NADDI 2018 Implementing DDI to Document the Consumer Expenditure Surveys

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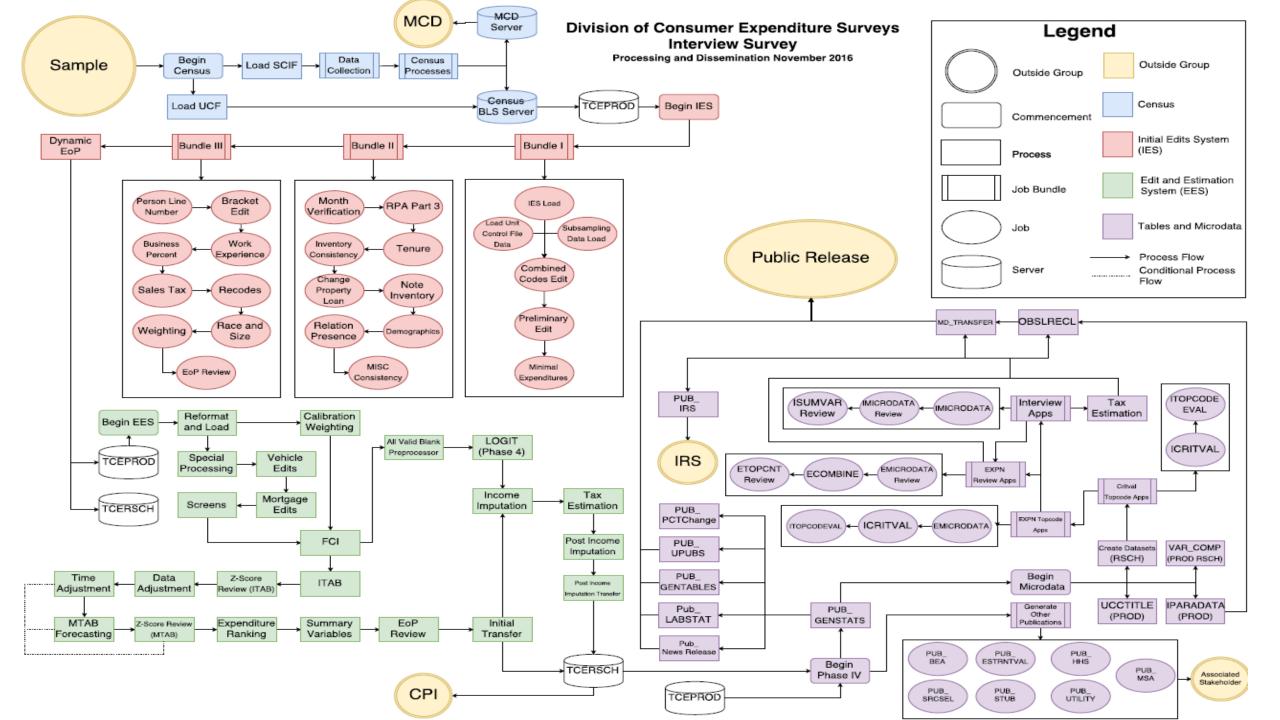


The Consumer Expenditure Surveys

National surveys on U.S. households' spending

- Survey sponsor & data processing: BLS
- Data Collection: Census Bureau
- Two independent survey instruments: Diary, Interview Survey
- Data Processing: BLS across 3 subsystems
 - Over 80 data processing jobs/edits for each survey of each year
 - Over 3,400 variables for each survey of each year
- Data Products release schedule: BLS
 - Tabular data (rolling 4 quarters of data every 6 months)
 - Public Use Microdata (annually)
 - Input to CPI (quarterly)





This Presentation

The CE program is attempting to move towards a more efficient and comprehensive documentation of survey metadata. We provide 2 illustrations of current inefficiencies, and how we are attempting to use DDI to address them:

1. Questionnaire development

2. Investigating data inconsistencies



1. Questionnaire Development



CE Questionnaire Development Process

- The Interview Survey is long and contains complex skip patterns designed to reduce respondent burden.
- Changes to questionnaire items such as wording, order, skip patterns, or new questions are often needed.
- CE provides detailed requirements, which Census then enters into their own specification system (SPIDER), and then programs the Blaise instrument. Changes are usually made every 2 years.
- CE Interview Survey instrument is being redesigned.



Interview Survey Questionnaire Development

Challenges

- No question bank
- No integrated mapping of questionnaire metadata
 - ► Multiple documents in different locations
- The changes document for each revision is in word/pdf/csv
 - ▶ Difficult to navigate: current full specifications ~ 4,000 pages
 - ► Iteratively making design changes is difficult

Solution: Testing the use of Colectica Questionnaires to create requirements for the new CAPI instrument, to be programmed into a Blaise instrument by Census Bureau.

