NLS NEWS BLS

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"NLS at 50" Celebration Begins

Activities commemorating the 50th anniversary celebration of the inception of the NLS will run from June 2015 through late 2016.

An NLS@50 website (https://nlsat50org) commemorating the 50th anniversary launched in June 2015. This website will provide historic information, fun facts, researcher profiles, research findings, behind-the-scenes looks at the NLS, and much more. Be sure to check it out.

If you've conducted research with NLS data, we invite you to submit your own researcher profile to the NLS@50 website by using this link: https://nlsat50.org/contribute/researcher.

The NLS@50 website will announce all other planned NLS anniversary events, including

- commemorative anniversary sessions at several professional conferences between spring 2015 and fall 2016
- a 1-day anniversary conference at BLS in September 2015
- special issue of the *Journal of Marriage & Family* and articles in the *Monthly Labor Review*. ☐

Spotlight: Volunteerism Variables in the NLS

Interested in volunteerism as a research topic? Around 62.8 million Americans volunteered through or for an organization at least once between September 2013 and September 2014. (See September 2014 Current Population Survey supplement.) The NLS datasets offer several volunteer-related variables in select years. A cohort-by-cohort description of those NLS variables follows.

NLSY79 Cohort

NLSY79 respondents answered a series of questions about volunteerism in the 2006 and 2010 survey years. (Note: if a respondent was not interviewed in 2010, the volunteer questions were asked of that respondent in the 2012 survey round.) Respondents first reported on whether they did any volunteer activity at all during the previous year, then indicated what type(s) of volunteer work: religious/spiritual, promoting education/helping schools/helping libraries, helping youth, neighborhoods and communities, helping people in poor health, helping

In this issue

"NLS at 50" Celebration Begins 1
Spotlight: Volunteerism Variables in the NLS 1
Going to a Conference This Year? Look for the NLS Booth 3
Strong Showing for NLS-Related Presentations 3
NLS Bibliography Reaches 8,500 Citations 4
Did You Know? Discrimination Variables Available in the Young Adult Cohort 4
NLS Investigator Now Offers R® As Customizing Choice 5
Data Collection and Release Schedule 5
NLSY79 Errata Notice: One Case Dropped for Round 19 6
Frequently Asked Questions 6
Completed NLS Research 7

people in need, volunteering with arts and culture organizations, helping the environment, or giving international aid/promoting world peace. Respondents estimated how often they volunteered and the amount of time spent volunteering. In 2010, respondents also answered questions about volunteer work organized through their regular workplace; for example, they were asked questions about whether any coworkers volunteered with the respondent and if the respondent got time off from work to volunteer. In addition, the 2010 survey year introduced questions about skills gained through volunteer work and whether the volunteer activities helped the respondent learn about job opportunities.

Young Adult Cohort

Young adults are asked each survey year if they have performed any volunteer work for an organization during the past 2 years. If so, a followup question asked about the type of organization (service, political, church, community action, hospital/nursing home, educational, or environmental). Respondents indicated whether the work was strictly voluntary or if it was court ordered; part of a school project; done as a favor to a friend or family member; done to look good on college or job application; or required or sponsored by church, fraternity or sorority, or employer. Young adults also reported how often their parents acted as a volunteer at their school.

Children of the NLSY79 Cohort

Beginning in 1994, children age 10 and older were asked each survey year if they did volunteer work or community service after school. In 2004, 14-year-old respondents were asked what type of organization they volunteered through. Starting in 1996, school-age children were asked to estimate how often either of their parents volunteered at school. The mothers themselves were asked if they volunteered in the classroom, at lunch, or on field trips.

NLSY97 Cohort

NLSY97 respondents were asked in all survey years about the duration of court-ordered community service for the arrest-loop portion of the survey. In rounds 9, 11, and 15, NLSY97 respondents provided information about general volunteer work (including any activities aimed at changing social conditions). Question topics included frequency of service, main reason for the work, meeting attendance, and financial contributions to social causes.

