



15



Help us see the whole picture

WHY IS THIS STUDY IMPORTANT? Thanks to your help, policymakers and researchers will have a better understanding of the work experiences, family characteristics, health, financial status, and other important information about the lives of people in your generation. This is a voluntary study, and there are no penalties for not answering questions. However, missing responses make it more difficult to understand the issues that concern people in your community and across the country. Your answers represent the experiences of hundreds of other people your age. We hope we can count on your participation again this year.

WHO AUTHORIZES THIS STUDY? The sponsor of the study is the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The study is authorized under Title 29, Section 2, of the United States Code. The Center for Human Resource Research at The Ohio State University and the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago conduct this study under a contract with the Department of Labor. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the questionnaire and has assigned 1220-0157 as the study's control number. This control number expires on October 31, 2012. Without OMB approval and this number, we would not be able to conduct this study.

WHO SEES MY ANSWERS? We want to reassure you that your confidentiality is protected by law. In accordance with the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002, the Privacy Act, and other applicable Federal laws, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, its employees and agents, will, to the full extent permitted by law, use the information you provide for statistical purposes only, will hold your responses in confidence, and will not disclose them in identifiable form without your informed consent. All the employees who work on the survey at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its contractors must sign a document agreeing to protect the confidentiality of your data. In fact, only a few people have access to information about your identity because they need that information to carry out their job duties.

Some of your answers will be made available to researchers at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other government agencies, universities, and private research organizations through publicly available data files. These publicly available files contain no personal identifiers, such as names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and places of work, and exclude any information about the States, counties, metropolitan areas, and other, more detailed geographic locations in which survey participants live, making it much more difficult to figure out the identities of participants. Some researchers are granted special access to data files that include geographic information, but only after those researchers go through a thorough application process at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Those authorized researchers must sign a written agreement making them official agents of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and requiring them to protect the confidentiality of survey participants. Those researchers are never provided with the personal identities of participants. The National Archives and Records Administration and the General Services Administration may receive copies of survey data and materials because those agencies are responsible for storing the Nation's historical documents.

HOW MUCH TIME WILL THE INTERVIEW TAKE? Based on preliminary tests, we expect the average interview to take about 65 minutes. Your interview may be somewhat shorter or longer depending on your circumstances. If you have any comments regarding this study or recommendations for reducing its length, send them to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Longitudinal Surveys, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Washington, DC 20212.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION? To learn more about the survey, visit www.bls.gov/nls. To search for articles, reports, and other research based on the National Longitudinal Surveys, visit www.nlsbibliography.org.



Because
of you, the
NLSY97 is
something to
celebrate!

You're officially invited to help us celebrate 15 years of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997! Throughout the years, we have experienced school, work, and life milestones together, and we hope to experience many more with you. By being a part of the NLSY97, you've helped researchers and policymakers see the bigger picture as it relates to the economy, employment, health, family life, and education of people in your generation.

The average interview only takes about an hour, and we offer flexible scheduling. As a thank you, you will receive a financial gift and a certificate for 5 hours of community service. Like always, your participation is voluntary, and the information you provide is protected under Federal law. For more information about how your information is used and how we protect your privacy, please see the questions and answers on the back of this letter.

Check out all the different ways you can reach us to update your contact information or RSVP for an appointment. We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Visit: www.norc.org/nlsy97

Text: 312-835-1905 with your name

E-mail: nlsy97@norc.org

Call: 800-789-1346

Mail: Complete and send the card below in the postage-paid envelope

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

Apt. or Unit Number: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone (Home): _____

Phone (Work): _____

Phone (Cell): _____

E-mail: _____

Are you Moving? When and Where? _____

Best time to call: Days _____
Times _____

Best way for us to reach you:

- In Person Cell Phone E-mail
 Home Phone Work Phone Text Message