Appendix B. 2024 NSECE Household Questionnaire Items - Overview and Comparison

| **2019 Category** | **2019 Construct** | **2024 Construct** | **First Item of 2024 Construct** | **Key changes from 2019 to 2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Section A: Child Demographics** | Number of children under age 6 living in household | Number of children under age 6 living in household | S1\_Check |  |
| Number of children ages 6 to 13 living in household | Number of children ages 6 to 13 living in household | S1\_SA |  |
| Roster of each child under age 13 in household | Roster of each child under age 13 in household | A1 |  |
| Sex of each child in household | Sex of each child in household | A1b |  |
| Dates of birth for each child in household | Dates of birth for each child in household | A1c |  |
| Country of birth for each child in household | Country of birth for each child in household | A1c1 |  |
| Ethnicity of each child in household | Ethnicity of each child in household | A2d |  |
| Race of each child in household | Race of each child in household | A2e |  |
| Physical, emotional, developmental, or behavioral condition for each child that affects care provided | Physical, emotional, developmental, or behavioral condition for each child that affects care provided | A2h |  |
| Respondent’s relationship to each child | Respondent’s relationship to each child | A2f |  |
| Presence of each child’s parent in the household | Presence of each child’s parent(s) in the household | A2g |  |

| **2019 Category** | **2019 Construct** | **2024 Construct** | **First item of 2024 construct** | **Key changes from 2019 to 2024** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Section A: Child Demographics** | N/A | Whether child has a parent who doesn't live in this household | HH14\_1 | Added new items to more comprehensively capture a child's parents that live both inside and outside the household (as this becomes more prevalent over time).  For children with non-resident parents, added items to collect new details about time spent between households, and time spent in parental and non-parental care when with non-resident parent. |
| N/A | Does child live at multiple addresses | HH15\_1 |
| N/A | What nights did child spend with non-residential parent last week | HH15\_3 |
| Identification of children with non-resident parent(s) | Identification of children with non-resident parent(s) | A2G1 |  |
| Location of non-resident parent(s) | Location of non-resident parent(s) | A2G2 |  |
| Educational attainment of non-resident parent(s) | Educational attainment of non-resident parent(s) | A2G8 |  |
| Number of times non-resident parent(s) visited child in last 12 months | Number of times non-resident parent(s) visited child in last 12 months | A2G9 |  |
| Whether non-resident parent(s) has contributed $500 or more to child in last 12 months | Whether non-resident parent(s) has contributed $500 or more to child in last 12 months | A2G9a |  |
| N/A | Whether child's non-resident parent lives with a spouse or partner | A2G8A | Added item on whether a child’s non-resident parent has a spouse or partner (who may serve as a caregiver to the child). |
| **Section B: Respondent and Household Adults Demographics**  **Section B: Respondent and Household Adults Demographics**  **Section B: Respondent and Household Adults Demographics** | Number of individuals over 13 years old living in household | Number of individuals over 13 years old living in household | B1a1 |  |
| Roster of household members over 13 | Roster of household members over 13 | B1A |  |
| Age of each household member over 13 | Age of each household member over 13 | B1B |  |
| Sex of each household member over 13 | Gender identity of each household member over 13 | B1C | Updated item on gender identity to align with guidance set out in: [OMB (Jan 2023) Recommendations on the Best Practices for the Collection of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data on Federal Statistical Surveys (whitehouse.gov)](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/SOGI-Best-Practices.pdf) |
| Respondent’s relationship to each household member over 13 | Respondent’s relationship to each household member over  13 | B1d |  |
| Whether each household member has any children living in household for | Whether each household member has any children living in household | B1e |  |
| Identification of each household member’s children living in the household | Identification of each household member’s children living in the household | B1e\_1 |  |
| Household member cares for children in household | Household member cares for children in household | B1f |  |
| Educational attainment of each household member over 13 | Educational attainment of household members over  13 | B1j |  |
| Ethnicity of respondent | Ethnicity of respondent\* | B1m | Updated item to align with HHS Implementation Guidance on Data Collection Standards for Race, Ethnicity, Sex, Primary Language, and Disability Status (2011) by allowing respondents to describe their Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin more precisely with separate categories for Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban and other Hispanic/Latino/Spanish origin, and the ability to select one or more option. |
| Race of respondent | Race of respondent | B1n |  |