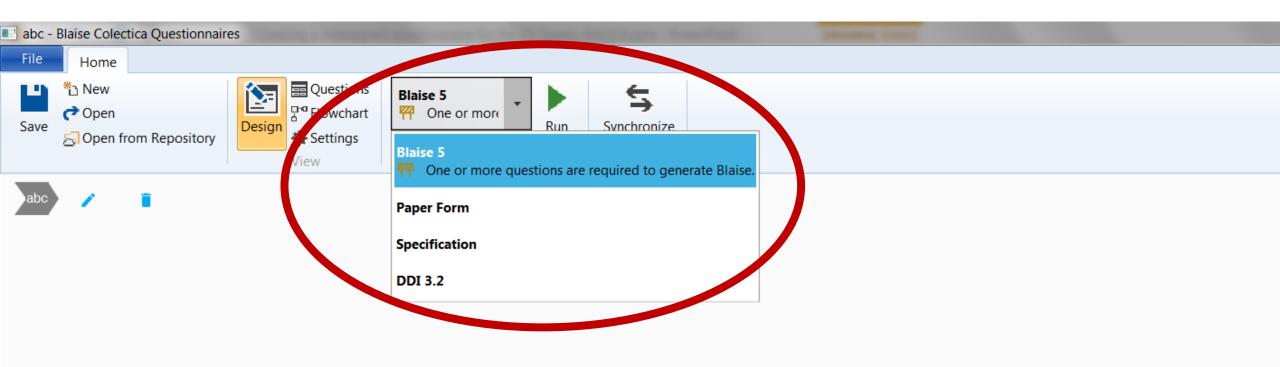


Colectica Questionnaires: Advantages

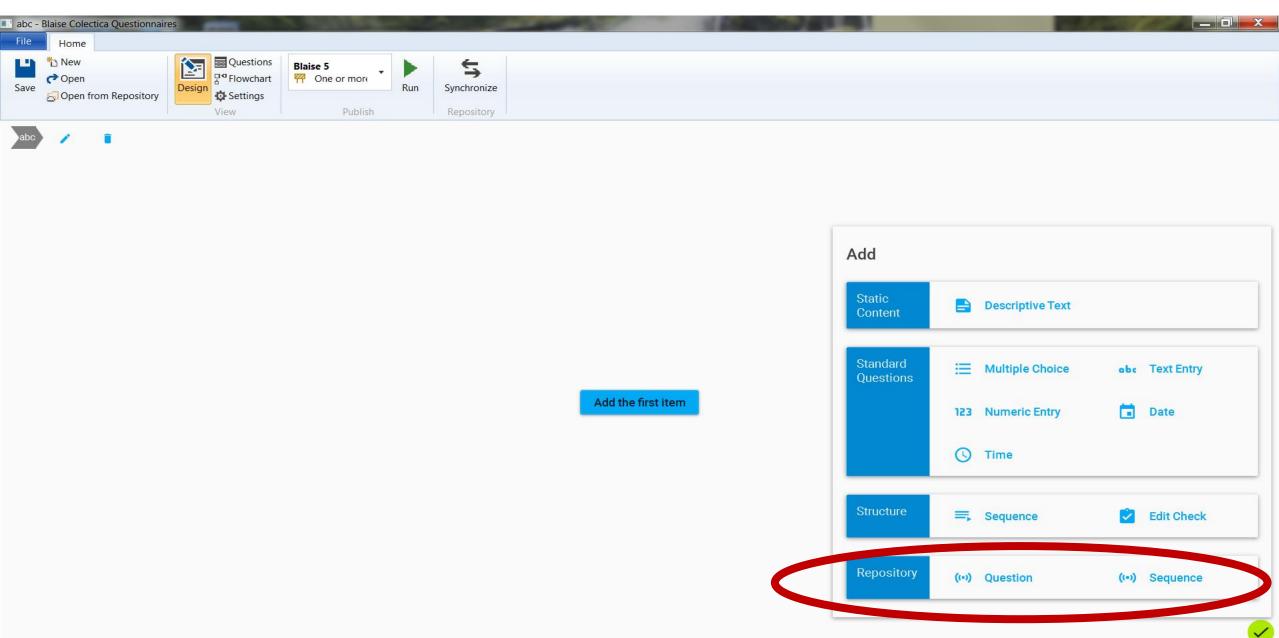
- Creates DDI based survey specifications
- Surveys can be published in multiple formats including Blaise 5
- Produces machine readable DDI 3.2 format xml files (source code for CAI systems)
- Rapid design iterations: Easy to make changes in the software and then generate new specifications
- Uses a repository of questions so we can retrieve questions and blocks
- Integrates with the rest of the Colectica software suite including Repository, Portal, and Designer



Some advantages: Output formats



Some advantages: Repositories



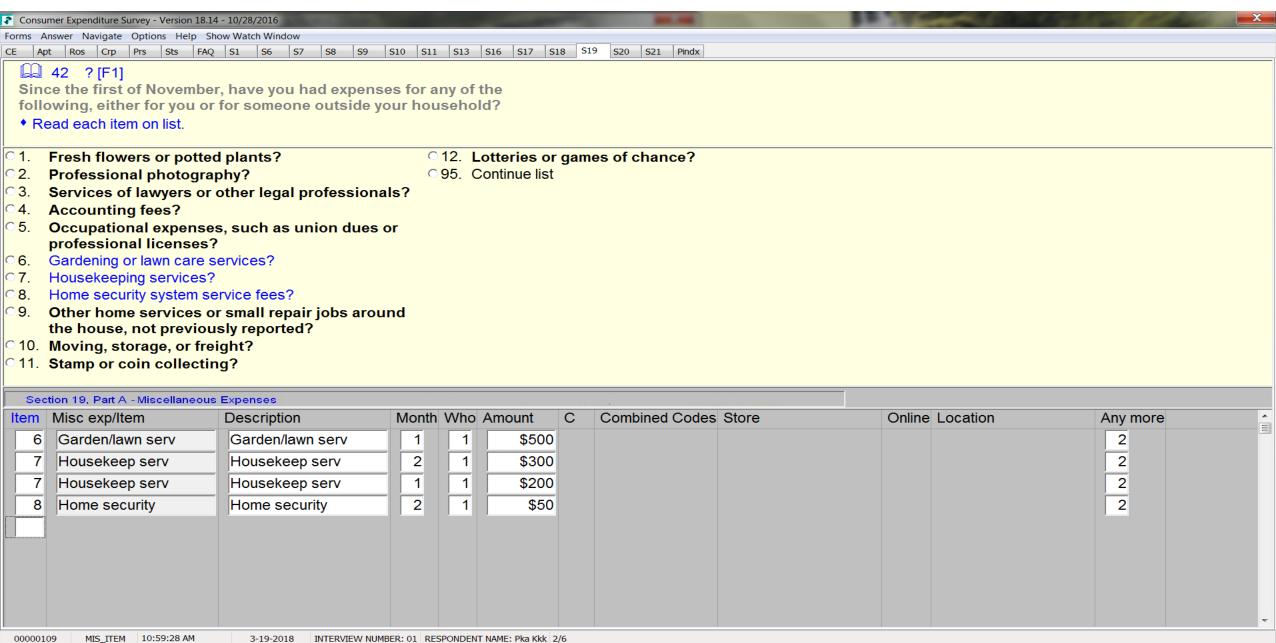
Colectica Questionnaire: Limitations

- Trial version cannot handle some of the more complex questionnaire design elements.
- Some examples are: grid questions, reusable lists of response options, globally adding fields for specifications, setting don't know and refusals globally, ability to store and cumulate display logic, rosters and loops, adding comments to questions.
- We got around the limitations by programming what we could in the software and providing a cover sheet for each section with additional information that could not be entered in the software.

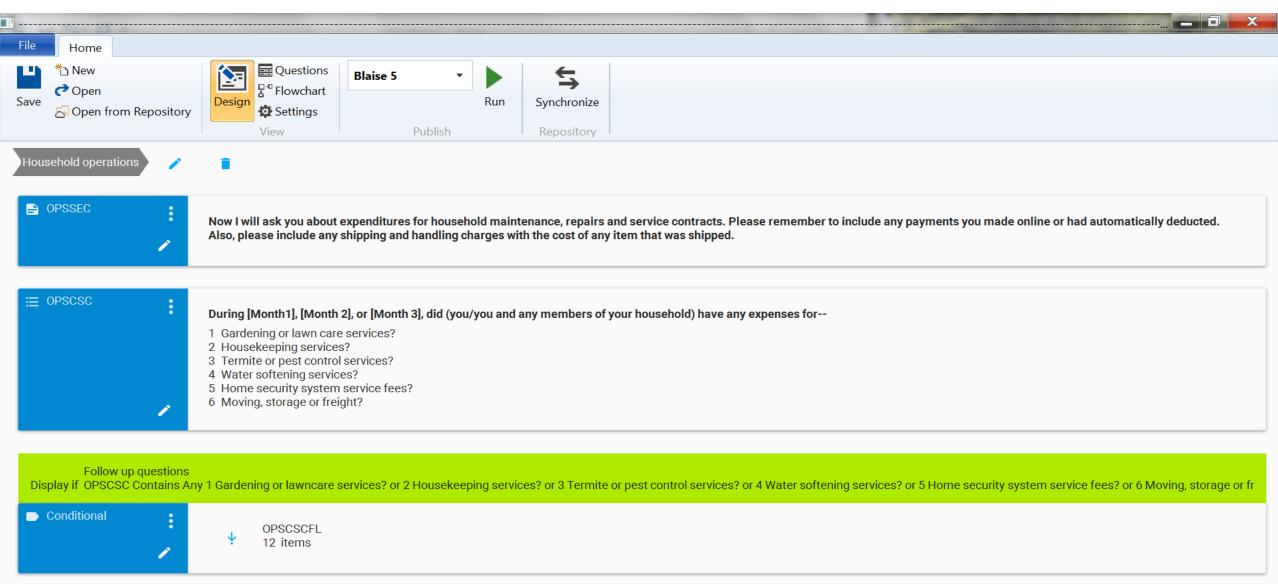
e.g. text fills, refusal/don't know options, instructions for looping, and grid questions.