In a related set of pro-social questions, a random subset of round-11 respondents were asked about donating blood, giving to the homeless, returning extra change to the cashier, letting someone ahead of them while in line, and allowing an acquaintance to borrow a valuable item. Respondents also provided opinions on community participation, such as how important it is to vote, serve on jury duty, report a crime, and keep informed.

Original Cohorts

Respondents in the Young Women cohort answered questions about volunteer work in survey years 1973, 1978, 1988, 1991, 1995, and 2003, including the number of weeks and hours per week, the reason they volunteered, and the organization for which they worked. The mature women were asked the same series of questions beginning in 1974 and continuing through select survey years. The young women were asked in 1978 about child care needs for the time volunteered; both cohorts were asked about volunteer-related child care needs in 1995. In 1988, young women indicated whether their volunteer work resulted in finding work for pay. Mature women respondents provided details in 1979 on whether they held an office or position in their volunteer organization and how they felt toward that organization.

In 1978, 1981, and 1990, the Older Men cohort answered questions about volunteerism within a series of questions about leisure time activities. The Young Men's survey did not contain any questions about doing volunteer work.

Researchers interested in finding citations outlining NLS-related research articles and papers using NLS data can visit www.nlsbibliography.org and search on the key-word phrase "Volunteer Work." Currently, 30 citations related to volunteerism are listed in the *NLS Bibliography*. ☐

Going to a Conference This Year? Look for the NLS Booth

Each year, staff from NLS User Services travel to conferences across the United States to share information about the NLS data with attendees. Potential users and veteran users alike can get details about topical areas, obtain tips about data intricacies, and view demonstrations on how to access data from the NLS Investigator. There are also occasional NLS workshops in conjunction with the conference.

The current NLS booth schedule includes appearances at conferences held by the following organizations:

- American Association of Public Policy and Management (APPAM)
- American Economic Association (AEA)
- American Educational Research Association(AERA)
- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- American Sociological Association (ASA)
- Gerontological Society of America (GSA)
- National Council on Family Relations (NCFR)
- Population Association of America (PAA)
- Society for Research on Adolescence (SRA)
- Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR)

If you can't make it to our booth, NLS User Services can assist researchers with data questions by phone (614-442-7366) and email (usersvc@chrr.osu.edu). The NLS Info website is also a user-friendly resource with introductions to all the NLS cohorts and substantial information on data topics, data use, and documentation details. ☐

Strong Showing for NLS-Related Presentations

The 2015 meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA) featured another strong showing of NLS-related research presentations. The PAA's annual 3-day gathering, held this year April 30 through May 2 in San Diego, California, included numerous presentations featuring NLS data. Five NLS cohorts were represented: the NLSY79, NLSY97, Children of the NLSY79, NLSY79 Young Adult, and Older Men.

Presentations included topics on maternal age and child achievement, consequences stemming from the age when respondents left home, cohort perspective of youth poverty, intergenerational transmission of family instability, cohabiters' unfulfilled marital expectations and mental health, marriage in rural America, motherhood wage penalty, punitive versus medicalized responses to childhood behavior problems, sedentary work and BMI, and more.

Bibliographic citations for NLS-related conference presentations can be found in the NLS Annotated Bibliography. An advanced bibliography search with "Population Association of America" in the "Search Citation Sources" function will yield a listing of the NLS papers presented at PAA meetings. For more information about PAA, including details on next year's 2016 PAA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., go to www.populationassociation.org. ☐

NLS Bibliography Reaches 8,500 Citations

Users can now find more than 8,500 NLS-related research citations in the NLS Annotated Bibliography. In April 2015, the official count of NLS-related citations stood at 8,585. Category tallies at that point in time included the following:

- 301 book chapters
- 3,633 journal articles
- 1 piece of legislation
- 24 master's theses
- 205 monographs
- 197 newspaper articles or mentions
- 1,443 conference presentations
- 1,073 Ph.D. dissertations
- 456 reports
- 4 webcasts
- 1,117 working papers
- 31 honors theses (bachelor's degree)

Citations generally are accompanied by an abstract and list details of the research, including which NLS cohorts were used for the analysis. Bibliographic entries often include a publisher's link to the abstract or article. Researchers are encouraged to share information about their own NLS-related research by going to the NLS bibliography website and providing details at the link labeled "Submit Citation." □

Did You Know? Discrimination Variables Available in the Young Adult Cohort

The 2012 NLSY79 Young Adult questionnaire introduced two new sets of questions about experiences with discrimination.

