Time use data on care work: What is collected by countries; What is needed; & Relevance of ICATUS 2016

Kimberly Fisher

Centre for Time Use Research, University of Oxford

Secretary, International Association for Time Use Research

28 June 2016

General Comments

- Narrative data collected by time diaries has reflexive power – with sufficient detail in codes possible to restructure data to alternative 24 hour coding schemes measuring

  o Physical activity (obesity; general health; exhaustion; medical crisis response - Ebola)

  o Resource or service use

  o Environmental impact of behaviours

- Value to ensuring codes allow this recoding

Department
of Sociology
UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

CENTRE FOR
TIME USE RESEARCH

Dimensions of Care Activities

- **Activities**

- **Availability**

- **Quality** as assessed by

  - care providers

  - care recipients

  - families

  - government & NGOs

Department
of Sociology

UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

CENTRE FOR
TIME USE RESEARCH

Dimensions of Care Activities

- **Activities** (food preparation, assistance with personal care, transportation, emotional support)
  - **Care is not a singular activity**
  - **Monetary valuations of types of care differ**
  - **Gender & policy implications diverse**
  - **ICATUS covers these better in latest version**
- **Availability** (contactable, close by to respond) – a dimension which imposes constraints on day
  - **ICATUS coverage could improve**

Dimensions of Care Activities

- **Quality**
  - Cultural loading (bad parent ≠ bad cook or bedroom slob)
  - Central to **wellbeing** and **future prospects** of
    - care providers
    - care recipients
    - families
    - states - measure of social (re/pro)gress
  - Key policy concern in relation to **interventions in families** & **service provision**
  - Quality & component diversity related to cost of replacement market care

CENTRE FOR
TIME USE RESEARCH

Department
of Sociology

UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Child Care Codes 4-41

41		Babycare, childcare and instruction
	411	Caring for babies and children including feeding, cleaning, physical care
	412	Providing medical care to children
	413	Instructing, teaching, training, helping children
	414	Talking with and reading to babies and children
	415	Playing and sports with children
	416	Minding children (passive care)
	417	Meetings and arrangements with schools and child care service providers
	419	Other activities related to babycare, childcare and instruction (n.e.c.)

Child Care Problems

1) **413** Instructing, teaching, training, helping children

with schoolwork

2) Separate other playing with children from other nec (a new code 418) – very different subjective wellbeing and care quality assessments with play as opposed to other nec

Adult Care Codes 4-42

42		Care for dependent adults[27]
	421	Assisting dependent adults with tasks of daily living (feeding, cleaning, getting dressed, and physical care for dependent adults)
	422	Assisting dependent adults with medical care
	423	Assisting dependent adults with forms, administration, accounts
	424	Affective/emotional support for dependent adults
	425	Passive care
	426	Meetings and arrangements with adult care service providers
	429	Other activities related to caring for dependent adults (n.e.c.)

Adult Care Notes

- Diarists do not specifically report all adult care activities as adult care

  - Not recognise gradual decline

  - Denial is a coping mechanism

  - Hard to distinguish care element of general domestic work that people otherwise do

- Adult carers do more food preparation, clothing care, service use, shopping & resource foraging, administrative activity, cleaning

- Reporting of adult care time needs to account for this elevated domestic work time

- Useful questionnaire item - does person currently provides adult care support (not just on the diary day)

Pet Care Codes 3-36

Pet care is a form of care

Shares same properties as child & adult care

Time with other species associated with the level of environmental impact of daily behaviours

