

Getting Started with ICPSR

www.icpsr.umich.edu

1. Create an ICPSR user account:

In the upper right corner, click on Log In/Create Account.

Under Login via MyData - New User, click on Create Account.

Fill in the blanks and click Submit.

You should be able to log in immediately. If not, look for an email with a link to verify your account.

2. Search for data:

From the Find Data page (link in upper left corner), enter a topic in the Find Data box. Click GO.

If you do not have a topic in mind, you can browse by topic under Browse.

3. Study Description:

Clicking on a data set will give you detailed information about that data set.

The Study Description section gives information about the methodology (data collection and participants) and citation, as well as subject terms.

4. Related Publications:

The Related Publications section shows you a list of publications that are related to the data set.

5. Variables:

The Variables section allows you to view a list of all variables in a study and to search those variables. This is helpful when using a large data set with many variables.

6. Download:

In the Dataset(s) section, next to Download, click on the link for SPSS.

Click 'I Agree' at the bottom of the Terms of Use page.

Choose 'Open' in the message that pops up. This will open a compressed (zipped) file containing your data.

7. Unzip:

From the top or side menu of the zipped file, select 'Extract All Files.'

Click Browse and choose a location to save the folder; click OK, then Extract.

Here are your options for saving locations:

- Save to your H: drive (Caution: You have somewhat limited space on your H: drive, so make sure the data file is not too big).
- Save to a flash drive.

8. Use the data:

Open SPSS from the Start menu on the computer. Choose Cancel in the box that opens.

Click File→ Open→ Data.

Locate the .sav file from the folder you downloaded and click Open.

You are ready to run your analyses.

Be sure to save your SPSS data file and your output file – they are separate files.