| N/A | Sexual orientation of respondent | B1\_SO | Added item on sexual orientation of respondent aligned with guidance set out in: [OMB (Jan 2023) Recommendations on the Best Practices for the Collection of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data on Federal Statistical Surveys (whitehouse.gov)](https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/SOGI-Best-Practices.pdf) |
| Country of birth for each household member over 13 | Country of birth for household members over 13 | B1o |  |
| Year each household member first came to U.S. | Year household members over 13 first came to U.S. | B1o\_1 |  |
| Identification of any guardian for children in the household with no reported parents | Identification of any guardian for children in the household with no reported parents | B1\_CUST |  |
| Formality of guardian arrangement | Formality of guardian arrangement | B1\_CUST\_a |  |
| Description of relationship between parents in the household with more than two parents present | Description of relationship between parents in the household with more than two parents present | B1\_STRUCT |  |
| Language usually spoken in household | Language usually spoken in household | B2 |  |
| Any relatives living nearby | Any relatives living nearby | B3 |  |
| Any nearby relative able to regularly care for children at no cost | Any nearby relative able to regularly care for children at no cost | B3b |  |
| Any nearby relative able to regularly care for children if paid | Any nearby relative able to regularly care for children if paid | B3c |  |
| **Section C: Child Care: Types and Hours**  **Section C: Child Care: Types and Hours**  **Section C: Child Care: Types and Hours**  **Section C: Child Care: Types and Hours**  **Section C: Child Care: Types and Hours** | Roster of individuals and organizations that cared for each child last week | Roster of individuals and organizations that cared for each child last week | C1 |  |
| Detailed schedule of non-parental care for each child last week | Detailed schedule of non-parental care for each child last week | C2 |  |
| Identification of non-parental care providers who regularly care for child but did not care for child last week | Identification of non-parental care providers who regularly care for child but did not care for child last week | C3 |  |
| Location of non-parental care for each regular, but not last week provider | Location of non-parental care for each regular, but not last week provider | C4a |  |
| Number of hours per week each regular, but not last week provider, usually cares for a child | Number of hours per week each regular, but not last week provider, usually cares for a child | C4b |  |
| N/A | Respondent's knowledge of child's childcare arrangements when at other household (of non-resident parent) | HH15\_4 | Added item to capture knowledge of child’s schedule when they are with the non-resident parent |
| Whether provider is individual or organization | Whether provider is individual or organization | C5A |  |
| Any respondent prior personal relationship to provider | Any respondent prior personal relationship to provider | C5C |  |
| Respondent’s type of relationship to provider | Respondent’s type of relationship to provider | C5CA |  |
| Whether provider cares for 4 or more children | Whether provider cares for 4 or more children | C5CB2 |  |
| Whether provider receives any payment for caring for children | Whether provider receives any payment for caring for children | C5E |  |
| Whether respondent provides anything other than money to provider and frequency | Whether respondent provides anything other than money to provider\* | C5E1 | Kept item about whether family uses non-monetary approaches to pay provider; removed follow-up item about frequency of non-monetary payment. |
| Provider lives or provides care in household | Provider lives or provides care in household | C5D |  |
| Linkage of specific providers mentioned to nearby providers | Linkage of specific providers mentioned to nearby providers | C6 |  |
| Location of provider | Location of provider | C8 |  |
| Method of transportation to provider | Method of transportation to provider | C1B |  |
| Person responsible for taking child to provider | Person responsible for taking child to provider | C1C |  |
| Any language difficulty speaking with provider | Any language difficulty speaking with provider | C11 |  |
| Provider offers single type of activity | Provider offers single type of activity | C8\_3 |  |
| N/A | Nature of the single type of activity provider offers | C8\_3a | New item added to provide additional clarifying information about respondent reports of single activity care (this is an important detail required to classify different types of center-based care). |
| Provider offers care on a drop-in basis | Provider offers care on a drop-in basis | C8\_4 |  |
| Provider regularly cares for child (at least 5 hours each week) | Provider regularly cares for child (at least 5 hours each week) | C9 |  |
| Age of child when provider began caring for them | Age of child when provider began caring for them | C5F |  |
| N/A | Emlen Scale - 3-item scale of parent reported child care quality | HH10\_Q4a | Added widely used 3-item scale of parent reported child care quality developed by Art Emlen. Asked for all non-parental care arrangements for all children under age 72 months. |
