

### Selected NLSY79 Main Youth Variables by Survey Year

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06
<b>I. Labor Market Experience Variables</b>																						
<b>A. Current labor force and employment status and characteristics of current/most recent job<sup>1</sup></b>																						
Survey week labor force and employment status	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*
Occupation (DOT code)	*																					
Hours worked in survey week	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*
Hours per week usually worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Shift worked (in 2002-2006 for CPS job only)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Promotion (varies with year)						*	*	*	*	*	*						*	*	*	*	*	*
Commuting time to current job	*	*	*							*					*	*						
Availability of fringe benefits (beginning in 1994 for multiple jobs)	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Global job satisfaction item	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Job satisfaction scale	*	*	*	*						*												
Job characteristics inventory	*			*																		
Size of employer (in 2002-2006, only at R's worksite)	*	*						*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Minority status of coworkers (1980 only), supervisor		*		*																		
Time R expects to stay at job	*	*	*	*																		
Participation in work-study program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*														
<b>B. Work experience since Jan. 1, 1978, or previous survey, or in past calendar year</b>																						
Weeks worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours usually worked per week	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of weeks, spells of unemployment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Weeks out of labor force	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>C. Characteristics of jobs since Jan. 1, 1978, or last survey, including current or most recent job (more than 10 to 20 hours per week and more than 9 weeks in duration if not CPS job)<sup>2</sup></b>																						
Occupation and industry (Census code)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Class of worker	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

<sup>1</sup> Beginning in 1994, characteristics of the current or most recent job were collected in the first Employer Supplement loop, rather than in the CPS section. To maintain consistency, these questions are still included in this section of the table.

<sup>2</sup> Note that, beginning in 2002, the questionnaire includes separate sets of questions for self-employed respondents and respondents with nontraditional employment arrangements. The information collected is very similar to the regular employment questions, but wordings may vary to accommodate different situations. The three types of employer questions are not represented separately in the table.





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Was training completed	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Was degree, certificate, or journeyman's card obtained	*	*																					
Was training related to specific job or employer				*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Was training related to a promotion												*	*	*	*	*							
Reason for training				*	*	*							*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Method of financing training				*	*	*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Informal job learning activities (questions vary; self-training only in 2002-2006)															*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>D. Government jobs and training programs</b>																							
Participation in programs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type of program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Satisfaction with program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*														
Did program help on subsequent jobs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				
Services provided by program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*														
Length of participation in program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours per week and per day spent in program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Amount of income from participating in program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*															
Aspects liked most and least about programs	*																						
Reasons for entering and leaving programs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*														
<b>E. Health and physical condition</b>																							
Does health limit work, duration of limitation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type of health problem (ICD-9 code)	*	*	*	*																			
Work-related injury or illness (ICD-9 code)										*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*				
Height			*	*			*																*
Weight			*	*			*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health insurance coverage—R, spouse, children											*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Frequency and intensity of R's physical activity																		*	*		*	*	*
R's general health behaviors																				*	*	*	*
General perception of health (40+ health module)																		*	*	*	*	*	*
Does health interfere with daily activities (40+ health module)																		*	*	*	*	*	*
Emotional health in past 4 weeks (40+ health module)																		*	*	*	*	*	*
R's various health problems (heart problems, cancer, diabetes, poor eyesight or																		*	*	*	*	*	*