Cluster screener (grid question) in the CE



Grid question in Colectica Questionnaires



2. Investigating Data Inconsistencies



Fragmented metadata across time and processes

Challenges

- Maintained separately
 - by surveys (Diary or Interview)
 - by years (... 2015, 2016, 2017 ...)
 - by 3 data processing subsystems
 - ► Initial Edit System (IES), Edit and Estimation System (EES), Microdata, and Tables
- Multiple points of manual input and alteration
- Many different folders, different file formats, separate database

Solution: Testing Colectica Designer, Repository, and Portal to put all metadata across time and subsystem onto one web-based portal



2. Investigating Data Inconsistencies

Inquiry Request: Research Universal Classification Code 580311

- What variables are used to map to this UCC?
- > How is the associated question asked in the survey?
- > Get descriptive statistics, i.e. average, frequencies, etc.



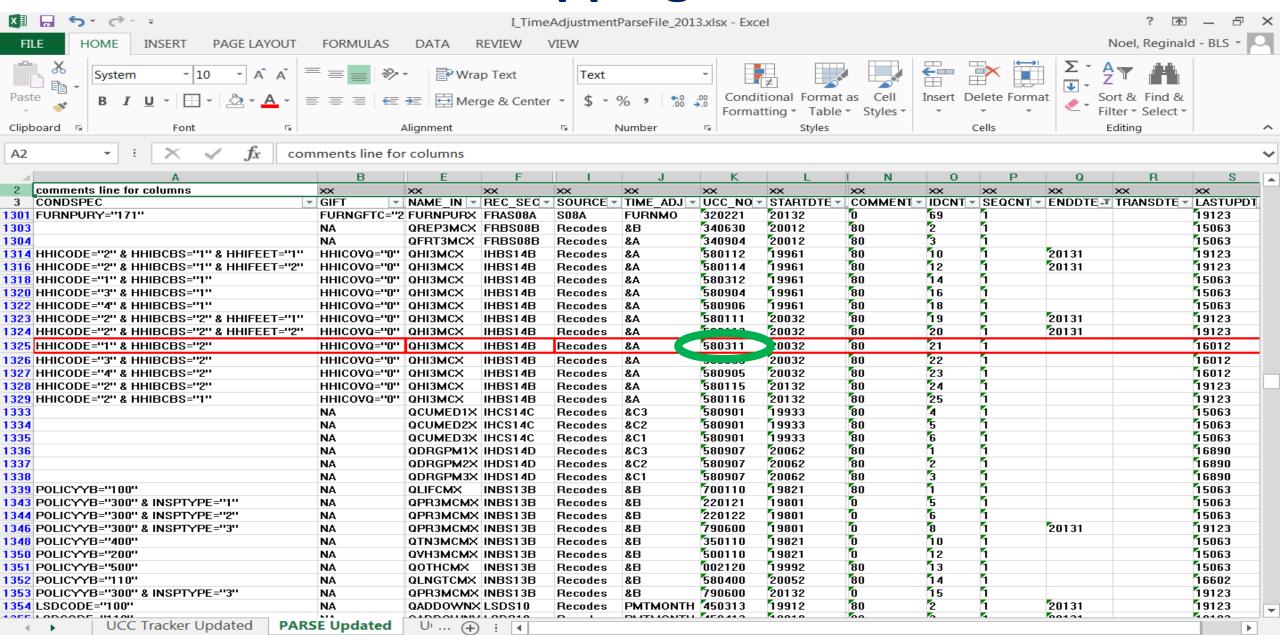
2. Investigating Data Inconsistencies

- Current Production Method
 - ▶ 1. Excel mapping file
 - ▶ 2. Web-based P&C data dictionary
 - ▶ 3. PDF public-use microdata dictionary
 - ▶ 4. BLS website to get data
 - ► 5. SAS enterprise to get stats

- Using Colectica and DDI
 - ► Colectica Repository and Portal through web-based prototype



