

Dear

We all want answers. Here at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), we measure labor market activity, working conditions and productivity in the U.S. economy. And for the National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS), some of the answers we want to know are: How many jobs do people hold in a lifetime? How many years do people work at each job they hold? How does partner status affect labor market activity? How often does people's health limit the kind or amount of work they can do?

For some answers to these questions, take a look at the most recent NLSY97 news release: bls.gov/news.release/pdf/nlsyth.pdf

One of the unique features of the NLS among BLS surveys is the calculation of the total number of jobs people hold during their work life. Such a measure can only be estimated by interviewing the same people over the course of their entire work life and keeping track of all the jobs they have held. As of the 20th round of the NLSY97, your age group held an average of 9.0 jobs from age 18 through age 36. Look for the 21st round of the NLSY97 news release in spring 2026.

And we also invite you to browse our NLS bibliography: www.nlsinfo.org/bibliography-start. Here you will find studies on topics such as work experiences, earnings, education and training, health, family, and so much more. In fact, over 1,200 journal articles and book chapters have been written using information from the NLSY97. Once research is complete, news organizations see the research and put that information out for the general public. The awareness of issues facing your generation then becomes a catalyst for policy changes.

Ready to test your knowledge and have some fun? Answer our trivia questions!

Then get ready for the 22nd round of the NLSY97 to be fielded in fall 2025!

Those of us who work on the NLS look forward to each new round of the NLSY97 and the opportunity to interview you as a representative of your age group. The events in your life combined with the experiences of other NLSY97 respondents form a portrait of your generation. Seeing that picture develop is what researchers, policymakers, and the public await. And now as we continue to plan for the fall 2025 launch of the 22nd round of the NLSY97, let me take a moment to express my sincere thanks for your past participation in the NLSY97. Your willingness to offer your valuable interview time is what keeps this important study going.

We look forward to talking to you soon!

Sincerely,

Keenan Dworak-Fisher

Director, National Longitudinal Surveys
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

We ALWAYS want you to be able to reach out. Here is how:

Call: 877.504.1086

Text with your full name to: 312.835.1905

Email: nlsy97@norc.org

Visit: www.bls.gov/nls/nlsy97.htm

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