

GSS Data Explorer



The GSS Data Explorer is a gateway to data from the General Social Survey (GSS), one of the nation's most important sources of information about societal change and American opinions. The GSS Data Explorer provides the most sophisticated and intuitive data dissemination space currently available, offering users free, easy, and efficient access to a wealth of data, and to NORC reports that illuminate trends and findings from the GSS. Researchers and data-savvy users can search, extract, and export full or select datasets for analysis in any statistical software program. Students, professors, and colleagues can search, save, and analyze data in individual or shared workspaces.



Search for Data

Explore GSS questions, variables, and publications by subject, year, or keyword.



Extract Data

Extract GSS data that can be read into statistical software packages, including STATA, SAS, SPSS, and R. Or, download the entire data set without creating an account.



Analyze Data

Conduct basic analyses without the need for statistical software.



Save Projects

Save selected variables, analyses, and extracts to access later or share with colleagues or students.

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The GSS Data Explorer is a resource for:



Researchers

GSS Data Explorer offers a comprehensive dataset with tools that help researchers explore and analyze data online, before extracting data for use in statistical packages.



Instructors

The GSS is a major teaching tool at colleges and universities. GSS Data Explorer allows instructors to select only the data needed for courses. They can save and share projects with students and review their students' work on the site.



Journalists

GSS Data Explorer allows journalists to view all questions asked in the GSS and find reports written about key trends or emerging themes. These reports and other GSS data are frequently referenced in leading publications.

The General Social Survey

The General Social Survey is second only to the United States Census as the most frequently cited source of information on how Americans think and feel about such issues as national spending priorities, crime and punishment, intergroup relations, and confidence in institutions. In addition to informing countless news articles, GSS data have been the basis of more than 25,000 books, scholarly papers, and PhD dissertations over its 42-year history. It is used by more than 400,000 students in their classes each year. The General Social Survey is a project of NORC with principal funding provided by the National Science Foundation.

Public Data Dissemination

In 2015, NORC partnered with Orlin Research to create the NORC Data Explorer, a new and innovative tool designed to make microdata more accessible and usable and thereby accelerate the transformation of data into knowledge. The search, analysis, and extract capabilities, coupled with collaborative workspaces, support tutorials, FAQs, and a user helpdesk provide a user-friendly way to disseminate data and increase public knowledge of research findings. The GSS Data Explorer is the first implementation of the NORC Data Explorer. To learn more about how this tool could be customized to your data, contact us at DataDissemination-BD@norc.org.