

Appendix T
STED/ETJD 30-Month Follow-Up Survey Overview

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The 30-month follow-up survey is intended to provide information to support investigation of longer term outcomes for participants in the STED and ETJD studies. Most of the intended measures for the analysis of longer term outcomes are replications of those to be examined for the short term (e.g., employment and earnings for all participants, child support and parenthood for noncustodial parent participants, criminal justice system involvement for ex-offender participants, etc.) and so the 30-month instrument consists mainly of items drawn from the previous follow-up surveys, in particularly the 12-month follow-up instrument (original, “adult” version).

Each item in the 30-month instrument (Appendix U) is color-coded to indicate its origin as follows:

New items highlighted in aqua

Items from the 6-month (6MFUP) highlighted in gray

Items from the 12-month (12MFUP) highlighted in yellow

Items from the 6-month young adult (6MFUP_YA) highlighted in green

Items from the 12-month young adult (12MFUP_YA) highlighted in pink

Items that are drawn from a previous survey are annotated with the item number from the previous survey; in cases where edits were made, the edits are in Track Changes. Most of the edits were to clarify or simplify question wording, based on our experiences administering the earlier survey waves. These edits, along with the few substantive edits, are described in detail below for each section, including a list of the items which were edited or added for the 30-month survey.

Introduction and Sample Member Verification

The majority of the content for this section was taken from the first two sections of the 12-month survey (Introduction and Sample Member Verification). Most of the additional items were added to explicate the logic flow of the instrument as it is implemented in the CATI/CAPI systems. Two items – WORKREL and WORKREL2 – were added to protect the confidentiality of respondents living in half-way houses or other supervised situations.

QLANG-RCONU: Added to explicate logic flow

Q1: Taken from “Introduction”; text is the same except for survey length and incentive amount (for ETJD). Also added a text variation for interviews conducted in-person.

S1/S2: Taken from Sample Member Identity Verification; text changed due to interviewer feedback

FAIL_SCREEN-REFSCREEN: Added to explicate logic flow

INFORMED CONSENT: Taken from “Introduction”; minor edits to text for readability.

WORKREL-WORKREL2: Added to ensure confidentiality of respondents living in supervised situations

END INTERVIEW: Added to explicate logic flow

A. Education and Training

This section is designed to measure current educational and other work-related credentials. Two items (A1 and A3) were added to assess current educational attainment; the other education/training items are modified versions of 12-month items, where “since RA” was changed to “currently”. The final new item in this section (A10) was added to capture having a driver’s license, which can facilitate obtaining/keeping employment.

B. Employment and Earnings

For the most part, the items in this section are the same as in the 12-month instruments. Most of the changes were to refine wording and/or simplify question structure. Due to concerns about respondent recall, employment history is captured from the interview date backwards using CATI/CAPI logic to end data collection.

Several new items were added to collect information about job quality for currently/recently employed respondents (B43-B46;B51); items related to benefits were expanded (B37-B41). In addition, the Career Commitment Scale (from the 6-month Young Adult instrument) was also added to this section. Finally, two items (B47-B48) related to current receipt of work supports were added to this section.

B1A: Follow-up to B1 to ensure all types of employment were considered by respondents reporting no employment since random assignment

B3: Edited to add instructions to identify the job for which the current employment items are to be answered

B4-B6: Edited to improve wording

B10-B11: Replaces B12-B16; changed to simplify question structure

B13: Edited to improve wording and add answer option regarding employment programs

B14-B23: Only capturing details about three additional current jobs instead of seven based on experiences administering this sequences in the 12-month survey

B16-B17: Edited to improve wording

B20-B21: Replaces B35-B39; changed to simplify question structure

B23: Edited to improve wording and add answer option regarding employment programs

B24: Simplified start of loop to capture employment history prior to current jobs

B26: Edited to improve wording

B27: Added to correct mistake from 12-month instrument; industry of previous jobs should have been collected

- B29-B30:** Added to replace B54 to make structure parallel with other wage questions
- B32-B33:** Replace B60 to capture jobs that ended due to quits versus jobs that ended due to terminations
- B34:** Edited to refine wording
- B36:** Edited to refine wording and change reference period (to “currently” from “since random assignment”)
- B37-B41:** Added to expand information collected at benefits; replace 12-month B19/B41/B56 but only collected for one job per respondent (current “main” job or job held in the past three months)
- B43-B46:** New questions to measure job quality; collected for one job per respondent (current “main” job or job held in past three months)
- B47-B48:** New questions to measure current receipt of work supports; added as participation data is not being collected otherwise
- B49a-B50:** Replacement for B21/B22 to capture lateral moves in addition to promotions
- B51:** New question, additional job quality measure

C. Living Conditions and Wellbeing

This section includes items from all of the previous follow-up instruments. The majority of the changes are to simplify item wording or assist interviewers with coding responses; these changes were made in response to administration experiences with the previous surveys.

Questions concerning income were taken from the young adult 12-month instrument and refer only to respondent’s income since the 30-month instrument is designed to be the same for all sub-populations participating in the study. This is also the case for the items concerning current living situation.

- C1:** Edited to separate “prison” from other types of group quarters
- C2:** New item to further clarify respondents living situation (financial contribution)
- C3:** Clarified answer option related to imprisonment to assist coding of responses during interview
- C9:** Refined wording of question; only collecting ages rather than birthdates to lessen burden on respondents and interviewers
- C11:** Edited to simplify wording and item structure
- C12:** Edited to simplify wording and to collect ages instead of birthdates
- C13:** Edited to simplify wording
- C14b:** New question added to collect additional information on respondent’s marital status
- C16:** Edited to clarify/simplify wording, add an additional income source (Veteran’s pensions) and remove an additional income source based on experience with the 12-month (Free/reduced lunch)

C23: New question to collect information on banking status

C24: Changed reference period (from “since random assignment” to “past year”) and removed one sub-question due to 12-month experience

C27: Edited to simplify wording

C30: Added an introductory statement based on experience administering the 6-month instrument

C33/C36/C38: Edited answer options to assist coding of responses during interview

C37: Reworded question for clarity

C39: Added introductory statement to ease transition to new topic.

C40: Reworded answer options to ease administration

D. Criminal Justice

This module is for respondents in ex-offender sites or who were ex-offenders at random assignment as recorded in the baseline data. All of the items were drawn verbatim from the 12-month ex-offenders except for two new items (D1 and D2) which were added to capture information needed for risk assessment of ex-offenders.

E. Noncustodial Parents

This module is for respondents in noncustodial parent sites or who were noncustodial parents at random assignment in the baseline data. Most of the items were drawn from the 12-month noncustodial parent module. Three new items (E1-E3) were added to simplify identification of the respondent’s focal child and one other item (E16) was added to assist with administration of questions concerning the focal child’s caretaker.

E1-E3: New items to replace HSCREEN1-HSCREEN3 from 12-month instrument; changed due to difficulty implementing and administering the 12-month items

E16: New item to assist with identification of focal child’s caretaker.

E17: Edited item wording for clarity

E23: Edited item wording for clarity

E28: Edited item wording to simplify

F. Social Support and Networks

This module contains items drawn from the 6-month follow-up survey. Other than a small wording change to the introduction for one set of items (F1), the same items are used on the 30-month instrument.