**2008 General Social Survey – selected variables**

Find a variable name here and then look up the question in the online codebook.

**Variable name Brief description**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| id | Respondnt Id Number |
| abany | Abortion If Woman Wants For Any Reason |
| abdefctw | Wrong For Woman To Get Abortion For Birth Defects |
| abdefect | Strong Chance Of Serious Defect |
| abhlth | Womans Health Seriously Endangered |
| abnomore | Married--Wants No More Children |
| abpoor | Low Income--Cant Afford More Children |
| abpoorw | Wrong For Woman To Get Abortion If Low Income? |
| abrape | Pregnant As Result Of Rape |
| absingle | Not Married |
| advfront | Sci Rsch Is Necessary And Should Be Supported By Federal Govt |
| affrmact | Favor Preference In Hiring Blacks |
| afterlif | Belief In Life After Death |
| aged | Should Aged Live With Their Children |
| ancestrs | Believe In Supernatural Power Of Deceased Ancestors |
| anheat | Which Bodily Features Be Best Suited To A Small Animal Living In A Cold Climate |
| anscitst | Scientists Shld Be Allowed To Do Research Animals' Pain & Injury |
| astrosci | Astrology Is Scientific |
| attend | How Often R Attends Religious Services |
| attend12 | Freq Of R'S Relig Svc Attendance At Age 12 |
| ballot | Ballot Used For Interview |
| balpos | Sci Research Is Strongly In Favor Of Benefits |
| bible | Feelings About The Bible |
| bigbang | Sci Knowledge:The Universe Began With A Huge Explosion |
| blkwhite | R Agrees Right & Wrong Not Black & White |
| born | Was R Born In This Country |
| boyorgrl | Sci Knowledge:Father Gene Decides Sex Of Baby |
| cantrust | People Can Be Trusted Or Cant Be Too Careful |
| cappun | Favor Or Oppose Death Penalty For Murder |
| class | Subjective Class Identification |
| clerggov | Clergy Shouldn’t Try To Influence Govt Decisions |
| clergvte | Clergy Shouldn’t Try To Influence Voters |
| clrgmode | Was Saq Self Administered Or Interview Administered |
| colath | Allow Anti-Religionist To Teach |
| colcom | Should Communist Teacher Be Fired |
| colhomo | Allow Homosexual To Teach |
| colmil | Allow Militarist To Teach |
| colmslm | Allow Anti-American Muslim Clergymen Teaching In College |
| colrac | Allow Racist To Teach |
| colsci | R Has Taken Any College-Level Sci Course |
| comfort | Religion Helps People To Gain Comfort In Times Of Trouble And Sorrow |
| comprend | Rs Understanding Of Questions |
| conarmy | Confidence In Military |
| conbiz | Confidence In Business And Industry |
| conbus | Confidence In Major Companies |
| conchurh | Confidence In Churches And Religious Orgs |
| conclerg | Confidence In Organized Religion |
| concong | Confidence In Us Congress |
| concourt | Confidence In Courts And Legal System |
| condom | Used Condom Last Time |
| condrift | Sci Knowledge:The Continents Have Been Moving |
| coneduc | Confidence In Education |
| confed | Confid. In Exec Branch Of Fed Govt |
| confinan | Confid In Banks & Financial Institutions |
| conjudge | Confid. In United States Supreme Court |
| conlabor | Confidence In Organized Labor |
| conlegis | Confidence In Congress |
| conmedic | Confidence In Medicine |
| conpress | Confidence In Press |
| conschls | Confidence In Schools And Educ System |
| consci | Confidence In Scientific Community |
| contv | Confidence In Television |
| coop | Rs Attitude Toward Interview |
| courts | Courts Dealing With Criminals |
| cshutype | During March-May 2006, Was R Resident In Household Or Institution |
| daynight | When Did Most Errors Occur |
| degree | Rs Highest Degree |
| discaff | Whites Hurt By Aff. Action |
| divlaw | Divorce Laws |