File 1: Excel mapping file for UCC

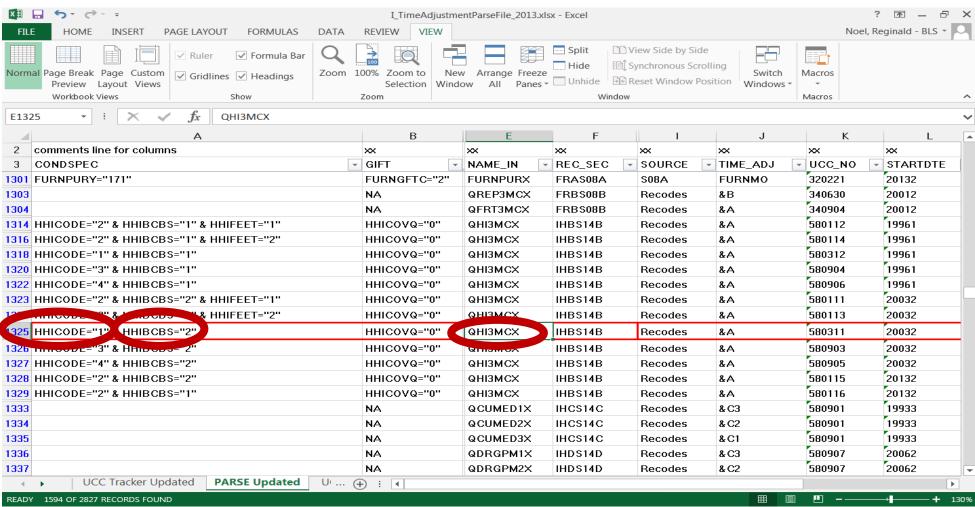


COUNT: 18

READY 1594 OF 2827 RECORDS FOUND

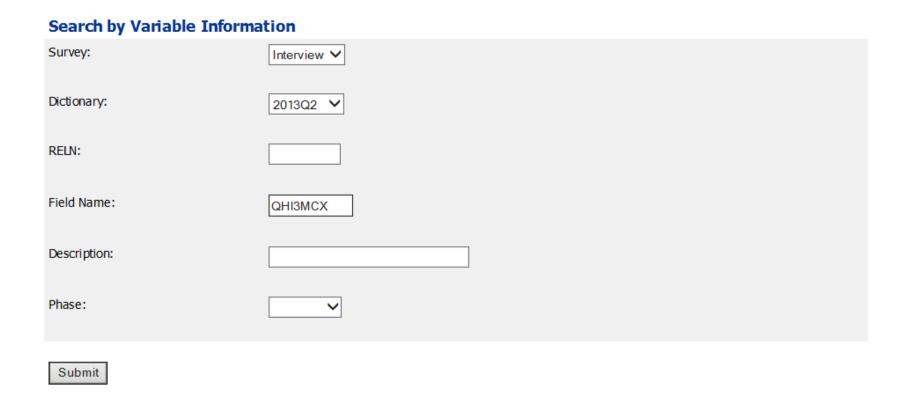
File 1: Excel mapping file for UCC

2013 Interview Time Adjustment Expenditure Mapping file – (Excel file located in year-designated folder)





Dictionary Search Page



CE Web

DCES Home Page

Search Help

Variable QHI3MCX

RELN: EIHB	
Survey Section: 14B Hospitalization and Health Insurance	
Variable Description:	Health insurance payments, reference period minus current month
Recode:	-
Code Description:	
Hag Name: QHI3MCX_	Occurs: 1
Source: Recodes	Variable Phase: 2n3
P2 Attribute: NUM8	P3 Attribute: NUM8
P2 Primary Keys: (FAMID, SEQNO)	P3 Primary Keys: (FAMID, SEQNO, ALCNO)

Information queried from IY2013syb_v26_41.mdb

Variable HHICODE

RELN: EIHB			
Survey Section: 14B Hospitalization and Health Insurance			
Variable Description:	Insurance type code		
Recode:			
Code Description:	 Health Maintenance Fee for service plan Commercial Medicare Supplement Other Special purpose plan 		
Hag Name: HHICODE_	Occurs: 1		
Source: S14B HHICODE	Variable Phase: 2n3		
P2 Attribute: CODED1_R	P3 Attribute: CODED1_R		
P2 Primary Keys: (FAMID, SEQNO)	P3 Primary Keys: (FAMID, SEQNO, ALCNO)		

Information queried from IY2013syb_v26_41.mdb

Variable HHIBCBS

RELN: EIHB Survey Section: 14B Hospitalization and Health Insurance	
Variable Description:	Is the insurance company Blue Cross/Blue Shield?
Recode:	
Code Description:	1 Yes
	2 No
Flag Name: HHIBCBS_	Occurs: 1
Source: S14B HHIBCBS	Variable Phase: 2n3
P2 Attribute: CODED1	P3 Attribute: CODED1
P2 Primary Keys: (FAMID, SEQNO)	P3 Primary Keys: (FAMID, SEQNO, ALCNO)

Information queried from IY2013syb_v26_41.mdb

File 3. PDF Microdata Dictionary

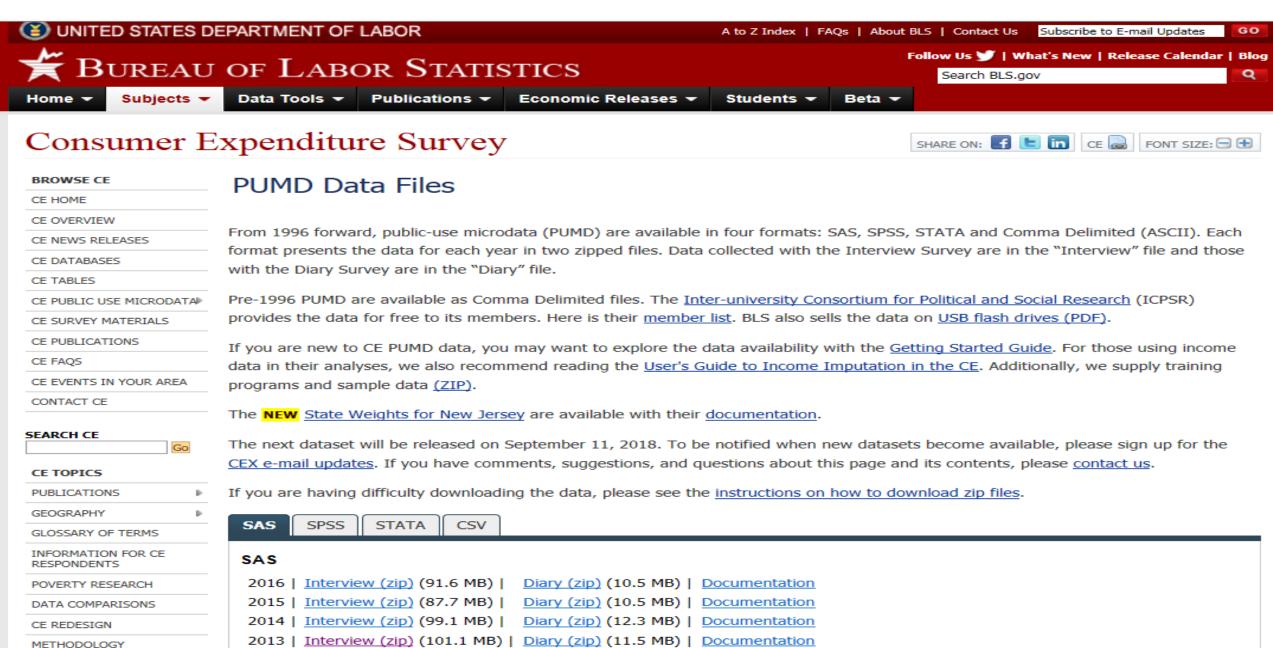
IHB - Detailed Expenditures Files (EXPN)

Hospitalization and Health Insurance

14 B Detailed Questions

VARIABLE NAME	DESCRIPTION	FLAG	FORMAT
HHIRPMPD	What period of time is covered by the regular payment? (HHIPRMPD = 1 or 2 only)	HHIR_MPD	CHAR(1)
	CODED		
	1 Week		
	2 2 weeks 3 Month		
	4 Quarter		
	5 6 months		
	6 Year		
	7 Other		
	CAPI Section 14		
QHI3MCX	Amount paid for health insurance premiums during the reference period	QHI3MCX_	NUM(8)
	BLS derived		
ннівсвѕ	Is insurance company Blue Cross/Blue Shield?	HHIBCBS_	CHAR(1)
	CODED		
	1 Yes		
	2 No		
	CAPI Section 14		
HHICODE	What type of insurance plan is it?	HHICODE_	CHAR(1)
	CODED		
	1 Health maintenance organization		
	2 Fee for service plan 3 Commercial Medicare supplement		
	4 Other special purpose plan		
	CAPI Section 14		
HHIPOS	Under normal circumstances, if you go to a doctor who is not part of your plan without a referral, will your insurance pay	HHIPOS	CHAR(1)
	for the cost? (HHICODE = 1 only)	_	
	CODED		
	1 Yes		
	2 No		
	CAPI Section 14		

