

THE IMPORTANCE OF LONGITUDINAL SURVEYS

In a longitudinal study, the same people are interviewed periodically over time. This type of survey enables researchers to follow changes in people's lives and understand cause and effect relationships.

For example, a researcher might want to know how much of an earnings boost results from additional job training or completing a college degree. Other surveys that aren't longitudinal have shown that people who have received more training or education tend to have higher earnings, but this may confuse cause and effect: for example, an individual's family resources may cause them to have both more training and higher earnings. A longitudinal survey with the same participants can help disentangle

these effects by measuring what the individual earned before and after receiving the training.

The NLSY97 is special because it has collected information about you since young adulthood to show how you have changed and how your skills have developed. The survey gives researchers the extra information needed to understand how earlier events in your life affect things that happen later as you age and grow.

And you are special because you have been part of the NLSY97 since the beginning. If we interviewed someone else instead of you, we wouldn't be able to understand those important cause and effect relationships.



HOW YOU
HAVE MADE
AN IMPACT

NLSY
97

Over the years, your answers have reflected the triumphs and challenges of your generation. Each time you complete your interview, you make your voice heard!

Your contributions have improved how researchers and policy makers understand the important issues that impact our nation's economy and labor market. Thank you for your continued participation!

Please contact us with any questions or comments:

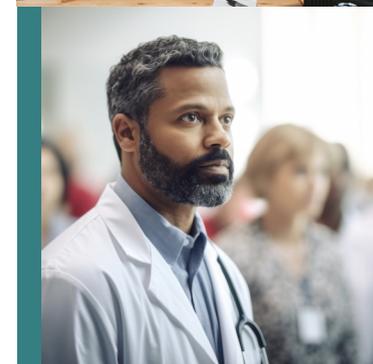


Call: 877-504-1086

Text with your full name to: 312-835-1905

Email: nlsy97@norc.org

Visit: www.bls.gov/respondents/nls/



YOUR PARTICIPATION:

We ask about job earnings in the form of wages, salary, commissions, or tips.

DATA COLLECTED:

In a recent interview, **83 percent** of respondents reported receiving income from a job in the past year, including temporary or seasonal work.

RESEARCH PUBLISHED:

A recent study used NLSY97 data to understand the employment outcomes of *boomerang movers*, individuals who move back in with their parents after living on their own. Results showed that boomerang movers had lower earnings potential and less job security compared with their independent peers.

Choi, Seungbee. "After Moving Back to the Nest: The Heterogeneous Effect of Returning to Parental Home on the Employment Outcomes by Income Group." *Cities* 133 (February 2023): <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2022.104114>



YOUR PARTICIPATION:

We ask if you have ever owned or operated a business.

DATA COLLECTED:

In a previous interview, **11 percent** of respondents said they owned a business or were self-employed in jobs that also operated as businesses, such as an independent contractors.

RESEARCH PUBLISHED:

In a recent study, researchers defined entrepreneurship using NLSY97 employment data about business ownership. Using additional respondent health information, they found positive and long-lasting links between entrepreneurship and overall physical and mental health.

Zhou, Jinyi, Jong Gyu Park, and Yawen Li. "Achieve a Better Shape of Life: How Entrepreneurship Gears Up Life-time Well-being." *International Journal of Manpower* published online (23 March 2022): <https://doi.org/10.1108/IJM-04-2021-0215>.



YOUR PARTICIPATION:

We ask if your primary job is covered by a contract that was negotiated by a union or employee association.

DATA COLLECTED:

In the 2009 interview, **14 percent** of respondents reported that their primary job was covered by a union or employee contract compared to **17 percent** in the 2019 interview.

RESEARCH PUBLISHED:

Researchers used NLSY97 employment data to examine the relationship between union status and job satisfaction. They found that in the years prior to the Great Recession, union workers tended to have lower satisfaction with their jobs than their non-union peers, but after the recession they had higher job satisfaction.

Artz, Benjamin, David G. Blanchflower and Alex Bryson. "Unions Increase Job Satisfaction in the United States." *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* 203 (November 2022): 173-188: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2022.09.007>



YOUR PARTICIPATION:

We ask about your work status and type of occupation.

DATA COLLECTED:

In the 2009 interview, **4.9 percent** of respondents reported being a teacher as their primary occupation compared to **4.6 percent** in the 2019 interview.

RESEARCH PUBLISHED:

A study used NLSY97 data to understand the exit and reentry of individuals within the field of teaching. The study found that approximately one-fifth of those who left teaching between 2000-2019 returned to teaching. The results demonstrated a lower return rate when compared with an earlier cohort of teachers.

Moyer, Anna. "Has 'Who Comes Back' Changed? Teacher Reentry 2000-2019." *Educational Researcher* published online (24 October 2022): <https://doi.org/10.3102/0013189X221122746>

