

APPENDIX G:

PRESTIGE SCORE AND SOCIOECONOMIC INDEX (SEI) DISTRIBUTIONS

(OCC, PRESTIGE, WRKSLF, WRKGOVT, COMMUTE, INDUSTRY, OCC80, PRESTG80, INDUS80, SPOCC, SPPRES, SPWRKSLF, SPIND, SPOCC80, SPPRES80, SPIND80, PAOCC16, PAPRES16, PAWRKSLF, PAIND16, PAOCC80, PAPRES80, PAIND80, MAOCC80, MAPRES80, MAWRKSLF, MAIND80, SEI, FIRSTSEI, PASEI, MASEI, SPEI)

Prestige

The prestige scores assigned to occupations in this study were taken from rating systems developed at NORC in 1963-1965 in a project on occupation prestige directed by Robert W. Hodge, Paul S. Siegel, and Peter H. Rossi and updated on the 1989 GSS. The 1989 update scale was prepared by Robert W. Hodge, Judith Treas, and Keiko Nakao. This concept of prestige is defined as the respondents' estimation of the social standing of occupations. The prestige scores in the Hodge-Siegel-Rossi and GSS studies were generated by asking respondents to estimate the social standing of occupations via a nine-step ladder, printed on cardboard and presented to the respondent.

The boxes on the ladder were numbered 1-9 from bottom to top. In addition, the first, fifth, and ninth boxes were labeled "bottom," "middle," and "top," respectively. The occupational titles were printed on small cards and the occupational prestige ratings were collected by requesting respondents to sort the cards into boxes formed by the rungs of the ladder. [P. 35.]¹

Significance testing between two prestige scores, or among a group of scores, requires knowledge about the standard errors. Since there is a different standard error term for each pair of scores, Siegel has provided a few values which are likely to exceed most actual standard errors. For more detail on standard error, sources of the prestige scores, and the method of translating the respondents' rankings into a standardized metric system, see Siegel, Prestige in the American Occupational Structure.

1970

The prestige score was originally designed for use with the 1960 U.S. Census occupational codes and has been adapted to the 1970 listing as follows:

- 1) If the occupation was a new one assigned to a previously existing subdivision (e.g., Engineers within the major category "Professional, Technical, and Kindred Workers"), it received the prestige score for the general n.e.c.² category of that subdivision.
- 2) If the occupation was grouped with a like occupation in 1960 but divided from it in 1970, both occupations received the same 1960 prestige score.
- 3) If this occupation was completely new to the list and was not assigned to an existing subdivision, it received the prestige score of the n.e.c. category for the major occupational division.

All adaptations are marked with a "*" next to the occupational classifications. (See Appendix F.)

- 4) The craft score was used for apprentices when the craft score was less than 41. If the craft score was greater than 41, the apprentice score of 41 was used.

For an alternative means of assigning prestige codes to 1970 Census categories see Robert M. Hauser and David L. Featherman, The Process of Stratification: Trends and Analysis. New York: Academic Press, 1977.

¹Paul S. Siegel, Prestige in the American Occupational Structure. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago. March, 1971. (Available from Photoduplication Department, University of Chicago Libraries, Chicago, 60637.)

²Not elsewhere classified.

1980

In 1989 General Social Survey replicated and extended the earlier Hodge-Siegel-Rossi ratings of occupational prestige. The prestige module was designed by the late Robert W. Hodge, Judith Treas and Keiko Nakao in consultation with Smith and Davis. Hodge died in February, 1989 during data collection. Analysis of the data and construction of the NORC/GSS Occupational Prestige Scale was carried out by Nakao and Treas. Their work was supported by NSF. The GSS Board of Overseers Sub-Committee on Occupational Prestige provided advice and guidance to both sets of PIs. Committee members included Richard Campbell, Robert Hauser, Patricia Roos, Paul Siegel, Joe Spaeth, and Andrea Tyree.

The occupational prestige module and the NORC/GSS Occupational Prestige Scale are discussed in detail in GSS Methodological Reports No. 69 and 70.³ The NORC/GSS Occupational Prestige scores for the 1980 Census Occupational Classification are given in Appendix F. A machine-readable file that lists prestige score, occupational code, and title of occupational categories is available from ICPSR. A raw data file and SPSS-X control cards that contain the raw prestige ratings that respondents assigned to occupational titles (and not the summary prestige scores for the 1980 Census Occupational Classification) is also available from ICPSR. This file is called "Ratings of Occupational Prestige on the 1989 General Social Survey."

SEI

SEI scores were originally calculated by Otis Dudley Duncan based on NORC's 1947 North-Hatt prestige study and the 1950 U.S. Census. Duncan regressed prestige scores for 45 occupational titles on education and income to produce weights that would predict prestige. This algorithm was then used to calculate SEI scores for all occupational categories employed in the 1950 Census classification of occupations. Similar procedures have been used to produce SEI scores based on later NORC prestige studies and censuses.