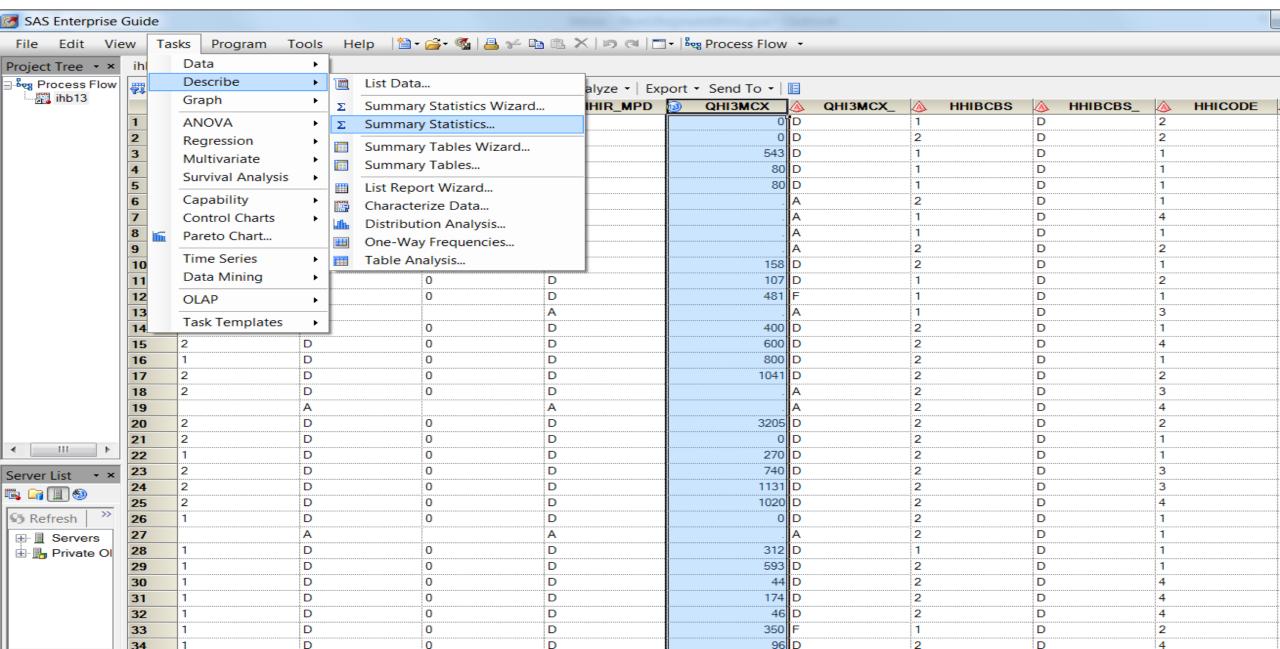
File 4. BLS website to download dataset



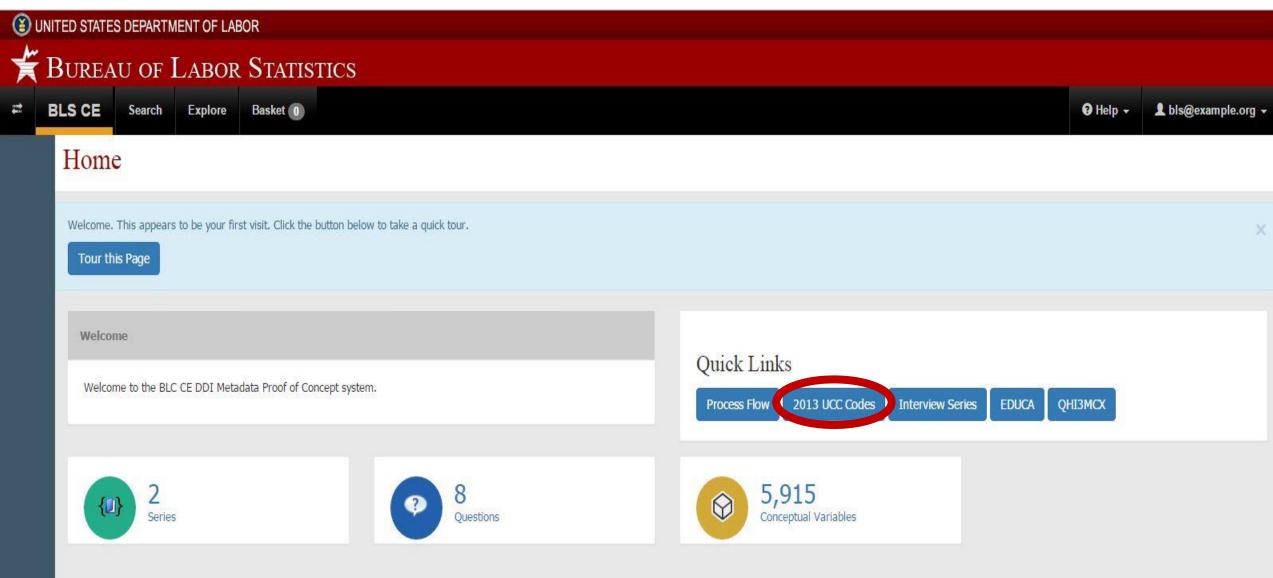
File 4. BLS website to download dataset

▼ Extract all files							
Name	Туре	Compressed size	Password p	Size	Ratio	Date modified	
apb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	331 KB	No	3,456 KB	91%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
🔢 cla13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	1,293 KB	No	11,584 KB	89%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
cld13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	25 KB	No	256 KB	91%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
cnt13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	251 KB	No	1,600 KB	85%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
cra13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	18 KB	No	192 KB	91%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
crb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	205 KB	No	2,752 KB	93%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
eda13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	135 KB	No	1,280 KB	90%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
🔢 eqb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	55 KB	No	512 KB	90%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
🏢 fra13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	265 KB	No	2,304 KB	89%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
frb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	10 KB	No	128 KB	93%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
hel13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	32 KB	No	256 KB	88%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
ihb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	409 KB	No	2,624 KB	85%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
ihc13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	166 KB	No	1,280 KB	88%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
ihd13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	97 KB	No	704 KB	87%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
inb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	965 KB	No	12,672 KB	93%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
🔢 Isd13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	50 KB	No	384 KB	88%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
mdb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	489 KB	No	4,672 KB	90%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
mdc13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	18 KB	No	192 KB	92%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
mis13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	477 KB	No	4,480 KB	90%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
mor13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	705 KB	No	3,264 KB	79%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
🔢 opb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	430 KB	No	3,648 KB	89%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
🔢 opd13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	10 KB	No	128 KB	93%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
ig oph13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	25 KB	No	192 KB	87%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
opi13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	889 KB	No	13,312 KB	94%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
ovb13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	1,972 KB	No	18,304 KB	90%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	
ovc13.sas7bdat	SAS Data Set	29 KB	No	256 KB	89%	9/2/2016 12:06 PM	