| N/A | One thing respondent would change about provider to better meet child's needs | HH10\_Q5 | Added a new parent-reported child care quality-related item asking about features of current child care provider that respondent would change to better meet child’s needs. Asked for all non-parental care arrangements for all children under age 72 months. |
| Child enrolled in kindergarten | Child enrolled in kindergarten | C8C |  |
| Child enrolled in Head Start or Public PreK | Child enrolled in Head Start or Public PreK | C8\_2 |  |
| Provider is a school | Provider is a school | C8A |  |
| Hours of the regular school day | Hours of the regular school day | C8\_1 |  |
| N/A | In last 12 months, has child been told to take a break or leave care | HH21\_1 | Added two items on children’s experiences with discipline in the form of a required break (suspension) or refusal/end of care (expulsion) and reasons given for the disciplinary action. Item to record age of child at time of disciplinary action also added. |
| N/A | Primary reason given for why child needed to take a break or leave care | HH21\_2 |
| N/A | Age of child when they were told to take break or leave care | HH21\_3 |
| Perception of specific types of care: nurturing environment | Dropped | N/A | Removed in-depth items about perception of how four different types of child care rate along six different features of child care. |
| Perception of specific types of care: child prepared for school | Dropped | N/A |
| Perception of specific types of care: child taught to get along with others | Dropped | N/A |
| Perception of specific types of care: safe environment | Dropped | N/A |
| Perception of specific types of care: affordable care | Dropped | N/A |
| Perception of specific types of care: flexibility for parent | Dropped | N/A |
| N/A | Preferred type of child care if all types were free and in a convenient location | HH10\_Q8 | New item added to ask about ideal/preferred type of child care for a focal child (including all types of parental and non-parental care). |
| N/A | Difficulty finding the type of child care they wanted | HH10\_Q9 | New item added to ask about the level of difficulty experienced in finding the type of child care the parent wanted/wants for their child. |
| N/A | One thing respondent would change about current child care situation overall (other than cost) to better meet family’s needs. | HH10\_Q11b | New item added about what family would change in its child care situation to better meet family needs. |
| N/A | Respondent has good local options and choices for child care | HH10\_Q13a | New item added from Emlen's measures about parent perceptions of the quality of local child care options. |
| **Section D: Respondent and spouse employment schedules**  **Section D: Respondent and spouse employment schedules**  **Section D: Respondent and spouse employment schedules**  **Section D: Respondent and spouse employment schedules**  **Section D: Respondent and spouse employment schedules** | Respondent/spouse/relevant Household Member (HHM) worked for pay last week | Respondent/spouse/relevant HHM worked for pay last week | D1A |  |
| Respondent/spouse/relevant HHM attended high school or college last week | Respondent/spouse/relevant HHM attended high school or college last week | D1B |  |
| Respondent/spouse/relevant HHM attended courses or training programs last week | Respondent/spouse/relevant HHM attended courses or training programs last week | D1C |  |
| Detailed schedule of work/school/training for each respondent/spouse/relevant HHM last week | Detailed schedule of work/school/training for each respondent/spouse/relevant HHM last week | D1D |  |
| Reconciliation of adult and child calendar to identify gaps in child care | Reconciliation of adult and child calendar to identify gaps in child care | CHK3 |  |
| N/A | Whether respondent/spouse/partner works only at home/only outside of home/or both | WFH\_1 | New items added to collect additional detail about work-from-home arrangements and schedules, and about “hybrid” work arrangements where parents work both inside the home and at workplaces outside the home. Identified as a critical priority given the increased prevalence of remote work and hybrid work arrangements.   Corresponding item added to learn more about the types of child care parents use for their children when working from home. |
| N/A | Whether respondent/spouse/partner worked any days only at home last week | WFH\_2 |
| N/A | Days the respondent/spouse/partner only worked at home last week | WFH\_3 |
| N/A | Total number of hours respondent/spouse/partner worked from home last week | WFH\_4 |
| N/A | Type of child care used while respondent/spouse/partner worked from home | WFH\_5 |
| Location where relevant HHM works most hours each week | Location where relevant HHM works most hours each week | D2\_1 |
| N/A | Location where relevant HHM works most hours each week when not working from home | D2\_1A |
| How relevant HHM gets to work | Dropped | N/A | Item dropped as it duplicates information from other items about transportation and commuting. |
| How long it takes relevant HHM to get to work | How long it takes relevant HHM to get to work | D2\_COMMUTE |  |
| How far in advance does relevant HHM know their work schedule | How far in advance does relevant HHM know their work schedule | D2\_2 |  |
