

Who can participate in the survey?

Not everyone will be able to participate in the NLSY27 Survey.

Following a scientific process, we have randomly sampled households from across the U.S. and invited them to answer some questions about their household. These answers are used to find out if someone in the household is eligible for the survey. If your household was not selected, you cannot participate in the survey.

Why does a parent or caregiver need to participate?

Input from a trusted adult in a youth's life is helpful for understanding their early experiences, family background, significant life events, and health history. This perspective helps create a fuller picture of the youth's life.

Who conducts the survey?

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) sponsors this survey.

RTI International, a nonprofit research institute, conducts this survey for the BLS.

How can I verify that the NLSY27 is a legitimate BLS survey?

For any mail or email you receive, look for an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number. [Verify a federal survey's OMB Control Number](#) to check the validity of the request. NLSY27's OMB Control Number is 1220-0202. You can also call BLS at (202) 691-5200 or send BLS an email at NLSY27info@bls.gov and a BLS staff member will be happy to help you verify the survey is legitimate.

How can I verify that the person contacting me is from RTI?

The interviewer conducting the in-person interview will carry an RTI identification badge with his or her picture on it. The interviewer will also have a letter of authorization from RTI. You may also contact the NLSY27 Help Desk at 1-866-800-9180 or NLSY27@rti.org to verify the person contacting you is from RTI.

What is the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)?

BLS is a federal statistical agency that collects, processes, analyzes, and shares essential data with the American public, the U.S. Congress, other federal agencies, state and local governments, and businesses. BLS publishes information about the nation's economy, including unemployment rates, the Consumer Price Index, and the Occupational Outlook Handbook. Every day, people use data published by BLS to make decisions. BLS has been conducting surveys like the NLSY for over 50 years.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Contact the NLSY27 Help Desk:

- **Phone:** 1-866-800-9180
- **Email:** NLSY27@rti.org
- **To learn more** about the survey, [visit the official NLSY27 website.](#)

You can also see how the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has used information collected from other NLSY surveys. [Learn how BLS uses NLSY data.](#)

NLSY²⁷ NATIONAL LONGITUDINAL SURVEY OF YOUTH 2027



Be a voice for today's generation
and take part in the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 2027 today.

www.NLSY27.org

Please take this opportunity to be part of a select few shaping the future of today's youth!



This survey is being conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which is part of the U.S. Department of Labor.

[Visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics homepage.](#)



BLS has contracted with RTI International (RTI), a nonprofit research institute, to manage the data collection for the NLSY27.

[Learn more about RTI International.](#)

What is the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 2027 (NLSY27)?

The NLSY27, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, is a survey that will collect information over time about how young people's experiences at home, school, and work shape their lives. For many decades, the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth have served as a leading research platform for understanding the experiences of youth as they move from school to work and into adulthood.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics will recruit a new, nationally representative group of youth to take part in the NLSY starting in 2027. Youth who participate in the NLSY27 will represent today's youth and help us better prepare for the future.

How can we take part in the survey?

To take part in the survey, follow these steps:

1. Find out who in your household is eligible to participate.

First, just one adult in the household will answer some questions so we know who lives in your household and their ages. We'll be able to tell you right away if anyone in your household may be eligible. You'll receive **\$5** for your time even if no one in your household ends up being eligible.

If a youth in your household may be eligible, one parent or caregiver will confirm household information and receive an additional **\$5**.

Overall, answering these questions should take about 10-20 minutes.

2. Give permission or consent.

Youth Survey. Eligible youth will need to review details about the NLSY27 and agree to take part. Eligible youth under the age of 18 (19 for residents of Alabama and Nebraska) will need their parent or other legal guardian to give permission for them to take part.

Parent/Caregiver Survey. If an eligible youth agrees to participate, their parent or caregiver may also be eligible to participate in a survey. The parent or caregiver will also need to review survey details and agree to take part.

Goal

To learn about youths' experiences as they move from school to work and into adulthood.

Impact

Will help guide planning of education, job training and employment opportunities in the U.S. for today's generation of youth!

What is a longitudinal survey?

A longitudinal survey collects information from the same group of people at different points in time. It is a good way to look at how life experiences change over time.

Will I receive anything for my time?

YES

3. Complete the survey.

Youth Survey. For some parts of the survey, an interviewer will read the survey questions to the youth and enter their answers into a tablet. For other parts of the survey, youth will use earphones to listen to the questions read by the computer and enter answers on their own. The interviewer will ask a parent or caregiver to remain in the home while the youth completes the interview.

Parent/Caregiver Survey. If a parent or caregiver is eligible, the interviewer will provide them with a laptop to complete the survey on their own.

Each survey will take about 1-1.5 hours.

4. Receive \$50.

Each eligible person who completes an interview will receive **\$50**.

How much time does it take to participate?

Finding out if you and your child(ren) are eligible will take about 10-20 minutes. Doing the interview itself will take about 1-1.5 hours.

How will the NLSY27 make a difference?

Information from the NLSY27 will be used to inform U.S. policymaking. Here's how the NLSY has made a difference in the past:



Education: NLSY data have helped policymakers evaluate the effectiveness of school-to-work programs in high school, the value of educational degrees, and why youth drop out of high school.



Work and Job Training: The NLSY has informed policymakers about the costs and benefits of working during school, how job changes affect earnings, and the value of different job training programs.



Economic Issues: NLSY data have been used to better understand financial challenges and successes.



Health: The NLSY has been used to study how kids' and teens' health behaviors influence their health as adults, allowing policymakers to create programs to support kids and teens.

How often will youth participate in NLSY27?

The NLSY27 is a longitudinal survey. This means youth will be surveyed at different points in time as they age. We will follow up with youth every 1-2 years. Youth who join today will represent their generation as they move from school to work and into adulthood.

How often will parents or caregivers take part in the NLSY27?

Right now, our plan is for parents or caregivers to complete one interview this year. We may ask parents or caregivers to take part again in the future.

Why should we take part in the survey?

This is a rare chance to take part in a unique national survey. When your family participates in the NLSY27, they:

- Receive money!
- Help researchers and policymakers understand the needs of today's youth!
- Contribute to research that helps improve education systems, work conditions, and overall well-being for today's generation of youth!
- Youth who take part can earn 5 community service hours!

What types of questions will be asked?

- The NLSY27 will ask youth about topics including school, health, family, work, and social experiences.
- The NLSY27 will ask parents and caregivers about their child's early life experiences, family background, important events, and health. There also will be questions specifically about parents and caregivers and their family background.

How will you keep our information safe?

We are required by law to keep all answers confidential, whether provided by youth, parents, or other household members. Confidential means that each respondent's name will never be connected to their survey answers. This is also true for any information they provide. All data will be combined with the answers from others who participate in the NLSY27. These combined answers will not include any respondent's name or any information that could personally identify them.

Do I have to participate in this survey?

No, participation in the NLSY27 is voluntary.

If you decide to participate in this year's survey, you will still be able to decide whether you want to participate in the NLSY27 follow-up surveys we offer in future years.