| divorce | Ever Been Divorced Or Separated |
| done911a | Has R Developed Emergency Plans |
| done911b | Has R Stockpiled Supplies |
| done911c | Has R Purchased Things To Maked Them Safer |
| done911d | Has R Learned Where To Get More Info About Terrorism |
| done911e | Has R Duplicated Important Documents |
| done911f | Has R Reduced Air Travel |
| done911g | Has R Reduced Travel By Train |
| done911h | Has R Reduced Use Of Public Transportation |
| done911i | Has R Changed Mail Handling Procedures |
| done911j | Has R Become Vigilant Of What Is Going On Around R |
| done911k | Has R Avoided Travel To Certain Cities |
| done911l | Has R Avoided Tall Buildings |
| done911m | Has R Avoided National Landmarks |
| done911n | Has R Done Anything Else To Deal With Terrorism |
| dwelown | Does R Own Or Rent Home? |
| earthsun | Sci Knowledge:The Earth Goes Around The Sun |
| eff911a | How Effective R Thinks Developing Emergency Plans |
| eff911b | How Effective R Thinks Stockpiling Supplies |
| eff911c | How Effective R Thinks Purchasing Things To Make Them Safer |
| eff911d | How Effective R Thinks Learning Where To Get Info About Terrorism |
| eff911e | How Effective R Thinks Duplicating Important Documents |
| eff911f | How Effective R Thinks Reducing Air Travel |
| eff911g | How Effective R Thinks Reducing Travel By Train |
| eff911h | How Effective R Thinks Reducing Use Of Public Transportation |
| eff911i | How Effective R Thinks Changing Mail Handling Procedures |
| eff911j | How Effective R Thinks Becoming Vigilant |
| eff911k | How Effective R Thinks Avoiding Travel To Certain Cities |
| eff911l | How Effective R Thinks Avoiding Tall Buildings |
| eff911m | How Effective R Thinks Avoiding National Landmarks |
| egomeans | Life Meaningful Only If You Provide Meaning |
| electron | Sci Knowledge:Electrons Are Smaller Than Atoms |
| erosion | Example Of Erosion |
| ethnum | Type Of Response About Ethnicity -- R |
| evcrack | R Ever Use Crack Cocaine |
| evidu | R Ever Inject Drugs |
| evolved | Sci Knowledge:Human Beings Developed From Animals |
| evpaidsx | Ever Have Sex Paid For Or Being Paid Since 18 |
| evstray | Have Sex Other Than Spouse While Married |
| expdesgn | Better Way To Test Drug Btw Control And Non-Control |
| exptext | Why Is It Better To Test Drug This Way |
| fair | People Fair Or Try To Take Advantage |
| famgen | Number Of Family Generations In Household |
| family16 | Living With Parents When 16 Yrs Old |
| fatalism | People Can’t Change The Course Of Their Lives |
| fear | Afraid To Walk At Night In Neighborhood |
| fechld | Mother Working Doesnt Hurt Children |
| feelrel | How Religious Is R |
| fefam | Better For Man To Work, Woman Tend Home |
| fepol | Women Not Suited For Politics |
| fepres | Vote For Woman President |
| fepresch | Preschool Kids Suffer If Mother Works |
| finalter | Change In Financial Situation |
| finrela | Opinion Of Family Income |
| fishexp1 | What Is Scientist Trying To Find Out From This Experiment |
| fishexp2 | Why Did You Choose That Answer |
| form | Form Of Split Questionnaire Asked |
| fund | How Fundamentalist Is R Currently |
| fund16 | How Fundamentalist Was R At Age 16 |
| genes | Traits Are Transferred Over Generation |
| geomobil | Has R Moved From One Kind Of Place To Another |
| getahead | Opinion Of How People Get Ahead |
| gills | How Fish Get Oxygen |
| god | Rs Confidence In The Existence Of God |
| godchnge | Describe Your Beliefs About God |
| godmeans | Life Meaningful Because God Exists |
| goldfish | Experiment About Goldfish And Temperature |
| goodlife | Standard Of Living Of R Will Improve |
