Selected NLSY79 Variables by Survey Year (Often referred to as the "Asterisk Table")

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
I. Labor Market Experience Variable	es																							
A. Current labor force and employ	nent	tsta	tus	and	cha	rac	teri	stic	s of	cur	rent	t/mo	st r	ecei	nt jo	ob ¹								
Survey week labor force and employment status	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*		
Occupation (DOT code)	*																							
Hours worked in survey week	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*		
Hours per week usually worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Shift worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Promotion (varies with year)						*	*	*	*	*	*	*					*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Commuting time to current job	*	*	*							*					*	*								
Availability of benefits (beginning in 1994 for multiple jobs)	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Global job satisfaction item	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Job satisfaction scale	*	*	*	*						*														Г
Job characteristics inventory	*			*																				
Size of employer	*	*						*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Minority status of coworkers (1980 only), supervisor		*		*																				
Time R expects to stay at job	*	*	*	*																				T

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
Participation in work-study program	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																
B. Work experience since Jan. 1, 1	9 78 , c	or p	revi	ous	sur	vey,	or	in p	ast	cale	nda	r ye	ear											
Weeks worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours usually worked per week	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of weeks, spells of unemployment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Weeks out of labor force	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
C. Characteristics of jobs since Jap per week and more than 9 weeks in	_		_			•	´ •	clud	ling	cur	rent	t or	mos	st re	ecen	t jo	b (n	10re	e tha	an 1	0 to	201	iours	;
Occupation and industry (Census code)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Class of worker	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Start date and stop date	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
TY 11 1 1 1										*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Hours usually worked at home																*		*					*	*
Shift worked Shift worked																, ,	*	*	*	*	*	*	"	*
<u> </u>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Shift worked	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	Ш			-		-			-
Shift worked Rate of pay, hourly rate of pay																*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Shift worked Rate of pay, hourly rate of pay Covered by collective bargaining	*									*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Shift worked Rate of pay, hourly rate of pay Covered by collective bargaining Is R union member	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	* *	* *	* *	* *	* *	* *	* *	* *	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
(all jobs since 1994)																								
Characteristics of employer's pension plan																*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Is employer exempt from Social Security; does another plan replace it																				*	*	*	*	*
Global job satisfaction item																*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Promotion and promotion potential with employer						*				*	*	*					*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Size of employer																	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sex of supervisor and coworkers		*		*													*	*						
Is R a temporary or contractual worker																*	*	*					*	*
D. Job search																								
Job search activities and (some years) intentions	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*		
R looking for work or employed when found current or most recent job				*												*	*	*	*					
Methods of job search				*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*			*		Ī
Job offers rejected (while looking for each job)				*				*	*	*						*	*	*	*					
Desired characteristics of job sought				*		*	*	*																

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
A. Early formative influences/Paren	tal s	stati	us																					
Nationality and birthplace	*				*																			
Birth date	*		*																					
Ethnic self-identification (revised 2002)	*																			*				
Year foreign-born R entered the United States					*							*												
Month and year R entered the United States to live for at least 6 months	*											*												
Country of citizenship when immigrated												*												
Immigration or visa status												*												
Religious affiliation, frequency of attendance	*			*															*					
Periods lived away from parents (birth to age 18)	*									*														
Non-English language spoken when R was a child	*																							
Were magazines, newspapers, or library cards available in home when R was age 14	*																							
Person(s) R lived with at age 14	*											*												Т

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
Occupations of primary adults when R was 14	*																							
Birthplace of parents: State or country	*																							
Highest grade completed by father and mother	*																							
Employment status of father and mother in past year	*	*																						
Are R's parents living	*	*																*	*	*	*	*	*	*
R's biological parentslife status, health, cause of death (40+/50+ health modules)																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
B. Education	_		-										-											
Current enrollment status, date of last enrollment	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highest grade completed	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Reason stopped attending school	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Highest degree and date received										*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Is or was school public or private	*																							
High school curriculum	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Comparison of high school courses to skills training															*									
College degree received	*	*	*	*	*	*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
Type of college attending (2- or 4-year)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Field of study or specialization in college	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
College tuition	*																							П
Educational loans or financial aid in college	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Attitude toward selected aspects of high school	*																							
Courses taken during last year of high school	*																							
Ever suspended or expelled from school; date		*																						
C. Vocational training outside regul	ar s	cho	ol																					
Type(s) of training	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Number of weeks, hours per week in training	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
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												*	*	*	*	*								

