

## Selected Variables by Survey Year: NLSY79 Young Adults (Age 15 and Over)

Variable	94	96	98	00	02	04	06
<b>I. LABOR MARKET EXPERIENCE VARIABLES</b>							
<b>A. Current labor force and employment status</b>							
Survey week labor force and employment status	*	*	*				
Hours worked in survey week	*	*	*				
Hours per week usually worked	*	*	*				
Job search activities	*	*	*				
<b>B. Work experience since January 1 of previous year through 1998 or date of last interview beginning in 2000</b>							
Weeks worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours usually worked per week	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of weeks unemployed, out of labor force	*	*	*				
Spells of unemployment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Characteristics of last job lasting 2 weeks or more and of first significant job after leaving high school	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>C. Characteristics of jobs (more than 10 hours/week, more than 9 weeks in duration) since January 1 of previous year through 1998 or date of last interview beginning in 2000</b>							
Occupation and industry (Census code)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Class of worker	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Start date and stop date	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours per week usually worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Shift worked	*	*	*			*	*
Rate of pay	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hourly rate of pay	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Commuting time to job, method of transportation	*	*	*				
Covered by collective bargaining	*	*	*				
Is R union member	*	*	*				
Availability of fringe benefits (CPS job only starting in 2000)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Global job satisfaction item	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Size of employer	*	*	*				
Reason for leaving job	*	*	*				
Promotion and promotion potential with employer	*	*	*				
<b>II. HUMAN CAPITAL AND OTHER SOCIOECONOMIC VARIABLES</b>							
<b>A. Early formative influences</b>							
Date of birth	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ethnic self-identification	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of times R has lived away from mother	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Father's employment status, occupation, highest grade completed, ethnicity	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Contact with nonresidential parent(s)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Contact with sibling R feels closest to				*	*		
Biological relatedness of siblings							*
Current religion, religious attendance, importance of religion	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>B. Education</b>							
Current enrollment status, grade)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Reason stopped attending school	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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Date of last enrollment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Periods of nonattendance, grades when occurred, reason why	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Grades repeated or skipped	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highest grade attended, highest grade completed	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
GED or diploma received, date received	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Is or was the school R attended public, private, or religious	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
High school curriculum	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Time spent on homework in school, out of school		*	*	*	*	*	*
Style of teaching in English classes		*	*	*	*	*	*
Parent involvement with R's schooling (19 items in 1996–98, 17 items in 2000 and 2002)		*	*	*	*	*	*
Job or career counseling received in high school	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Characteristics of R's school (nine items)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Level of satisfaction with school	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of high schools attended	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Colleges/universities applied to				*	*	*	*
Date of college enrollment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
College degree received, date received (asked in 2000 and 2002)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type of college attending (2- or 4-year)	*	*	*				
Field of study or specialization in college	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
College tuition	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Educational loans or financial aid in college	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other means of paying college expenses	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highest grade R would like or expects to complete	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highest grade R's best friend would like to complete	*	*	*				
<b>C. Vocational training outside regular school (information on only the most recent program was obtained in 2000)</b>							
Type(s) of training	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Services provided by training program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Duration of training programs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Was training completed	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours per week usually spent in training	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Was training related to specific job or employer, related to a promotion	*	*	*				
Method of financing training	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Does R have certificate or journeyman's card	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>D. Physical and mental health</b>							
Does health limit work or school activity	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type and duration of health limitation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asthma						*	*
Healthy behaviors						*	*
Catastrophic events							*
Recent accidents, injuries, illnesses, hospitalization	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Height, body weight	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Right- or left-handedness		*	*				

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Menstrual period information	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health insurance coverage for R, children	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
CES-Depression Scale (seven items)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>E. Relationship and fertility history and household characteristics</b>							