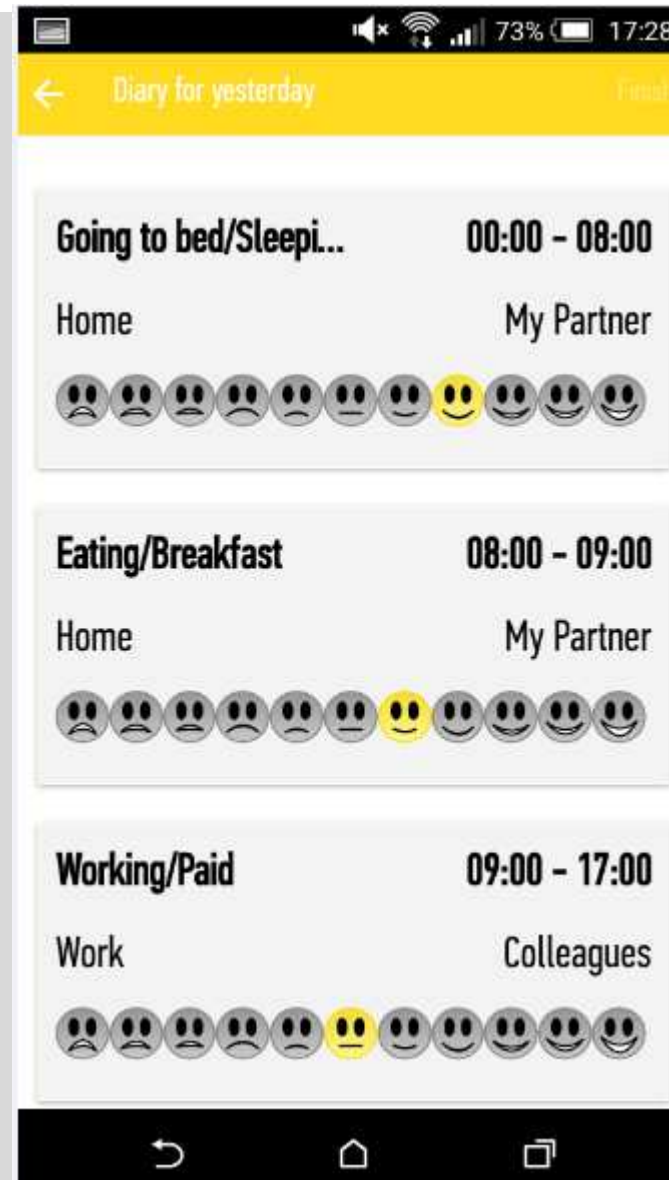| 36	Pet care
361	Daily care including feeding, cleaning, grooming, walking, playing with pets
362	Using veterinary care or other pet care services (grooming, stabling, holiday or day care)
369	Other activities related to pet care (n.e.c.)

Pet Care Problems

- Walking dogs, riding horses to exercise a horse, and other physical activity with pets matters for physical activity / health; also different subjective well-being ratings

- Playing with pets has a different subjective wellbeing assessment; also linked to different quality assessments of care

- Better for 362 to become 364; split 361 into 3 categories

Is 'For Whom' Fit for Purpose?

- Only relevant to care giving & volunteering – minimal relevance to many activities (redundant with activity codes already captures home vs mixed production)

- Column response rates generally low

- May reduce survey response rates overall

- Misses perspective or care recipients, where **From Whom** is the relevant issue – some care provision by people excluded from sample frames working outside the formal economy

- From/for whom have same response problems

Happiness Research Organisation app diaries among recent surveys with a wellbeing dimension

Recent national time use surveys from France, Italy, UK & USA feature wellbeing ratings

Use Wellbeing Instead?

CENTRE FOR
TIME USE RESEARCH

Department
of Sociology

UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

- Equally relevant to care givers & recipients

- Captures elements of care quality

- Captures impact of alternative care routines

- Relevant to all diary events

- No impact on response rates in some surveys, increased response rates in others when wellbeing added as a diary dimension

- Supplements policy value of whole survey

- Can calculate national wellbeing accounts alongside extended national accounts

Amend With Whom

- Care provided by people more likely to refuse to participate or missed out in sample frames

- Smart device communications & monitoring increasingly relevant in care – but on-line interaction time not yet captured (this matters to all activities, not just care)

- Amending With Whom field might address these current shortcomings

Thank you

kimberly.fisher@timeuse.org