Day-to-day discrimination questions included the following:

In your day-to-day life, how often have any of the following happened to you?

- You have been treated with less courtesy than other people.
- You have been treated with less respect than other people.
- You have received poorer service than other people at restaurants or stores.
- People have acted as if they think you are not smart.
- People have acted as if they are afraid of you.
- People have acted as if they think you are dishonest.
- People have acted as if they're better than you are.
- You have been called names or insulted.
- You have been threatened or harassed.
- What do you think was the main reason for these experiences? (Answer categories: ethnicity, gender, race, age, religion, sexual orientation, weight, name, another aspect of your physical appearance, your education or income level, other).

Questions about major instances of discrimination (asked of Young Adult respondents age 21 and older)

included the following:

In the following questions, we are interested in the way other people have treated you or your beliefs about how other people have treated you. Can you tell me if any of the following has ever happened to you?

- Have you ever been unfairly discouraged by a teacher or advisor from continuing your education?
- For unfair reasons, have you ever not been hired for a job?
- Have you ever been unfairly denied a promotion?
- Have you ever been unfairly fired?
- Have you ever been unfairly stopped, searched, questioned, physically threatened or abused by the police?
- What do you think was the main reason for these experiences?

The discrimination variables can be found on the 2012 NLSY Young Adult dataset via NLS Investigator. Search "Treatment by Others" in the "Word in Title" search criteria or see Question Names Q16-10A through Q16-11K. ☐

NLS Investigator Now Offers R® As Customizing Choice

NLS Investigator, the Web interface mechanism for accessing NLS public data, now gives researchers another customizing choice for creating downloads: R® Source Code. R is a programming language and software environment for statistical computing. The Investigator download option list also includes SAS®, SPSS®, and STATA®.

To use R to create a data download, select the desired variables in Investigator, click on the "Save/Download" tab and choose "R® Source Code" within the "Advanced Download" option. ☐

Data Collection and Release Schedule

Following is the latest schedule for NLSY79 and NLSY97 data collections and data releases:

- *NLSY97 Survey*. Data from rounds 1 through 15 of the NLSY97 are now available. These data were collected in the survey years between 1997 and 2011. Round-16 NLSY97 data collection has been completed, with a round-16 data release scheduled for a late 2015 release. The next data collection round (round 17) is scheduled to begin in fall of 2015.
- *NLSY79 Main Survey*. Data from rounds 1 through 25 of the NLSY79 are now available. These data were collected in the survey years between 1979 and 2012. Round-26 of the NLSY79 is now in the field (as of the first part of 2015).
- *NLSY79 Child Survey and NLSY79 Young Adult Survey*. Both of these surveys are fielded during approximately the same time frame as the main NLSY79 survey. Both the latest Young Adult and NLSY79 Child data collection efforts are now taking place (as of the first part of 2015). The Child and Young Adult data release of all survey years through 2012 is now available.

Each NLS cohort's dataset includes a merger of all previously released rounds from that cohort. All

public NLS data can be accessed free of charge at NLS Investigator, which features data from the active NLSY cohorts as well as the four NLS Original Cohorts: Older Men (1966–1990 survey years), Mature Women (1967–2003 survey years), Young Women (1968–2003 survey years), and Young Men (1966–1981 survey years). ☐

NLSY79 Errata Notice: One Case Dropped for Round 19

All data for NLSY79 Case 9269 in round 19 (year 2000) have been determined to be invalid as interviewers discovered that the wrong person had been interviewed in that round. This respondent's last valid interview was round 16 (1994). As a result, researchers should avoid using data for this respondent beyond those data reported during the 1994 interview date, including created yearly variables that combine information for all of 1994. These data will be eliminated and sampling weight variables for round 19 will be recomputed with the next release of the data. ☐

FAQs Frequently Asked Questions

The NLS staff encourages researchers to contact NLS User Services with questions and problems encountered while accessing and using NLS data or documentation. Every effort is made to answer these inquiries. Following are some recent questions and answers that may be of general interest to NLS users:

Q1. Could you explain how an NLSY97 respondent listed as being interviewed in the 2007 survey year could have a 2008 date of interview?