Number, ages, and demographic characteristics of all household residents (only information on age and relationship was obtained beginning in 2000)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Family conflict scale							*
Number of close friends of each sex, their ages relative to R's age				*	*	*	*
Month and year or age at first date	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of people R has dated in the past 12 months	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
How often R usually has a date	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Marital status	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Unmarried R's: Status of current relationship	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relationship quality of steady dating relationship				*	*	*	*
Relationship embeddedness for serious, noncohabiting relationships						*	*
Has R ever (since last interview) lived with someone R was not married to	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Month and year or age of spouse or partner when R and spouse or partner began living together	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Characteristics of current spouse or partner: Ethnicity, religion, education, employment, income	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relationship history: Characteristics of previous spouses or partners	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relationship quality: Happiness rating, positive activities series, topics of arguments series	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relationship characteristics: household division of labor, economic embeddedness						*	*
Relationship plans, expectations	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fertility history	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Use of various birth control methods	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Parenting attitudes				*	*	*	*
Prenatal care (females)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health care and nutrition during pregnancy (females)	*	*	*		*	*	*
Cigarette and alcohol use during pregnancy (females)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Drug use during pregnancy (females)	*	*	*				*
Postnatal infant care (females)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Expected number of children	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
R's opinions or beliefs about parenting; actual parenting behaviors				*	*	*	*
<b>F. Financial characteristics and program participation</b>							
Income of R and spouse from farm or own business	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income of R and spouse from wages or salary (military income included starting in 2000)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income of R and spouse from unemployment compensation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income of R and spouse from public assistance	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income of R and spouse from Food Stamps	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income of R and spouse from Social Security, other sources	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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Income of R and spouse from military service (combined with civilian wages starting in 2000)	*	*	*				
Income of R and spouse from child support	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Child support expected versus amount received	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Income of R and spouse from other sources	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Financial assistance from others							*
Possession of various assets (R and spouse)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Asset market values (R and spouse)	*	*	*				*
Household income				*	*	*	*
Financial strain				*	*	*	*
Amount of debts	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>G. Military service (current or past)</b>							
Branch of Armed Forces	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Months spent in Armed Forces	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Military occupation(s)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Activation for reservists; reactivation for regular branches					*	*	*
Participation in VEAP or GI bill	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type and amount of military training	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Formal education received while in service	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>H. Attitudes toward work and self</b>							
Knowledge of World of Work series	*	*	*				
Characteristics of job R is willing to take (for Rs who are unemployed or out of labor force)	*	*	*				
Reaction to hypothetical job offers	*	*	*				
Pearlin Mastery Scale (seven items)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Self-Esteem Scale (Rosenberg) (10 items)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Attitude toward women working	*	*	*		*	*	*
Gender Role Attitudes (for Rs who are 14-16 at interview date)						*	*
Ten-Item Personality Inventory							*
<b>I. Child care and parenting behavior</b>							
Child care arrangements in last month (youngest child only in 2000 and 2002)	*	*	*	*	*		
Number of hours per week (youngest child only in 2000 and 2002)	*	*	*	*	*		
Parenting behavior (youngest child only in 2000 and 2002)				*	*	*	*
Cost per week (all children)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Did child care problems force R to turn down job offer or to lose work	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>J. Looking for work</b>							
R looking for work or employed when found current or most recent job	*	*	*				
Methods of job search used	*	*	*				
Job offers rejected (while looking for each job)	*	*	*				
Desired characteristics of job sought	*	*	*				
<b>III. ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIORS (located in self-report booklet through 1998)</b>							
<b>A. Computer use</b>							
Does R have a computer at home or have access to one elsewhere	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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What R uses computer for most often	*	*	*				
Has R ever used computer at school or college, or at work	*	*					
How R has learned about computers	*	*	*				
Has R ever had a class or training in computer use, programming, or word processing	*	*	*				
How often R uses computer for various activities	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
How many hours a week R uses a computer						*	*
<b>B. Substance use</b>							
Extent, frequency of R's alcohol use; age first used	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Where and with whom was first drink	*	*					
Alcohol abuse behavior in past year series (had an argument, missed school or work, drove a car, and so on)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Does R usually drink beer, wine, or liquor	*	*	*				
