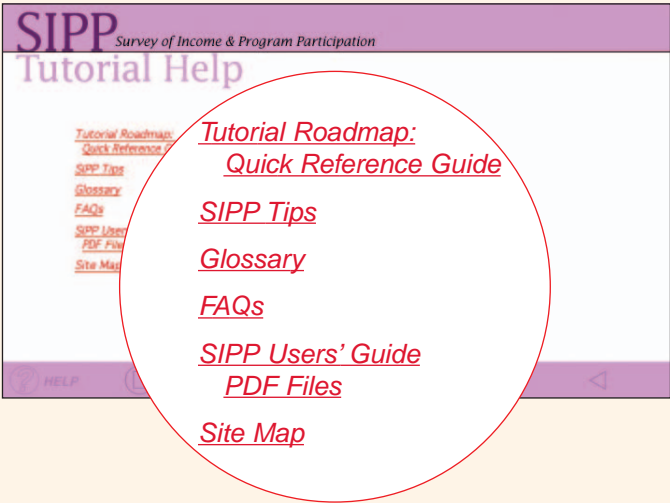
Linking Core Wave, Topical Module, and Full Panel Files

- Reasons for linking files
- Procedures for linking files
- Descriptions of the 6 types of merges
- Nonmatches and other anomalies

Analysis Example

Help Section

You can access help at any time by clicking the Help option on the Bottom Navigation Bar on any page. Users may encounter some technical terms in the tutorial that are explained in other tutorial sections. In those instances, users can link to the Glossary in the Help section, which includes explanations of acronyms and technical terms associated with SIPP. The Help section also includes PDF files of each chapter and appendix in the *SIPP Users' Guide*.



E. Glossary

A

address unit

This collection unit is a person or group of persons living at the same address at the time of the interview. The address unit may consist of one person living by himself or herself, a group of unrelated individuals, or one or more families.

allocation flag

See imputation flag.

B

C

computer-assisted interviewing)

Interviewing in which a computer is used as the data collection instrument.

computer-assisted personal interviewing)

Field representatives use a laptop computer to collect data. Field representatives also periodically use the laptop conducted from their homes.