| goveqinc | Govmnt Should Reduce Inc Differentials |
| granborn | How Many Grandparents Born Outside U.S. |
| grass | Should Marijuana Be Made Legal |
| gunlaw | Favor Or Oppose Gun Permits |
| h2olife | What Property Of Water Is Most Important |
| happy | General Happiness |
| hapunhap | Happy Or Unhappy With Life Today |
| harmgood | Modern Science Does More Harm Than Good |
| harsexcl | Since 18 R Has Ever Found Self The Object Of Sexual Advances From Religious Lead |
| harsexjb | R Has Been The Object Of Sexual Advances/Propositions From Supervisors |
| health | Condition Of Health |
| heaven | Belief In Heaven |
| hefinfo | Number Of People In Informant'S Household |
| hell | Belief In Hell |
| helpful | People Helpful Or Looking Out For Selves |
| helpoth | To Help Others |
| hhrace | Race Of Household |
| hivtest | Have You Ever Been Tested For Hiv |
| homosex | Homosexual Sex Relations |
| homosex1 | Is Homosexual Sex Wrong? |
| hotcore | Sci Knowledge: The Center Of Earth Is Very Hot |
| hsbio | R Ever Took A High School Biology Course |
| hschem | R Ever Took A High School Chemistry Course |
| hsphys | R Ever Took A High School Physics Course |
| hubbywrk | Husb Shld Work Wife Shld Look After Home |
| hunt | Does R Or Spouse Hunt |
| incgap | Income Differentials In Usa Too Big |
| incom16 | Rs Family Income When 16 Yrs Old |
| inequal5 | Pay Differences -> American Prosperity |
| intecon | Interested In Economic Issues |
| inteduc | Interested In Local School Issues |
| intenvir | Interested In Environmental Issues |
| intfarm | Interested In Farm Issues |
| intintl | Interested In International Issues |
| intmed | Interested In Medical Discoveries |
| intmil | Interested In Military Policy |
| intrace1 | Interviewer S Race1 |
| intrhome | Internet Access In R'S Home |
| intsci | Interested In New Scientific Discoveries |
| intspace | Interested In Space Exploration |
| inttech | Interested In Technologies |
| kidssol | Rs Kids Living Standard Compared To R |
| knwclsex | R Knows Other People Who Were Obj Of Sexual Advances |
| lasers | Sci Knowledge:Lasers Work By Focusing Sound Waves |
| letin1 | Number Of Immigrants To America Nowadays Should Be |
| lftplane | Key Factor That Enables Airplane To Lift |
| libath | Allow Anti-Religious Book In Library |
| libcom | Allow Communists Book In Library |
| libhomo | Allow Homosexuals Book In Library |
| libmil | Allow Militarists Book In Library |
| libmslm | Allow Anti-American Muslim Clergymen'S Books In Library |
| librac | Allow Racists Book In Library |
| life | Is Life Exciting Or Dull |
| liveblks | Neighborhood Half Black |
| livewhts | R Favor Living In Half White Neighborhood |
| localnum | Number Of Employees: Rs Work Site |
| madeg | Mothers Highest Degree |
| makefrnd | Religion Helps People To Make Friends |
| marasian | Close Relative Marry Asian |
| marblk | Close Relative Marry Black |
| marelkid | Mothers Religion When R Was Child |
| marhisp | Close Relative Marry Hispanic |
| marhomo | Homosexuals Should Have Right To Marry |
| marital | Marital Status |
| marwht | R Favor Close Relative Marrying White Person |
| matesex | Was 1 Of Rs Partners Spouse Or Regular |
| mawrkgrw | Mothers Employment When R Was 16 |
| mawrkslf | Mother Self-Emp. Or Worked For Somebody |
| meovrwrk | Men Hurt Family When Focus On Work Too Much |
| miracles | Belief In Religious Miracles |
| mobile16 | Geographic Mobility Since Age 16 |
| mywaygod | R Has Own Way Of Connecting With God Without Churches Or Religious Services |
| nanotech | How Much R Heard About Nanotechnology |
| natchld | Assistance For Childcare |
| natcrimy | Law Enforcement -- Verison Y |