The term "survey year" refers to the calendar year that particular survey round went into the field. Because the data collection effort spans several months, the rounds carry over into the next calendar year. In the case of your example, the NLSY97 round-11 data collection began in October 2007 and finished in July 2008, meaning that a large percentage of respondents had a 2008 date of interview for that round.

Q2. For my research, I am comparing the NLSY79 cohort and the NLSY97 cohort. How can I find already-published studies comparing these two cohorts?

The NLS Annotated Bibliography, a comprehensive bibliography of NLS-related research citations, can provide a list of multicohort research. Select the NLSY79 and NLSY97 cohorts as your bibliographic search, using "and" as the search operator. As of April 2015, 160 research citations are listed in the *Bibliography* that use both cohorts.

Q3. I want to link school IDs in the NLSY97 postsecondary transcript data to the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). This would allow me to bring in a comprehensive set of institutional variables to the analysis. Is it possible to do that?

The restricted-access geocode data set contains the IPEDS unit ID that identifies schools. The public dataset does not have the IPEDs ID in it. To obtain access to the restricted data, researchers need to complete an agreement with the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Here is where you can read more about the process and download the application: http://www.bls.gov/nls/nlsfaqs.htm#anch25.

Q4. Is there a way in the NLSY79 to figure out which respondents have been in prison and

when?

Each NLSY79 survey round includes the variable HH1-1 indicating the respondent's type of residence at the time of the interview, which includes jail. There is no event history for time served in prison/jail; therefore, it can't be determined if someone was in and out of jail between interviews. The 1988 childhood residence calendar asks the respondent to report where they were living for each year of age from birth to age 18, and one of the codes is detention center/jail/prison.

Q5. I'm currently working on a paper regarding total household income for NLSY97 adolescents ages 14–17 and I wanted to use the created total household income variable (CV_INCOME_GROSS_YR). The N number for this income variable drops dramatically from N= 6599 in the 1997 survey to N=1049 in the 1998 survey. Can you explain this large variation?

In round 1 (1997 survey) of the NLSY97, the parents of the NLSY97 youth answered the income questions via the Parent Questionnaire and their responses are used to compute the round-1 income variables. In round 2 (1998), only independent youth respondents were asked income questions, hence the large number of -4s (missing) in round 2. By round 7 (2003), all respondents are considered independent and there are no -4s on CV_INCOME_GROSS_YR.

Variable YINC-400 is the check for independence. There is a short description of independence in the NLSY97 User Guide section on income, in the blue box headed "Important Information" (www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97/topical-guide/income/income).

Q6. I'm trying to analyze NLSY97 respondents who have a teaching license or certificate. When I look at the questions related to training, I can't seem to find any variables that specify a teaching training program.

The purpose of the training section in the NLSY97 questionnaire is to collect information on trainings outside of regular schooling, such as project manager training or certifications for computer programming in certain software languages. Typically, at least a 4-year degree in education is needed to become a teacher, so teacher training programs are more related to regular school. Although the dataset does not provide specific information about teaching certificates, a researcher could look at college majors, YSCH-21300 (first college major), YSCH-21400 (second college major), and occupational variables.

Q7. In the NLSY79, are only females asked about marital satisfaction? I'm looking at question R27077.00 - R'S DEGREE OF HAPPINESS WITH MARRIAGE/RELATIONSHIP (MOTHER).

The marital conflict questions were administered only to NLSY79 mothers in 1988, then expanded to all the female NLSY79 respondents beginning in 1992. Male NLSY79 respondents have not received these questions.

