

Data description: by Jonathan Pritchett

These data were collected from the office of the Orleans parish Civil Clerk of Court. The sample includes all slave sales recorded by the register of conveyance from October 1856 to August 1861. The construction of the dataset is similar to that employed previously by Fogel and Engerman (1976). The unit of observation is the individual with the exception of children who were bundled with their mothers. Fields are defined as follows:

| Field Name | Definition |
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| ID number | Unique observation number |
| Conveyance | Number of Conveyance volume |
| Page | Page number of transaction |
| Researcher | Initials of research assistant who transcribed transaction |
| Notary First Name | First name of public notary who recorded transaction |
| Notary Last Name | Last name of public notary |
| Sales Date | Sales date of transaction (MM/DD/YYYY format). This is NOT the date the sale was recorded in conveyance office. |
| Sellers First Name | Seller's First Name |
| Sellers Last Name | Seller's Last Name |
| Sellers County of Origin | Seller's county (or city) of origin |
| Sellers State of Origin | Seller's state of origin |
| Representing Seller | Name of agent representing seller if seller is not present at time of sale (normally blank). |
| Relationship to Seller | Agent's relationship to seller |
| Buyers First Name | Buyer's First Name |
| Buyers Last Name | Buyer's Last Name |
| Buyers County of Origin | Buyer's County (or city) of Origin |
| Buyers State of Origin | Buyer's State of Origin |
| Representing Buyer | Name of agent representing buyer if buyer is not present at time of sale (normally blank). |
| Relationship to Buyer | Agent's relationship to buyer |
| Slave Name | Slave's first name; rarely last name also listed |
| Sex | Male (M) or female (F). Gender often inferred from sale record, such as Negro vs. Negress, mulatto vs. mulatress, etc. |
| Age | Age in years |
| Color | Description of slave's skin color, but may also indicate ancestry (such as mulatto) |
| Occupation | Slave's occupation – often blank |
| Family Relationship | Describes family relationship of slaves (if any) sold in groups |
| Name Child 1 | Name of child 1 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 1 | Gender of child 1 (sold with mother). |
| Age Child 1 | Age in years of child 1 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Name Child 2 | Name of child 2 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 2 | Gender of child 2 (sold with mother). |

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| Age Child 2 | Age in years of child 2 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Name Child 3 | Name of child 3 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 3 | Gender of child 3 (sold with mother). |
| Age Child 3 | Age in years of child 3 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Name Child 4 | Name of child 4 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 4 | Gender of child 4 (sold with mother). |
| Age Child 4 | Age in years of child 4 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Name Child 5 | Name of child 5 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 5 | Gender of child 5 (sold with mother). |
| Age Child 5 | Age in years of child 5 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Name Child 6 | Name of child 6 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 6 | Gender of child 6 (sold with mother). |
| Age Child 6 | Age in years of child 6 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Name Child 7 | Name of child 7 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 7 | Gender of child 7 (sold with mother). |
| Age Child 7 | Age in years of child 7 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Name Child 8 | Name of child 8 (sold with mother). Blank when slaves are listed separately and/or with separate prices |
| Sex Child 8 | Gender of child 8 (sold with mother). |
| Age Child 8 | Age in years of child 8 (sold with mother). Decimal equivalents for age in months. |
| Guaranteed | Yes or No. Most conveyance records omit this information (missing value). |
| Notes on Guarantee | Description of guarantee/flip; reason why slave doesn't have full guarantee |
| Number of Total Slaves | Total number of slaves listed in transaction |
| Number of Adult Slaves | Total number of "principal" slaves – corresponds to the number of separate entries for each transaction. Recall that children (especially those under 10 years) were bundled with mothers |
| Number of Child Slaves | Total number of children listed in transaction |
| Number of Prices | Total number of prices listed in transaction |
| Price | Price associated with slaves. For group sales with a single price, only one price is listed for first slave, and for other slaves, entry is blank |
| Payment Method | Cash or Credit. Sometimes "Cash and Credit" for credit sales with down payment. Also slave exchange, typical result of redhibition claim. |

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| Payment flag | Description of payment schedule for credit sales |
| DUMMY credit | 0 or 1 indicator for credit sales |
| Down Payment | Number value of cash down payment for credit sales |
| mthcred | Maximum length of credit (in months) |
| Interest Rate | Annual interest rate charged on credit sales |
| Discount Rate | Calculated monthly discount rate |
| predicted rate | Predicted monthly interest rate for credit sales without explicit interest rates |
| Calculations | Intermediate calculation – please ignore |
| Ratio | Intermediate calculation – please ignore |
| PresentValue | Present value calculation for credit sales; blank for cash sales |
| DUMMY omission | 0 or 1 indicator for omitting observation |
| Reason for Omission | Reason for excluding observation from working sample |
| Comments | Description of unusual characteristics for observation |
| DUMMY Estate Sale | 0 or 1 indicator for estate sale |