

ECLS-B 9-month Sample Sizes, Population Sizes, and Response Rates

Table 1. Percentage distribution of children born in 2001, by child and family characteristics: 2001-02

Characteristics	Sample ¹ (rounded to the nearest 50)	Population (rounded to the nearest 100)	Population Percentage
Total	10,700	3,997,200	100
Child's sex			
Male	5,450	2,041,000	51
Female	5,250	1,956,200	49
Child's race/ethnicity			
White, non-Hispanic	4,450	2,133,00	54
Black, non-Hispanic	1,700	547,000	14
Hispanic	2,200	1,017,800	26
Asian/ Pacific Islander	1,250	118,100	3
Other	1,050	170,700	4
Child's assessment age			
6-7 months	50	15,000	#
8 months	1,450	614,000	16
9 months	3,450	1,328,800	35
10 months	2,350	814,000	21
11 months	1,200	405,000	11
12 months	700	238,700	6
13 months	400	155,300	4
14-22 months	600	248,400	7
Birth Weight			
Normal birth weight	7,850	3,696,100	93
Moderately low birth weight	1,650	247,900	6
Very low birth weight	1,150	51,400	1
Prematurity			
No	7,650	3,488,000	88
Yes	2,900	468,200	12
Plurality			
Single	8,850	3,864,100	97
Twin	1,650	119,500	3
Higher order (e.g., triplet)	100	7,200	#
Maternal age at child's birth			
15-17 years	400	144,100	4
18-19 years	800	296,000	7
20-24 years	2,650	1,011,100	25
25-29 years	2,600	1,054,200	26
30-34 years	2,550	937,800	24
35-39 years	1,300	450,800	11
40+ years	300	96,800	2
Mother's education (at 9 month interview)			
Less than high school	2,050	784,100	20
HS diploma /GED/some college/VOTECH	5,750	2,219,300	56
Bachelor's degree or higher	2,800	974,200	24
Poverty status			
Below poverty threshold	2,750	971,400	24
At or above poverty threshold	7,900	3,025,800	76
Primary language spoken in home			
Non-English	2,300	749,400	19
English	8,400	3,247,700	81

Estimate rounds to zero.

¹The total sample size in this column reflects the number of children with corresponding parent interview data during the 9-month round. Approximately 10,200 children had direct child assessment data during the 9-month round.

NOTE: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding and/or missing data. Estimates weighted by W1R0.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort (ECLS-B), Longitudinal 9-month-Pre-school Restricted-Use Data File (NCES 2008-024).

Response Rates

Response rates can be either unweighted or weighted. The unweighted rate, computed using the raw number of cases, provides a useful description of the success of the operational aspects of the survey. The weighted rate, computed by summing the weights (usually the reciprocals of the probability of selecting the units) for both the numerator and denominator, gives a better description of the success of the survey with respect to the population sampled, since the weights allow for inference of the sample data (including response status) to the population level. Both rates are usually similar unless the probabilities of selection and the unit response rates in the categories with different selection probabilities vary considerably.

Weighted Response Rates

The weighted unit response rate for the 9-month parent interview, which is calculated as the weighted number of children with completed 9-month parent interviews divided by the weighted number of children eligible to participate in the 9-month collection, was 74.1 percent.

Some cases that have a completed parent interview did not complete one or more of the other study components (i.e., the child assessment component, the father questionnaire(s)). Therefore, it is necessary to calculate separate weighted unit response rates for these components. These rates are conditioned on the presence of a complete 9-month parent interview (as well as additional eligibility criteria), because having a complete 9-month parent interview is the criterion for being considered a participant in the 9-month data collection. The weighted unit response rate for the 9-month child assessments was 95.6 percent. The weighted unit response rate for the Resident Fathers Questionnaire, calculated for cases where a resident father was living in the household with the sampled child, was 76.1 percent. The weighted unit response rate for the Nonresident Father Questionnaire, calculated for cases in which mothers reported that the sampled child had a biological father living outside the household who met predetermined criteria for frequency and recency of contact with either the mother or child (and for whom mothers provided consent for participation), was 50.0 percent.

Unweighted Response Rates

Calculated similar to as described above, but with unweighted numbers, the unweighted unit response rate for the 9-month parent interview was 76.8 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the 9-month child assessments was 95.6 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the Resident Father Questionnaire was 75.1 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the Nonresident Father Questionnaire was 51.2 percent.