Completed NLS Research

The following is a listing of recent research based on data from the NLS cohorts that has not appeared in its current form in a previous issue of the NLS News. (See the NLS Annotated Bibliography for a comprehensive listing of NLS-related research.)

Ahn, Taehyun. "Locus of Control and Job Turnover." *Economic Inquiry* 53, 2 (April 2015): 1350–1365. [NLSY79]

Albrecht, James, Aico van Vuuren, and Susan Vroman. "The Black-White Wage Gap Among Young Women in 1990 vs. 2011: The Role of Selection and Educational Attainment." *Labour Economics* 33 (April 2015): 66–71. [NLSY79, NLSY97]

Aratani, Yumiko and Janice L. Cooper. "The Effects of Runaway-Homeless Episodes on High School Dropout." *Youth and Society* 47, 2 (March 2015): 173–198. [NLSY97]

Brown, Christian. "Returns to Postincarceration Education for Former Prisoners." *Social Science Quarterly* 96, 1 (March 2015): 161–175. [NLSY79]

Courtemanche, Charles, Garth Heutel, and Patrick McAlvanah. "Impatience, Incentives, and Obesity." *The Economic Journal* 125, 582 (February 2015): 1–31. [NLSY79]

DeCamp, Whitney and Brian Newby. "From Bullied to Deviant: The Victim-Offender Overlap Among Bullying Victims." *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice* 13, 1 (January 2015): 3–17. [NLSY97]

Deza, Monica. "The Effects of Alcohol on the Consumption of Hard Drugs: Regression Discontinuity Evidence from the National Longitudinal Study of Youth, 1997." *Health Economics* 24, 4 (April 2015): 419–438. [NLSY97]

Dong, Xiuwen Sue, Xuanwen Wang, Julie Largay, and Rosemary Sokas. "Long-term Health Outcomes of Work-related Injuries among Construction Workers—Findings from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth." *American Journal of Industrial Medicine* 58, 3 (March 2015): 308–318. [NLSY79]

Garbarski, Dana. "Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Midlife Depressive Symptoms: The Role of Cumulative Disadvantage Across the Life Course." *Advances in Life Course Research* 23 (March 2015): 67–85. [NLSY79]

Guettabi, Mouhcine and Abdul Munasib. "The Impact of Obesity on Consumer Bankruptcy." *Economics and Human Biology* 17 (April 2015): 208–224. [NLSY79]

Hernandez, Daphne C. and Emily Pressler. "Gender Disparities among the Association between Cumulative Family-level Stress & Adolescent Weight Status." *Preventive Medicine* 73 (April 2015): 60–66. [NLSY79, NLSY79 Young Adult]

Hopcroft, Rosemary L. "Sex Differences in the Relationship between Status and Number of Offspring in the Contemporary U.S." *Evolution and Human Behavior* 36, 2 (March 2015): 146–151. [NLSY79]

Kreisman, Daniel M. and Marcos A. Rangel. "On the Blurring of the Color Line: Wages and Employment for Black Males of Different Skin Tones." *Review of Economics and Statistics* 97, 1 (March 2015): 1–13. [NLSY97]

Low, Justin and Timothy Keith. "The Influence of Auditory Short-term Memory on Behavior Problem Development." *International Journal of Behavioral Development* 39, 2 (March 2015): 105–112. [Children of the NLSY79]

Maume, David J. and George Wilson. "Determinants of Declining Wage Mobility in the New Economy." *Work and Occupations* 42, 1 (February 2015): 35–72. [NLSY79, NLSY97]

McDonald, Steve. "Network Effects Across the Earnings Distribution: Payoffs to Visible and Invisible Job Finding Assistance." *Social Science Research* 49 (January 2015): 299–313. [NLSY79]

Menard, Jessica, Bojana Knezevic, Scott R. Miller, Daniel Edelstein, Kristi Thompson, and Carlin J. Miller. "Intergenerational Transmission of Antisocial Behavior and Age at Primiparity." *Journal of Child and Family Studies* 24, 3 (March 2015): 798–808. [Children of the NLSY79, NLSY79]

