This is a reproduction of a Census memo which clarifies the time reference for the Work Experience variables. All variables which are clarified by this memo have a reference to Appendix 17 in the derivations section of the variable.
LGT SPECIFICATION MEMORANDUM NO. 25-2 (Supplement 1)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of the Census
Washington, D.C. 20233

Date: December 7, 1970

Subject: Transmittal of Coding Revisions for Work History Section of the 1970 Survey of Work Experience of Young Men (Project 7375)

To: Mr. Sol Dolleck
Chief, Systems Division

Attached are supplementary coding specifications for the work experience section of the Survey of Work Experience of Young Men.

These revisions are to be used in conjunction with LGT Specification Memorandum No. 25-2.

DANIEL B. LEVINE
Chief, Demographic Surveys Division

Attachment

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Problems similar to those for the Young Women's Survey will involve the time period to be included in the work experience variables for the 1970 Survey of Young Men. Even though work experience data was collected for the time period beginning October 1, 1969, and ending the week preceding the 1970 interview week, we do not want to have the data for this entire period included in the variables. The time period to be accounted for begins with the 1969 interview week (1968 interview week for noninterview cases in 1969) and ends with the week preceding the 1970 interview week. The weeks falling between October 1, 1969, and the 1969 interview week will not be reflected in the variables. As a result, the number of weeks of data will vary for sample persons; some will have less than 52 weeks of work experience, some will have exactly 52 weeks, and the others will have more than 52 weeks depending upon the number of weeks between the 1969 and 1970 interview dates.

Work experience variables will no longer refer to the "past 12 months." The time period will vary according to the interview dates. Some sample persons will have more than 52 weeks in an employment status and the coding categories must be expanded to accommodate these cases. The list of sources for these variables also has been revised.

Since we are not tabulating employment status for all of the weeks since October 1, 1969, for all sample persons, a problem arises when we have entries of weeks in items 38b, 39b, 41a, 42a, Check Item 0, 47a, 53a and 53b, and:

1) some of these weeks were weeks of unemployment while the remaining weeks were spent out of the labor force, and

2) the time period referred to falls before as well as after the 1969 interview date. For such cases, we have no way of determining how many of these weeks of unemployment occurred during the survey period.
A computer edit will be performed as follows:

1. If date in 45b is prior to the 1969 (1968 for 1969 noninterview cases) interview date, blank all entries for the questionnaire column.

   [This has the effect of ignoring all jobs and periods of time that had ended prior to the date of previous interview (and that had therefore presumably been covered in the previous survey).]

2. If dates entered in items 34g, 35, 36i, 39a, 45a, and/or 52 are prior to the 1969 (1968) interview date, or if 52 is "Never worked before," replace the date with the 1969 (1968) interview date. However, do not obliterate the original entries as they will be used in some of the following formulas.

   [This has the effect of causing every period of employment, unemployment, or out of labor force that in fact "straddles" the interview date in 1969 to begin, so far as the record is concerned, with the interview date. The purpose of this is to provide an automatic cut-off point for the 1970 work history that will not include periods also covered in 1969 interview.]

3. a. If dates in item 34g (code 1) or 35 (code 1) are replaced by 1969 (1968) interview date:

   (1) Compute the number of weeks since last worked (Subtract entry in 34g or 35 from 1970 interview date) and enter this number in item 41a(1).

      [This, in effect, gives number of weeks between the two survey dates for the individual in question.]

   (2) If original item 41a(2) entry = original 41a(1) entry, enter the revised 41a(1) number obtained in (1) above, in 41a(2). If not, calculate the new entry for item 41a(2) by using formula.

      [Purpose is to allocate total time between unemployment and out of labor force. Formula should be:

      \[ \text{Revised 41a}(2) = \frac{\text{Original 41a}(2)}{\text{Original 41a}(1)}. \text{ Revised 41a}(1). \]

   (3) Subtract new entry in 41a(2) from the new entry in 41a(1) and enter this number in item 41b.
3. [This allocates total time not working between unemployment and weeks out of the labor force in same proportions for the period between the two surveys as originally reported for the period from October 1, 1969 to survey date in 1970.]

b. If dates in item 34g (code 1) or 35 (code 1) were not changed, accept entries in items 41a(1), 41a(2), and 41b.

[For those who last worked sometime subsequent to last interview date, no adjustment is required.]