The GSS contains two sets of SEI scores. Both used procedures similar to those employed by Duncan. For cases coded according to the 1970 US Census codes there are SEI scores developed by Lloyd V. Temme (See Appendix G). These exist for respondent (DOTPRES), spouse (SPDOTPRE), and father (PADOTPRE). For cases coded according to the 1980 US Census codes there are SEI scores developed by Nakao and Treas as part of the GSS's 1989 occupational prestige study (see above). These exist for respondent (SEI), respondent's first occupation (FIRSTSEI), father (PASEI), mother (MASEI), and spouse (SPSEI). These scores are discussed in GSS Methodological Report No. 74.⁴

³Nakao, Keiko; Hodge, Robert W.; and Treas, Judith, "On Revising Prestige Scores for All Occupations," GSS Methodological Report No. 69. Chicago: NORC, 1990 and Nakao, Keiko and Treas, Judith, "Computing 1989 Occupational Prestige Scores," GSS Methodological Report No. 70. Chicago: NORC, 1990.

⁴Nakao, Keiko and Treas, Judith, "The 1989 Socioeconomic Index of Occupations: Construction from the 1989 Occupational Prestige Scores," GSS Methodological Report No. 74. Chicago: NORC, 1992.

1970 OCCUPATIONAL PRESTIGE SCORE DISTRIBUTIONS

Prestige Score (Punch)	Respondent's Occupation (N)	Father's Occupation (N)	Spouse's Occupation (N)
9	0	2	0
12	216	52	78
13	0	0	0
14	147	15	43
15	130	16	51
16	256	205	179
17	699	1100	387
18	634	540	259
19	253	90	132
20	536	72	237
21	7	7	2
22	447	196	190
23	336	184	185
24	35	54	17
25	640	74	304
26	544	811	294
27	361	220	207
28	194	320	147
29	584	384	337
30	201	252	124
31	519	166	251
32	1169	1509	820
33	531	571	382
34	979	648	627
35	209	300	141
36	1875	617	934
37	389	520	307
38	108	174	69
39	493	390	306
40	657	958	446
41	874	4445	552
42	294	215	170
43	265	101	130
44	195	262	129
45	621	706	473
46	1245	34	713
47	632	586	468
48	954	606	612
49	208	234	110
50	1913	2476	1396
51	401	218	229
52	149	31	83
53	13	12	8
54	70	58	47
55	75	24	47
56	208	114	122
57	307	193	193
58	51	44	26
59	0	0	0
60	683	149	427
61	346	172	169

Prestige Score (Punch)	Respondent's Occupation (N)	Father's Occupation (N)	Spouse's Occupation (N)
62	422	109	249
63	322	74	165
64	0	0	0
65	1	1	2
66	14	4	5
67	71	67	48
68	67	85	49
69	152	309	118
70	11	11	12
71	58	69	33
72	137	91	84
73	0	0	0
74	29	45	20
75	0	0	0
76	101	102	74
77	0	0	0
78	176	94	96
79	0	0	0
80	0	0	0
81	0	0	0
82	53	112	49
(Not applicable: Unemployed, No father substitute, Not married, Disabled, Retired, No answer, Don't know)	35332	37299	45035

1980 OCCUPATIONAL PRESTIGE SCORE DISTRIBUTIONS

Prestige Score (Punch)	Respondent's Occupation (N)	Father's Occupation (N)	Spouse's Occupation (N)	Mother's Occupation (N)
17	160	11	42	148
19	51	32	24	14
20	200	13	66	210
21	152	49	50	41
22	807	397	316	368
23	590	522	185	744
24	456	758	232	261
25	261	69	88	150
26	43	58	27	19
27	311	179	136	35
28	876	234	296	963
29	1004	207	348	464
30	1156	1475	629	303
31	808	409	328	519
32	1073	476	461	658
33	657	542	310	429
34	848	685	366	350
35	828	893	438	507
36	1404	1141	655	713
37	167	153	78	26
38	263	176	117	51
39	903	855	436	144
40	962	3620	506	288
41	372	235	141	65
42	1325	839	536	650
43	533	351	311	261
44	919	1133	524	281
45	441	569	263	88
46	1187	96	601	1153
47	1267	1177	681	577
48	364	202	167	71
49	905	929	475	234
50	364	401	225	37
51	2687	2467	1534	616
52	433	80	179	165
53	232	228	128	20
54	296	344	182	74
55	127	20	72	81
56	62	16	33	45
57	280	23	113	79
58	95	29	47	18
59	303	185	180	56
60	539	304	269	212
61	376	167	176	64
62	119	78	69	12
63	144	59	71	15
64	1081	653	638	678
65	455	291	205	174
66	955	215	475	932
67	7	10	8	2
68	134	51	63	44
69	341	397	185	53
70	13	22	9	2
71	92	96	40	5
72	56	122	41	7
73	131	179	78	27
74	528	223	265	73
75	176	168	115	12
86	115	179	91	25
(Not applicable: Unemployed, No father/mother substitute, Not married, Disabled, Re- tired, No answer, and Don't know)	28165	34107	44275	45286