Pacula, Rosalie L., David Powell, Paul Heaton, and Eric L. Sevigny. "Assessing the Effects of Medical Marijuana Laws on Marijuana Use: The Devil is in the Details." *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management* 34, 1 (Winter 2015): 7–31. [NLSY97]

Painter, Matthew, Adrianne Frech, and Kristi Williams. "Nonmarital Fertility, Union History, and Women's Wealth." *Demography* 52, 1 (February 2015): 153–182. [NLSY79]

Renna, Francesco. "Obesity History and Male Employment." *Applied Economics Letters* 22, 2 (2015): 116–120. [NLSY79]

Richey, Jeremiah Alexander. "Shackled Labor Markets: Bounding the Causal Effects of Criminal Convictions in the U.S." *International Review of Law and Economics* 41 (March 2015): 17–24. [NLSY97]

Ryan, Rebecca M. "Nonresident Fatherhood and Adolescent Sexual Behavior: A Comparison of Siblings Approach." *Developmental Psychology* 51, 2 (February 2015): 211–223. [Children of the NLSY79, NLSY79 Young Adult]

Ryan, Rebecca M., Amy Claessens, and Anna J. Markowitz. "Associations Between Family Structure Change and Child Behavior Problems: The Moderating Effect of Family Income." *Child Development* 86, 1 (January/February 2015): 112–127. [Children of the NLSY79]

Stevens, Tia and Merry Morash. "Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Boys' Probability of Arrest and Court Actions in 1980 and 2000: The Disproportionate Impact of "Getting Tough" on Crime." *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice* 13, 1 (January 2015): 77–95. [NLSY79, NLSY97]

Trella, Rachel N. Schentag, Scott R. Miller, Daniel Edelstein, and Carlin J. Miller. "Maternal Behavior Prior to Parenting as a Transgenerational Predictor of Offspring Behavior." *Journal of Child and Family Studies* 23, 8 (November 2014): 1501–1509. [Children of the NLSY79, NLSY79]

Vaughan, Erikka B., Carol A.Van Hulle, William H. Beasley, Joseph Lee Rodgers, and Brian M. D'Onofrio. "Clarifying the Associations between Age at Menarche and Adolescent Emotional and Behavioral Problems." *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* 44, 4 (April 2015): 922–939. [NLSY79, NLSY79 Young Adult]

Walsemann, Katrina Michelle, Gilbert C. Gee, and Danielle Gentile. "Sick of Our Loans: Student Borrowing and the Mental Health of Young Adults in the United States." *Social Science and Medicine* 124 (January 2015): 85–93. [NLSY97]

Walters, Glenn D. "Short-Term Goals and Physically Hedonistic Values as Mediators of the Past-Crime--Future-Crime Relationship." *Legal and Criminological Psychology* 20, 1 (February 2015): 81–95. [Children of the NLSY79, NLSY79 Young Adult]

Weinshenker, Matthew. "The Effect of Fatherhood on Employment Hours: Variation by Birth Timing, Marriage, and Coresidence." *Journal of Family Issues* 36, 1 (January 2015): 3–30. [NLSY79]

Yegidis, Bonnie L., Beom S. Lee, Nan Sook Park, Monica D. Landers, and Margaret M. Kennedy. "Job-Seeking Behavior in Young Adults: Do Unemployment Insurance Benefits Hurt Job Search Efforts?" *Journal of Social Service Research* 41, 1 (2015): 133–140. [NLSY97]

Final Issue of the NLS News

Issue 160 is the final issue of the NLS News. Check out www.nlsinfo.org for information on data releases, errata, frequently asked questions, and the NLS bibliography, along with NLS documentation and data.

NLS Contact Information

NLS News is a quarterly newsletter that provides information about changes in labor market activities and other significant events that occur in the lives of several groups of men and women over time. Also, it includes information about new data releases, completed NLS research, and other information of interest to researchers. ***NLS News*** is available at http://www.bls.gov/nls/nlsnews.htm.

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