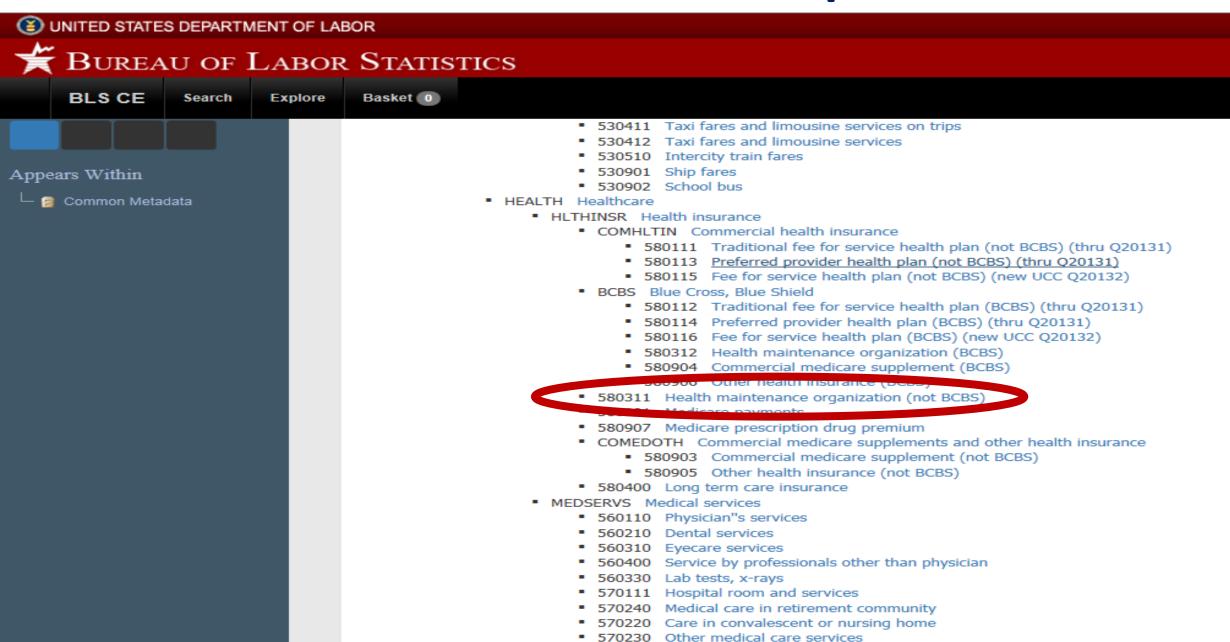
File 5. SAS to to get dataset descriptive statistics



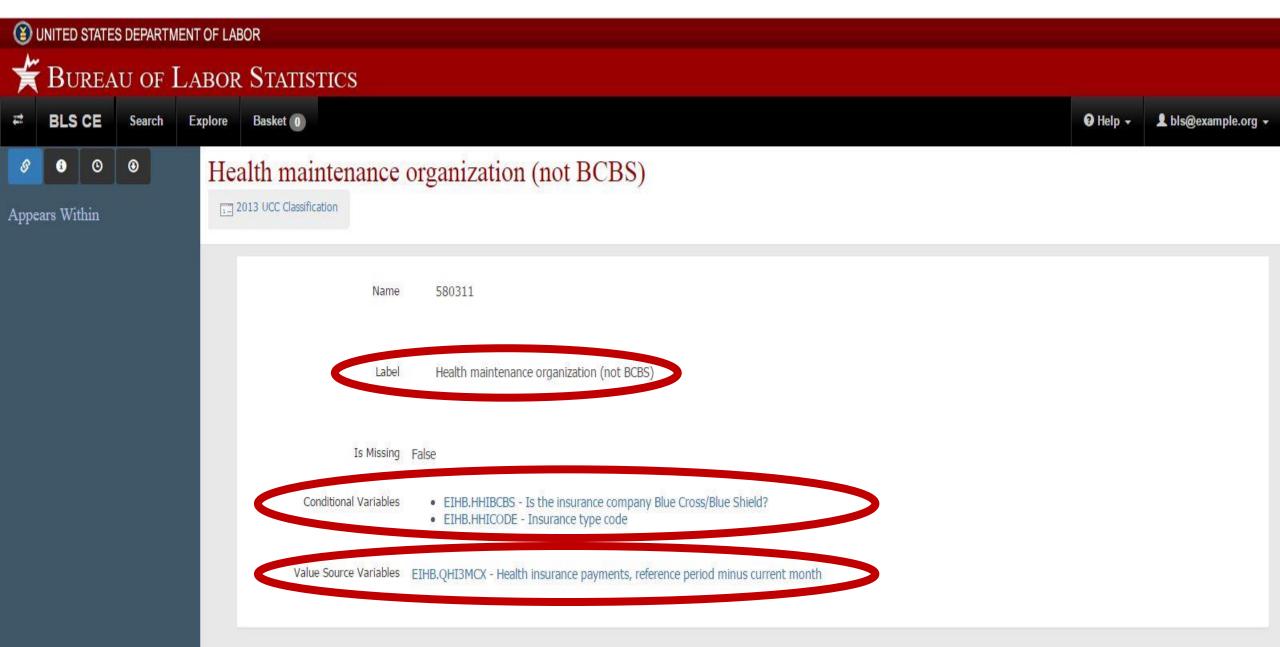
1. Colectica Portal: Prototype Home Page