Where and with whom R usually drinks	*	*	*				
R's perception of how many drink at least sometimes (series): Students in R's grade, people R's age with whom R hangs out, people R's age in R's neighborhood	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of cigarette use; age first used	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of marijuana use; age first used; various details	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of amphetamine use				*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of use of substances (glue, gas, sprays, fluids) that are "sniffed/huffed"	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of cocaine use	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Extent, frequency of "crack" use	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Age at which R first used each drug	*	*	*				
Extent, frequency of use of other drugs (LSD, uppers, downers); age at which R first used	*	*			*	*	*
Frequency of use of hallucinogens (LSD, PCP, peyote, mescaline)			*	*	*	*	*
Frequency of use of sedatives or downers (barbiturates, sleeping pills)			*	*	*	*	*
Frequency of use of other drugs (stimulants, heroin, steroids, MDMA/"Ecstasy", crystal meth./"Ice")				*	*	*	*
While high, has R ever: Hurt self or someone else; stayed home from school or work; gone late to school or work; driven a car	*	*	*				
Due to drug use, have R's grades suffered; has R ever hurt chances for a raise or for a better job	*	*	*				
Has R ever taken sedatives, tranquilizers, stimulants, painkillers, steroids, heroin, hallucinogens, or an injection of any drug without doctor's orders	*	*	*				
<b>C. Attitudes and expectations</b>							
Risk-taking behaviors and attitudes (six items)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Best age for R to marry; youngest age at which R can imagine getting married	*	*	*				
Best age and youngest age R can imagine to have first child	*	*	*				
Aspirations for future (marriage, fertility, employment, relationships)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Political attitudes and behaviors (age 21 and older only in 2006)							*
<b>D. Sex education and sexual intercourse</b>							
Any courses or time spent in class on sex education	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Grade R first had this course	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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Who in family R talks to about sex	*	*	*		*	*	*
Who outside family R talks to about sex					*	*	*
Ever had sexual intercourse; age at first intercourse	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of partners in last 12 months	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
When last sexual intercourse occurred	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
During last sexual intercourse, did R and partner use birth control and, if so, which method(s)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Relationship with and characteristics of partner at last intercourse			*	*	*	*	*
Has R ever been pregnant, number of times (through 1998)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Month and year in which R got pregnant the first time, R's age at the time	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
In the month before the last time R got pregnant, did R or R's partner use birth control and, if so, which method(s)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Did R or R's partner use a birth control method on every occasion of sexual intercourse that month	*	*	*				
Has R ever had an abortion and, if so, how many	*	*	*				
Month and year of R's first abortion, and R's age at the time	*	*	*				
<b>E. Home and neighborhood environment</b>							
Does R live with biological father or stepfather	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Do biological parents (and mother and stepfather, if applicable) get along, agree about who sets rules, argue	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Does R feel caught in the middle; can R talk about each parent with the other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Extent of neighborhood problems (series): Disrespect for laws, incidence of crime or violence, incidence of unemployment, and so forth	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of times R has run away from home	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
R's age the first time R ran away	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>F. Criminal activities</b>							
Crimes or delinquent activities R has committed in the last year (got in a fight, stole something, and so on)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Has R ever been convicted on any charges except a minor traffic violation; if so, what was R's age at the time	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of times R has been convicted of something	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Date of most recent conviction	*	*	*				
Charges on which R was convicted (for example, assault, robbery, or theft)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Has R ever been convicted on charges in adult court	*	*	*				
Has R ever been on probation; has R been on probation since last interview	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
When R's (most recent) probation period ended	*	*	*				
Has R ever been sentenced to spend time in a youth or adult corrections institution	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Date of most recent release from corrections facility	*	*	*				
Number of times R has been referred to a court-related counseling or diversion program by police, courts, school, or own parents; if so, age at which this first occurred	*	*	*				
Date on which (most recent) counseling program ended	*	*	*				
<b>G. Volunteer activities</b>							
Volunteer work performed in last 2 years or since last interview	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Was any of the volunteer work: Court ordered, church- or school-sponsored, other	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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Types of organizations R is or was involved with (for example, service, church, youth)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
<b>H. Mental health</b>							
Has R received any help for an emotional, behavioral, or family problem in the last 12 months	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type of problem(s)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Has R felt or has anyone suggested that R needed help for any behavioral, emotional, or mental problem in the past 12 months?	*	*	*				
Does R regularly take any medicine or prescription drug to help control activity level or behavior	*	*	*	*	*	*	*