| nateducy | Education -- Version Y |
| nathealy | Health -- Version Y |
| natmass | Mass Transportation |
| natpark | Parks And Recreation |
| natroad | Highways And Bridges |
| natsci | Supporting Scientific Research |
| natsoc | Social Security |
| news | How Often Does R Read Newspaper |
| nextgen | Science & Tech. Give More Opportunities To Next Generation |
| nihilism | Life Serves No Purpose |
| obey | To Obey |
| odds1 | Test Of Knowledge About Probablity1 |
| odds2 | Test Of Knowledge About Probablity2 |
| othlang | Can R Speak Language Other Than English |
| ownbiz | R Owns Business |
| owngun | Have Gun In Home |
| padeg | Fathers Highest Degree |
| parborn | Were Rs Parents Born In This Country |
| parelkid | Father'S Religion When R Was Child |
| parsol | Rs Living Standard Compared To Parents |
| partfull | Was R'S Work Part-Time Or Full-Time? |
| partyid | Political Party Affiliation |
| pawrkslf | Father Self-Emp. Or Worked For Somebody |
| paxhappy | Religion Helps People To Find Inner Peace And Happiness |
| permoral | R Agrees That Morality A Personal Matter |
| perscrfc | R Made Some Personal Sacrifice As An Expression Of Faith By Fasting, Giving Up A |
| phase | Subsampling: Two-Phase Design. |
| phone | Does R Have Telephone |
| pistol | Pistol Or Revolver In Home |
| polabuse | Citizen Said Vulgar Or Obscene Things |
| polattak | Citizen Attacking Policeman With Fists |
| polescap | Citizen Attempting To Escape Custody |
| polmurdr | Citizen Questioned As Murder Suspect |
| polviews | Think Of Self As Liberal Or Conservative |
| popular | To Be Well Liked Or Popular |
| pornlaw | Feelings About Pornography Laws |
| postlife | Belief In Life After Death |
| pray | How Often Does R Pray |
| prayer | Bible Prayer In Public Schools |
| premars1 | Is Premarital Sex Wrong? |
| premarsx | Sex Before Marriage |
| pres04 | Vote For Kerry, Bush, Nader |
| punsin | R Agrees That Sinners Must Be Punished |
| racdif1 | Differences Due To Discrimination |
| racdif2 | Differences Due To Inborn Disability |
| racdif3 | Differences Due To Lack Of Education |
| racdif4 | Differences Due To Lack Of Will |
| race | Race Of Respondent |
| raclive | Any Opp. Race In Neighborhood |
| racopen | Vote On Open Housing Law |
| racpres | Would Vote For Black President |
| radioact | Sci Knowledge:All Radioactivity Is Man-Made |
| reborn | Has R Ever Had A 'Born Again' Experience |
| region | Region Of Interview |
| reincar | Believe In Reincarnation |
| relatsex | Relation To Last Sex Partner |
| relcand | R Accepts A Person From A Different Religion Or View From R'S Being Candidate Of |
| relexp | Have Religious Experience Changed Life |
| relexper | Turning Point In Life For Religion |
| relext1 | Religious Extremists Should Be Allowed To Hold Public Meeting To Express Views |
| relext2 | People Should Be Allowed To Publish Books Expressing Their Views |
| relgrpeq | All Religious Groups In Usa Should Have Equal Rights |
| religcon | Religins Bring More Conflict |
| religint | Religious People Are Often Too Intolerant |
| religkid | Religion R Was Raised In |
| reliten | Strength Of Affiliation |
| rellife | Try To Carry Beliefs Into Other Dealings |
| relmarry | R Accepts A Person From A Different Religion Or View From R'S Marrying Relative |
| relneg | Any Turning Point When Less Committed To Religion |
| relobjct | For Religious Reasons R Has In Home Shrine, Altar, Or Religious Object On Displa |
| relpersn | R Consider Self A Religious Person |
| relsprt | Is R Spiritual Person |
| reltruth | How Much Truth In Religion |
| res16 | Type Of Place Lived In When 16 Yrs Old |