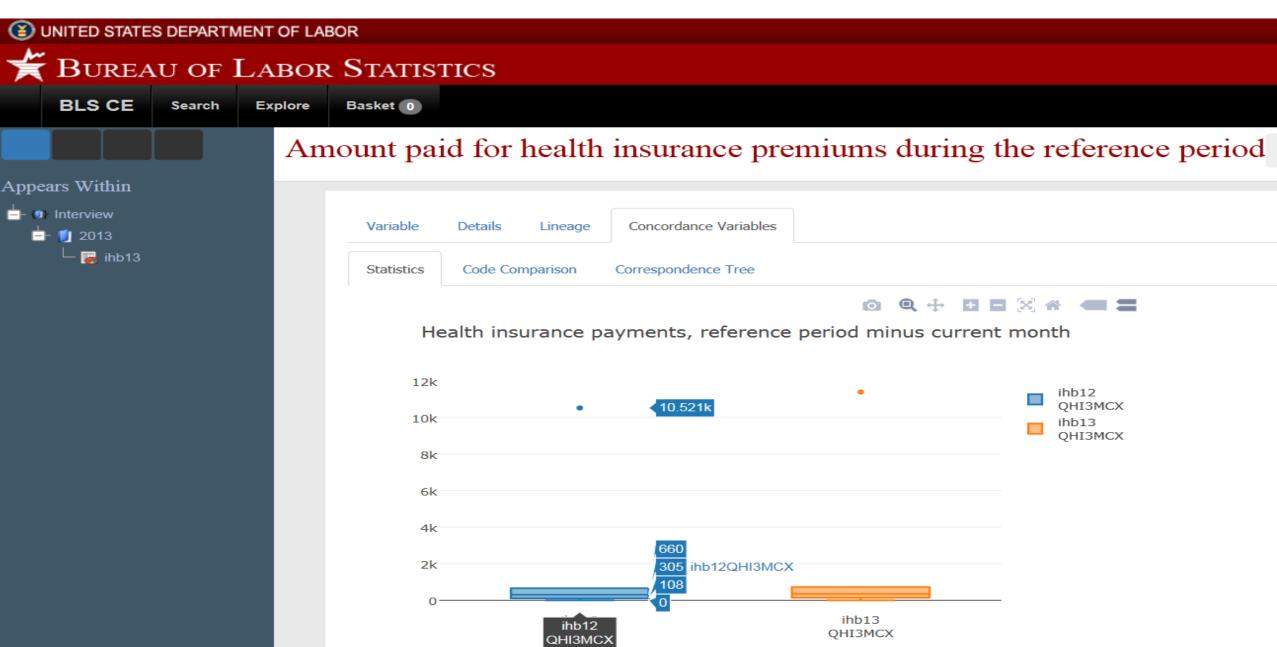
2. Find and click the UCC in question



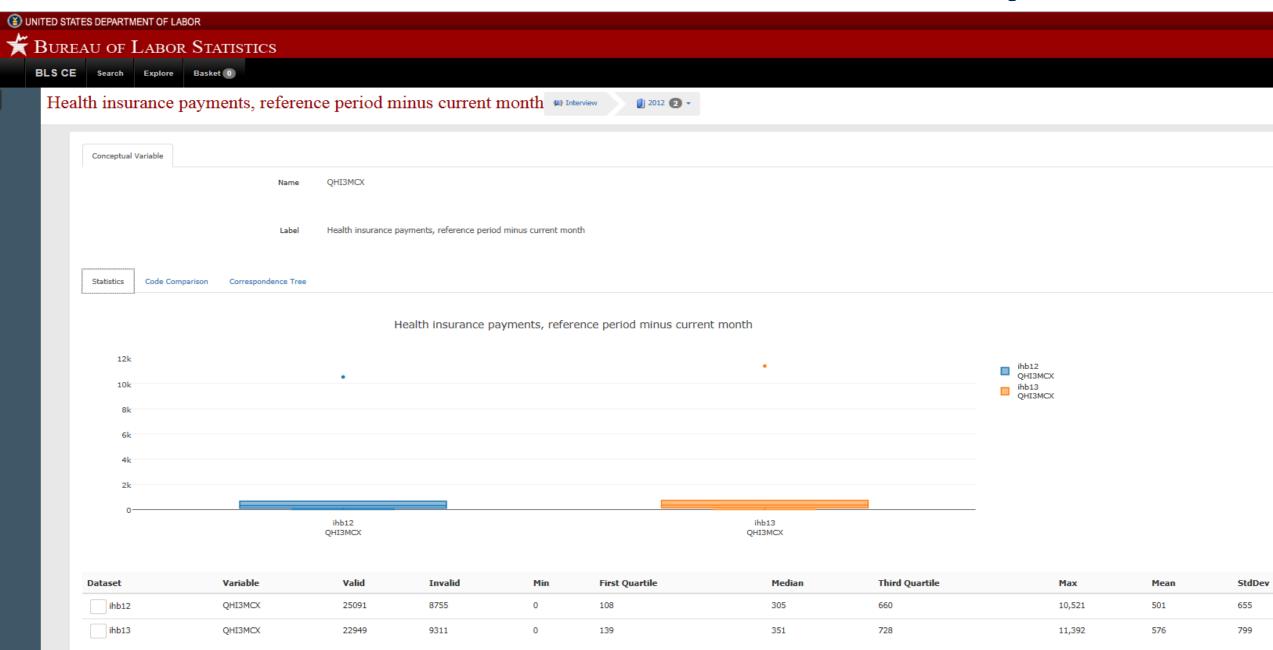
3. Obtain desired information



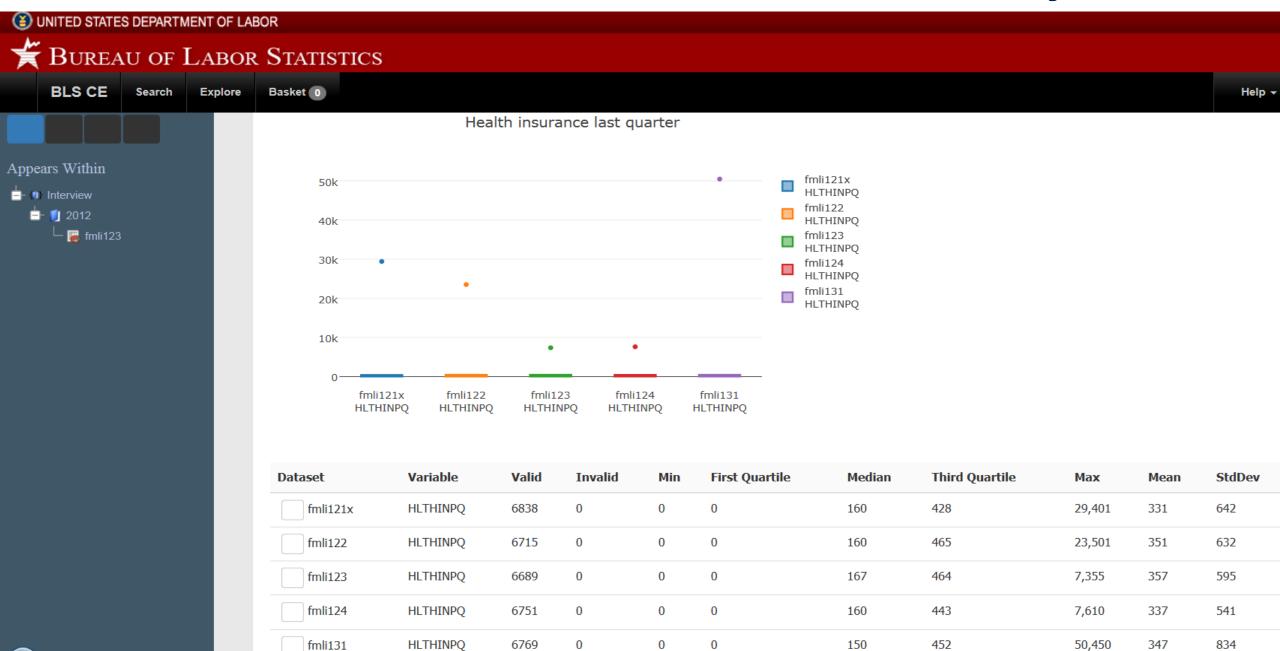
4. Get additional information



4A. Get additional info from different years



4B. Get additional info for different subsystems



A User's Perspective

Colectica can help us by:

- > Limiting the different folders and files need to research
- Saving on the amount of time to look up info
- Making all metadata readily accessible in one platform
- Facilitating easy access to descriptive data