| Did relevant HHM work a usual schedule last week | Did relevant HHM work a usual schedule last week | D2\_3 |  |
| Occupation and industry of relevant household member | Occupation and industry of relevant household member | D2 |  |
| Current wage of relevant household member | Current wage of relevant household member | D3D |  |
| Relevant household member ever worked for pay | Relevant household member ever worked for pay | D4 |  |
| Last job held by relevant household member | Last job held by relevant household member | D5A |  |
| When last job was held by relevant household member | When last job was held by relevant household member | D5B |  |
| Hours worked each week at last job by relevant household member | Hours worked each week at last job by relevant household member | D5C |  |
| Wage received at last job for relevant household member | Wage received at last job for relevant household member | D5D |  |
| Number of days last month a parent worked from home for a child care related reason | Number of days last 3 months a parent missed work for a child care related reason\* | D9A\_REVISED | Item revised to focus on missed work instead of work from home and timeframe changed from one month to three months to be consistent with other items in the sequence. |
| Number of work days missed in the last 3 months | Dropped | N/A | Items streamlined to just maintain key items related to experiences of missing work due to child care related reasons. |
| Number of work days missed because child care provider was unavailable in the last 3 months | Number of work days missed because child care provider was unavailable in the last 3 months\* | D10A\_REVISED |
| Number of work days missed because child was sick in the last 3 months | Dropped | N/A |
| Any wages lost by respondent/spouse/HHM for missed work | Any wages lost by respondent/spouse/HHM for missed work | D10C |
| Any wages lost by respondent/spouse/HHM for being late to work/leaving early | Dropped | N/A |
| Number of days special child care arrangements made in the last 3 months because of unavailable provider | Dropped | N/A |
| Number of days special child care arrangements made in the last 3 months because of any other reason | Number of days special child care arrangements made in the last 3 months because of any other reason | D13 |  |
| N/A | Type of special child care arrangement made | D13a | New item about how parents manage when there is an expected change to their child’s usual care routine or arrangement. |
| Respondent/spouse participates in flexible spending account at work | Respondent/spouse participates in flexible spending account at work | D15 |  |
| **Section J: Child Care Payment and Subsidy to Each Provider**  **Section J: Child Care Payment and Subsidy to Each Provider**  **Section J: Child Care Payment and Subsidy to Each Provider** | Any payment from parent for each child care arrangement | Any payment from parent for each child care arrangement | J1\_E1 |  |
| N/A | Whether respondent uses and pays provider varying numbers of hours per week for care | J1a\_E1 | New item added, parallel to new items asked in provider surveys (NSECE Center-based Survey and Home-based Survey), about use of flexible care and flexible scheduling and payment practices. |
| Amount parent pays for each child care arrangement | Amount parent pays for each child care arrangement | J2\_E7 |  |
| Child care provider paid for by someone/someplace else for each child care arrangement | Child care provider paid for by someone/someplace else for each child care arrangement | J3\_E2 |  |
| Specific organizations/individuals who pay provider for each child care arrangement | Specific organizations/individuals who pay provider for each child care arrangement\* | J4\_E3 | Clarified response option to capture a wider range of agency types that administer public child care and early education programs (including education departments) and added specific mention of child care assistance agency. |
| Child care arrangement is free | Child care arrangement is free | J5\_E5 |  |
| Any payments or reimbursements paid to household for care at provider | Any payments or reimbursements paid to household for care at provider | J9\_E9 |  |
| Amount of payments/reimbursements paid directly to household for care at provider | Amount of payments/reimbursements paid directly to household for care at provider | J9A\_E9A |  |
| Identification of who makes payments/reimbursements to household | Identification of who makes payments/reimbursements to household\* | J9\_1 | Parallel change as the one made above to item J4\_E3 (the response categories are meant to be aligned between these type items, motiving the revision). |
| Child care arrangement relies on sliding fee scale | Child care arrangement relies on sliding fee scale | J6\_E6 | The subsidy related items in this section will be fielded to more families in 2024 who may be eligible for child care subsidies. In 2019, we asked families with incomes at or below 200% of federal poverty. In 2024, we will ask to families at or below 250%. |
| Amount paid to provider is a subsidy co-pay | Amount paid to provider is a subsidy co-pay | J7\_E4 |  |