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
Reason for training				*	*	*							*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Method of financing training				*	*	*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Informal job learning activities (questions vary)															*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
D. Government jobs and training pro	grar	ns				,			0	,							,							
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	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*															
E. Health and physical condition																								
Does health limit work, duration of limitation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
Type of health problem (ICD-9 code)	*	*	*	*																				
Work-related injury or illness (ICD-9 code)										*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*					
Height			*	*			*															*	*	*
Weight			*	*			*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health insurance coverageR, spouse, children											*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Frequency and intensity of R's physical activity																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
R's general health behaviors																				*	*	*	*	*
General perception of health (40+/50+ health modules)																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Does health interfere with daily activities (40+/50+ health modules)																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Emotional health in past 4 weeks (40+/50+ health modules)																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
R's various health problems (heart problems, cancer, diabetes, poor eyesight or hearing, and so forth) (40+/50+ health modules)																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Time spent on healthcare activities (40+/50+ health modules)																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Diagnosed with asthma (40+/50+ health modules)																		*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
F. Marital history and spouse chara	cter	isti	cs (n	ote	tha	t all	spo	use	iter	ns a	lso	refe	r to	pai	rtne	rs b	egiı	nnin	ıg ir	19	94)			
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				*															*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
and attendance																								
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	*																							
G. Household and children																								_
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					*	*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
(females)																								
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																					*	*	*	*
H. Childcare (only female R's in eve	n ye	ears	afte	er 19	986))		_																
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														*		*	*	*	*					
I. Financial characteristics and prog	gran	ı pa	rtic	ipat	ion	(no	te tl	nat a	all s	pou	se it	tems	s als	so re	efer	to p	art	ners	s be	ginn	ing	in 1	994)	
Total family income in previous	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
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)																			*	*	*	*	*	*
R claimed Earned Income Tax																			*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
Credit (EITC) on previous tax return, amount																								
Possession of various assets (R and spouse)		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*		*		*	*
Asset market value (R and spouse)							*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*		*		*	*
Amount of debt							*	*	*	*	*	*		*	*	*	*	*	*		*		*	*
Amount spent on food, other than Food Stamps												*	*	*	*	*						*		
Effect of 1996 welfare reform on R (shorter in 2000)																		*	*					
R receives targeted benefits from public assistance program (gas vouchers, childcare, and so forth)																			*					
J. Military service (current or past)				,				,												,			,	
Branch of Armed Forces	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Months spent in Armed Forces	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Military occupation(s)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
ROTC or officer training	*																							
Reserve or guard activities	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Pay grade and income	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Type and amount of military training	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Does R use military skills on	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
civilian job																								
Formal education received while in service	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Family members who have served on active duty					*																			
Participation in Veteran's Educational Assistance Program (VEAP) (after 1985, with GI bill)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Attitude toward military service	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Future military plans	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Reason for entering and leaving military		*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Contact with military recruiters	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Type of discharge		*	*																					
Enlistment or reenlistment bonuses received	*	*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Civilian job offer at time of discharge		*	*	*	*	*	*																	
Return to same employer after active duty		*	*	*	*	*	*																	
K. Educational and occupational as	pira	tion	s ar	nd e	xpe	ctati	ions																	
Would R like more education or training; type	*																							

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
How much education desired and actually attained	*		*	*																				
Kind of work R would like to be doing at age 35	*			*																				
Expectation of achieving occupational goal	*			*																				
L. Attitudes								_																
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	*																							Г
Internal-External Locus of Control Scale (Rotter)	*																							
Mastery Scale (Pearlin)														*										
Attitude toward women working	*			*					*												*			
Self-Esteem Scale (Rosenberg) (10 items)		*							*													*		
CES-Depression Scale														*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Person having most influence on R, his or her responses to various	*																							

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
situations																								
Retirement expectations																					*	*	*	*
M. Retrospective evaluation of labor	r ma	ırke	et ex	per	ienc	e																		
Perception of age, race, and sex discrimination	*			*																				
Reason for problems in obtaining employment	*			*																				
N. Delinquency, drugs, and alcohol	use																							-
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		*				*				*				*		*		*						Ī
Age R first used marijuana						*				*				*		*		*						Π
Extent of cocaine use, age R first used						*				*				*		*		*						
Extent of "crack" cocaine use, age R first used														*		*		*						

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
Ever used sedatives, barbiturates, and so forth						*								*		*		*						
Cigarette and alcohol use during pregnancy					*	*	*	*		*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Marijuana and cocaine use during pregnancy										*		*		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
O. Reported police contacts	-											_							_					
Number of times stopped by police		*																						Г
Number of times booked or arrested		*																						
Number of convictions, charges		*																						Г
Number of times incarcerated; date of release		*																						
P. Time use																								
Use of time at various activities (school, work, watching TV, household chores, and so forth)			*																					
Volunteerism/Philanthropy																						*		*
III. Environmental Variables	_																							
Region of residence	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Current residence urban or rural	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Current residence in metropolitan statistical area	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Changes in residence since January	*	*		*															*	*	*	*	*	*

Variable	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	96	98	00	02	04	06	08	10
1, 1978, or date of last interview (collected as a history)																								

¹ 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.

² 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.