4. If entries in item 34g (code 2 or 3) or 35 (code 3):

a. Compute entry for part 1 of Check Item 0 using "weeks since 1969 (1968) interview" instead of "weeks since October 1, 1969" (Subtract 1969 (1968) interview date from 1970 interview date).

[Individuals who did not work since October 1, 1969 (and hence, also, since 1969 interview date) need to be asked whether any of the weeks since then were weeks of unemployment. Original Q. 42a asks whether any weeks since October 1, 1969, were weeks of unemployment. Check Item 0 allows interviewer to subtract this number from total number of weeks since October 1, 1969, to ascertain whether there was any period out of the labor force. Purpose of this adjustment is to reduce entire period since October 1, 1969, to the period between the survey dates and to allocate that reduced period between unemployment and out of the labor force.]

b. If entry in part 2 of Check Item 0 is equal to the original part 1 entry, change part 2 entry and item 42a entry to equal revised part 1 entry. If not, calculate revised part 2 entry and item 42a entry by using formula. The final entry in part 2 of Check Item 0 and entry in 42a must be the same.

[Formula for revised 42a and part 2 of Check Item P:

\[ \text{Revised } 42a = \frac{\text{Original } 42a}{\text{Original part (1) Check Item 0}} \times \text{Revised part (1), Check Item 0.} \]

5. [Accept entry in 38b except in cases when the date in 36i has been revised. In such cases, use the formula:

\[ \text{Revised } 38b = \frac{\text{Original } 38b}{(1970 \text{ survey date} - \text{original } 36i)} \times \frac{1970 \text{ survey date} - \text{revised } 36i}{\text{(weeks)}}. \]
6. [Accept entry in 39b except in cases in which the date in 39a has been changed. In such cases, use the formula:

\[
\text{Revised 39b} = \frac{\text{Original 39b}}{\frac{(1970 \text{ survey date} - \text{original 39a})}{\text{weeks}}} \times \frac{(1970 \text{ survey date} - \text{revised 39a})}{\text{weeks}}.
\]

7. If entry in 45a was replaced by 1969 (1968) interview date, and there is an entry of "weeks" in item 47a, calculate new entry for 47a using formula.

[The formula to be used here is:

\[
\text{Revised 47a} = \frac{\text{Original 47a}}{\frac{(\text{Original 45b} - \text{original 45a})}{\text{weeks}}} \times \frac{(\text{Original 45b} - \text{revised 45a})}{\text{weeks}}.
\]

8. If entry in 52 was replaced by 1969 (1968) interview date

a. Calculate the number of weeks not working (Subtract entry in 45a from entry in 52) and enter this number in item 53a.

b. If original 53b was equal to the original 53a entry, change 53b entry to equal revised 53a entry. If 53b was not equal to the 53a entry, calculate new 53b entry using the following formula:

\[
\text{Revised 53b} = \frac{\text{Original 53b}}{\text{Original 53a}} \times \text{Revised 53a}.
\]
July 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Procedures Used for Changing Dates in Previous YLS Panels

In preparing the computer edit specifications for the 1976 Young Men's Survey, we have noticed that, in some earlier YLS surveys, certain dates in the work history section were changed and those changes were not noted in the tape documentation.

In some of the surveys, the starting dates for periods of not working were changed to the date of the last interview if the recorded date was prior to the date of the last interview.

--For example, in the 1971 Young Men's Survey the starting date for the nonworking period was recorded in item 55. In the specifications for the clerical edit, there are instructions to change the date in item 55 to the date of the last interview if the date recorded by the interviewer is earlier than the last interview date. However, the documentation describes item 55 as "When Period Not Working Started" and does not explain that the date in item 55 may be the date of the last interview and not the date when the nonworking period actually began.

In addition, for the 1970 Young Men's Survey, the date last worked and the dates when jobs began were also changed to the date of the last interview if the recorded date was earlier than the last interview date. These changes were made during the computer edit for this survey.

Listed below are the surveys in which dates were changed, the items affected, and the procedures used to change the dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Procedure used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young Men</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>$34g, 35, 36i, 39a, 45a, 52$</td>
<td>If the date recorded in any of these items was earlier than the last interview date, the date was changed to the last interview date during the computer edit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Panel       Year   Items       Procedure used
Young Men   1971    55         If the date recorded was prior to last interview date, the date was changed to the last date of interview during the clerical edit.

Since the tape documentation does not mention these changes, you may want to inform the data users about them.

At present, we do not plan to make any similar changes in the work history section of the 1976 Young Men's Survey.