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hearing, and so forth) (40+ health module)																						
Time spent on healthcare activities (40+ health module)																		*	*	*	*	*
Diagnosed with asthma (40+ health module)																		*	*	*	*	*
<b>F. Marital history and spouse characteristics (note that all spouse items also refer to partners beginning in 1994)</b>																						
Dating behaviors and attitudes (unmarried females)										*				*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Marital status	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Changes in marital status since 1/1/1978 or previous interview; number and duration of marriages	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Month, year R and partner began living together												*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Did R and spouse live together continuously before marriage (or R and partner continuously until now)												*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Changes in cohabitation with partner since last interview																				*	*	*
Occupation of spouse	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Extent spouse worked in previous calendar year	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Current labor force status, reason not employed for spouse										*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Shift worked by spouse				*						*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rate of pay, hourly rate of pay of spouse												*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Spouse/partner's religious affiliation and attendance (new spouses only in 2000–2006)				*															*	*	*	*
Number of spouse's marriages, details				*														*	*	*	*	*
Effect of spouse's health on R's work				*																		
Quality of R's relationship (14 items) (mothers in 1988; females all other years)										*				*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Age at which R expects to marry	*																					
<b>G. Household and children</b>																						
Relationship of household or family members to R	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Household or family members' demographics (sex, age, highest grade completed, work status in past year)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of dependents or exemptions	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number and ages of R's children living in household	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Expected number of children	*			*	*	*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of children R considers ideal	*			*																		
Healthcare during pregnancy (females)					*	*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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Postnatal infant healthcare and feeding (females)					*	*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Father's relationship with children (males)																		*	*				
Fertility history	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Use of birth control methods				*		*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pregnancies not resulting in live births (includes how ended through 1990)				*	*	*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Characteristics of children with asthma																						*	*
<b>H. Childcare (only female R's in even years after 1986)</b>																							
Current childcare arrangements				*	*	*	*	*	*	*													
Childcare during first 3 years of life								*		*				*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cost per week				*			*	*		*													
Number of hours per week				*	*	*	*	*		*													
Is childcare a hindrance to R's work, school, or training				*	*	*				*	*												
Extent of various neighborhood problems														*		*	*	*	*				
<b>I. Financial characteristics and program participation (note that all spouse items also refer to partners beginning in 1994)</b>																							
Total family income in previous calendar year	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income of R and spouse in previous calendar year from:																							
Farm or own business	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wages or salary	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Unemployment compensation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Public assistance	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Stamps	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Targeted cash or noncash benefits																		*	*				
Pensions/Social Security	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Military service	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Veterans' benefits, workers' compensation, other disability (collected separately beginning in 2002)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other sources	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
R receives government rent subsidy or public housing	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income from child support	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Child support expected vs. received															*	*	*	*	*				
Rights to estate or trust; income from inheritances (since last interview)																			*	*	*	*	*



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How much education desired and actually attained	*		*	*																			
Kind of work R would like to be doing at age 35	*			*																			
Expectation of achieving occupational goal	*			*																			
<b>L. Attitudes</b>																							
Knowledge of World of Work score	*																						
Would R work if had enough money to live on	*																						
Characteristics of job R is willing to take (R unemployed or out of labor force)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*															
Reaction to hypothetical job offers	*																						
Internal-External Locus of Control Scale (Rotter)	*																						
Mastery Scale (Pearlin)														*									
Attitude toward women working	*			*					*												*		
Self-Esteem Scale (Rosenberg) (10 items)		*							*													*	
CES-Depression Scale (40+ health module in 1998–2006)														*		*		*	*	*	*	*	
Person having most influence on R, his or her responses to various situations	*																						
Retirement expectations																					*	*	
<b>M. Retrospective evaluation of labor market experience</b>																							
Perception of age, race, and sex discrimination	*			*																			
Reason for problems in obtaining employment	*			*																			
<b>N. Delinquency, drugs, and alcohol use</b>																							
Activities within last year (20 items)		*																					
Income from illegal activities within last year		*																					
Alcohol consumption in last week or month				*	*	*	*			*	*			*		*				*			
Extent of cigarette use						*								*		*		*					
Age R first smoked and stopped smoking cigarettes														*		*		*					
Extent of marijuana use		*				*				*				*		*		*					
Age R first used marijuana						*				*				*		*		*					
Extent of cocaine use, age R first used						*				*				*		*		*					
Extent of "crack" cocaine use, age R first used														*		*		*					
Ever used sedatives, barbiturates, and so forth						*								*		*		*					
Cigarette and alcohol use during pregnancy					*	*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Marijuana and cocaine use during pregnancy										*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	



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<b>O. Reported police contacts</b>																						
Number of times stopped by police		*																				
Number of times booked or arrested		*																				
Number of convictions, charges		*																				
Number of times incarcerated; date of release		*																				
<b>P. Time use</b>																						
Use of time at various activities (school, work, watching TV, household chores, and so forth)			*																			
Volunteerism																						*
<b>III. Environmental Variables</b>																						
Region of residence	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Current residence urban or rural	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Current residence in metropolitan statistical area	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Changes in residence since January 1, 1978, or date of last interview (collected as a history)	*	*		*															*	*	*	*