Consumer Expenditure Surveys

Contact Us: krishnamurty.parvati@bls.gov noel.reginald@bls.gov

CE DDI Team

Daniel Gillman

Evan Hubener

Parvati Krishnamurty

Reginald Noël

Bryan Rigg

Arcenis Rojas

Lucilla Tan

Taylor Wilson

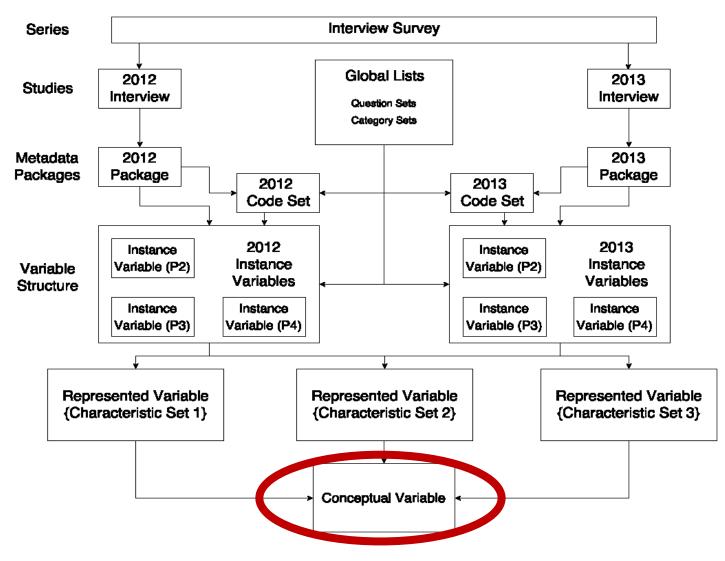


Extra slides



DDI Structure for Consumer Expenditure Quarterly

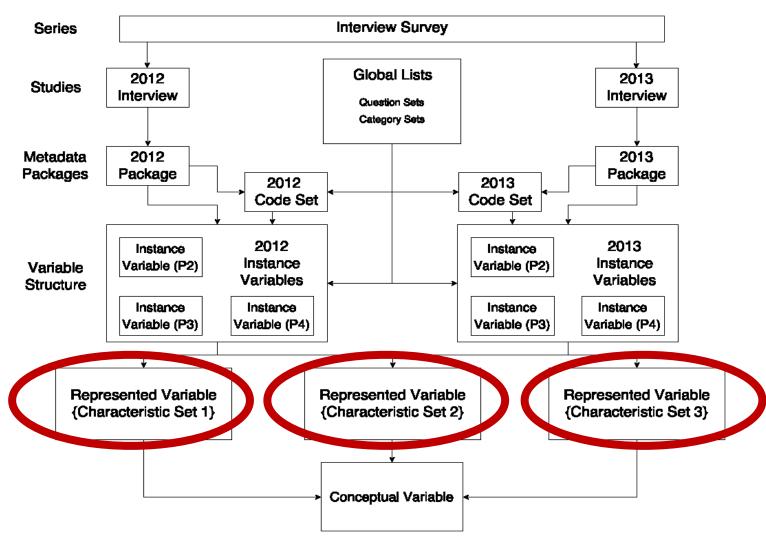
Iteration I





DDI Structure for Consumer Expenditure Quarterly

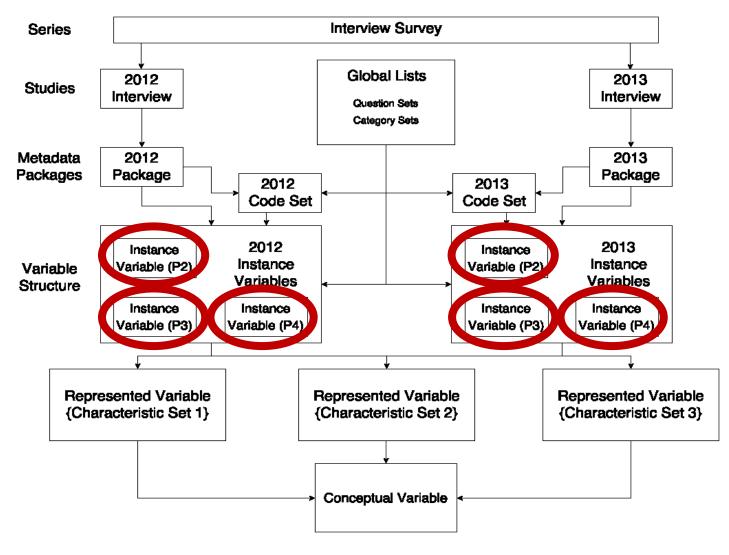
Iteration I





DDI Structure for Consumer Expenditure Quarterly

Iteration I





CE DDI/Colectica Experience

Iteration 1

- Explored use of a few basic DDI constructs to describe the CE Interview Survey metadata. [Colectica Designer]
- Colectica implements DDI

Iteration 2

- Proof-of-concept prototype [Colectica Portal and Repository]
- Eight survey questions across 2 years of the Interview Survey.
 - Establish and view the linkage of a survey question to its end as a variable in the public-use Microdata file
 - Identify changes to a variable: for e.g., a change in the response options to the EDUCA (member education attainment) variable



What's Next?

Iteration 3

- Will focus solely on Microdata and Tables (Ph4)
 - Inputting metadata from 1996 to 2017
- Continue development work with Colectica
- Scale up prototype, including Diary
- Incorporate the use of Colectica Questionnaire
- > Create one portal for the public and another for interoffice use



Potential Hurdles

Iteration 3

- Requires IT support
- Setting up a server
- Colectica programming language (C-sharp, .NET)
- Equipment requests
- Limited funding



Cover page

Household Operations: Cover Page

A. Section Instructions:

This section is a laundry list section that follows the laundry list standards.

Design will be a table/grid format

Repeat OPSCSC through OPSOTH until OPSCSC = 99.

After OPSOTH, the FR is expected to continue reading the list of expenditures from the cluster screener (OPSCSC)

B. Section Format:

Table with a maximum of 14 rows

C. Don't knows and refusals:

- 1. Do not allow Don't Know or Refusal on: OPSCSC, OPSIDE, OPSECE, OPSCOM, OPSSEC
- 2. Do not display Don't Know or Refusal options on screen
- 3. Where Don't Know and Refusal are allowed, use keyboard shortcuts:

Don't know = CTRL + D Refusal = CTRL + R Bookmark=CTRL + B



Cover page (continued)

D. Fills: 1.OPSCOM, OPSOUN and OPSOTH:

OPSCSC =	Category Name		OPSIEX Greater than
1	Gardening or lawn care services?	15	600
2	Housekeeping services?	20	1260
3	Termite or pest control services?	16	742

- E. Fills: For OPSCOM, OPSOUN and OPSOTH: fill in...
- **F. Outlets eligibility**: Outlets questions will be assigned based on a rotation matrix with POPS categories by PSU by quarter. The following categories are outlets eligible:
- **G. Item description:** For OPSIDE: The text field should be a blank, non-required field to allow entry of the item description by the FR. After the FR enters a list number the instrument should place the cursor in the blank item description field. FRs can choose to hit enter to skip this. In case the item description is needed for a subsequent fill, the item code title will be used.