| res2006 | Was R Living In Usa During March-May 2006 |
| respnum | Number In Family Of R |
| rifle | Rifle In Home |
| rightpeo | Religion Helps People To Meet The Right Kind Of People |
| rotapple | R Agrees Immoral Person Corrupts Society |
| rplace | R'S Relationship To Household Head |
| rspctrel | We Must Respect All Religions |
| rvisitor | Is R A Visitor? |
| salth2o | Ocean Water For Vegetables |
| satfin | Satisfaction With Financial Situation |
| satjob | Job Or Housework |
| savesoul | Tried To Convince Others To Accept Jesus |
| scibnfts | Benefits Of Sci Research Outweight Harmful Results |
| scifrom | Main Source Of Information About Science And Technology |
| sciintro | Which Version Of Science Introduction Was Used |
| scimath | Quality Of Science & Math Educ In Us Is Inadequate |
| scimode | Was Saq Self Administered Or Interview Administered |
| scistudy | R Has Clear Understanding Of Scientific Study |
| scitext | What It Means To R To Study Sth Scienfically |
| seesand | Which Picture Shows What She Should Use For The 2Nd Pot |
| sex | Respondents Sex |
| sexeduc | Sex Education In Public Schools |
| sexfreq | Frequency Of Sex During Last Year |
| sexornt | Sexual Orientation |
| sexsex | Sex Of Sex Partners In Last Year |
| sexsex5 | Sex Of Sex Partners Last Five Years |
| sexsex18 | Since Age 18, Have Your Sex Partners Been? |
| shotgun | Shotgun In Home |
| socbar | Spend Evening At Bar |
| socfrend | Spend Evening With Friends |
| socommun | Spend Evening With Neighbor |
| socrel | Spend Evening With Relatives |
| spaneng | Interviews Conducted In Spanish Or English |
| spanking | Favor Spanking To Discipline Child |
| spkath | Allow Anti-Religionist To Speak |
| spkcom | Allow Communist To Speak |
| spkhomo | Allow Homosexual To Speak |
| spkmil | Allow Militarist To Speak |
| spkmslm | Allow Muslim Clergymen Preaching Hatred Of The Us |
| spkrac | Allow Racist To Speak |
| sprtprsn | R Consider Self A Spiritual Person |
| startbiz | R Trying To Start Business |
| stormtxt | Do You See Lightning Before Hearing Thunder |
| suicide1 | Suicide If Incurable Disease |
| suicide2 | Suicide If Bankrupt |
| suicide3 | Suicide If Dishonored Family |
| suicide4 | Suicide If Tired Of Living |
| tax | Rs Federal Income Tax |
| taxshare | Should Rich Pay Bigger Share Of Taxes? |
| teensex | Sex Before Marriage -- Teens 14-16 |
| theism | God Concerned With Human Beings Personally |
| thnkself | To Think For Ones Self |
| toofast | Science Makes Our Way Of Life Change To Fast |
| trust | Can People Be Trusted |
| trustsci | We Trust Too Much In Science |
| unemp | Ever Unemployed In Last Ten Yrs |
| union | Does R Or Spouse Belong To Union |
| upbreath | Why Short Breath At The Top Of A Mountain |
| uswary | Expect U.S. In World War In 10 Years |
| viruses | Sci Knowledge:Antiviotics Kill Viruses As Well As Bacteria |
| visitors | Number Of Visitors In Household |
| vistholy | How Often R Visits Holy Place For Religious Reasons |
| vote04 | Did R Vote In 2004 Election |
| weighing | Which Is The Best Method To Report Weight Of Leaf |
| widowed | Ever Been Widowed |
| wksub | Does R Or Spouse Have Supervisor |
| wksubs | Does Supervisor Have Supervisor |
| wksup | Does R Or Spouse Supervise Anyone |
| work3yrs | How Many Full Time Jobs R Has In Past 3 Yrs Since 2005 |
| workhard | To Work Hard |
| wrkgovt | Govt Or Private Employee |
| wrkslf | R Self-Emp Or Works For Somebody |
| wrkstat | Labor Frce Status |
| wrkwayup | Blacks Overcome Prejudice Without Favors |
| xmarsex | Sex With Person Other Than Spouse |
| xmarsex1 | Is Extramarital Sex Wrong? |
| xmovie | Seen X-Rated Movie In Last Year |