| N/A | Amount paid to provider includes diaper, snacks, or other supplies fees | J7\_E4\_a | Items added as a parallel revision to the NSECE Center-based Survey to gather more detailed information about how families supported by child care subsidies make payments for their child’s care with providers, including the types of fees and payments that are paid/collected. |
| N/A | Amount paid to provider includes any fees in addition to co-pays | J7\_E4\_c |
| Proof of employment, in school, or in training required to enroll child in provider | Proof of employment, in school, or in training required to enroll child in provider | J8A\_E2A |  |
| Any assistance from a child subsidy program to pay provider for care. | Any assistance from a child subsidy program to pay provider for care. | J8B\_E2B |  |
| Payment info for provider includes other children | Payment info for provider includes other children | J11 |  |
| Identification of other children included in provider payment information | Identification of other children included in provider payment information | J11\_OTHCHLDRN |  |
| **Section F: Non-parental Child Care Search**  **Section F: Non-parental Child Care Search**  **Section F: Non-parental Child Care Search** | Date when respondent last searched for child care for selected child | Date when respondent last searched for child care for selected child | F2 |  |
| Last search included child care search for another child at same time | Last search included child care search for another child at same time | F2A |  |
| Main reason respondent initiated search for child care | Main reason respondent  initiated search for child care | F3 |  |
| Type of child care mostly used at time of last child care search | Type of child care mostly used at time of last child care search | F4 |  |
| Importance of different aspects of non-parental care for selected child: Nurturing environment; educational preparedness; social interactions; safety; affordability; flexibility for parents | Dropped | N/A | Removed lengthy set of questions asked in prior NSECE surveys on parent child care preferences. New items added in Section C related to parent preferences, needs, wants and selection. |
| N/A | Difficulties finding care: availability | HH10\_Q10\_1 | New items related to families’ challenges searching for, finding and selecting child care. |
| N/A | Difficulties finding care: special needs | HH10\_Q10\_2 |
| N/A | Difficulties finding care: schedule | HH10\_Q10\_3 |
| N/A | Difficulties finding care: family culture and/or home language | HH10\_Q10\_4 |
| N/A | Difficulties finding care: well qualified | HH10\_Q10\_5 |
| One or more than one provider considered during last child care search | One or more than one provider considered during last child care search | F5 |  |
| Type of non-parental care provider(s) considered | Type of non-parental care provider(s) considered | F6A |  |
| How respondent learned of considered provider | How respondent learned of considered provider(s) | F6B |  |
| N/A | Types of provider(s) considered | F6C |  |
| Method(s) used by respondent to search for providers | Method(s) used by respondent to search for providers | F7 |  |
| Type(s) of information respondent collected about providers during search | Type(s) of information respondent collected about providers during search | F8B |  |
| Rate charged for care from considered provider(s) | Dropped | N/A | Dropped lengthy series of 6 items (F9) that are asked two times to each respondent who had an active search in last 24 months and considered two or more providers. |
| Travel time to considered provider(s) | Dropped | N/A |
| How well did considered providers’ schedule cover needed hours of care | Dropped | N/A |
| Respondent’s overall quality rating for considered provider(s) | Dropped | N/A |
| Any child care centers or organizations for school age children considered | Any child care centers or organizations for school age children considered | F10 |  |
| Respondent considered someone they had a prior relationship with to care for child | Respondent considered someone they had a prior relationship with to care for child | F11 |  |
| Respondent considered home-based care from someone with no prior relationship to respondent | Respondent considered home-based care from someone with no prior relationship to respondent | F12 |  |
| Result of child care search | Result of child care search | F13 |  |
| Provider chosen after search (if two listed) | Dropped | N/A | Item dropped – no longer relevant with the removal of F9 described above. |
| Main reason for choosing child care provider | Main reason for choosing child care provider | F14 |  |
| **Section G: Household characteristics**  **Section G: Household characteristics**  **Section G: Household characteristics** | Respondent/spouse/partner housing tenure | Respondent/spouse/partner housing tenure | G1 |  |
| Car ownership | Car ownership | G2 |  |
| Total household income last month | Total household income last month | G3 |  |
| Total household income last calendar year | Total household income last calendar year | G4A |  |
| Number of different job earners included in last year’s total income | Number of different job earners included in last year’s total income | G4B |  |
| Any sources of income beyond job earnings included in last year’s total income | Any sources of income beyond job earnings included in last year’s total income | G4c |  |
| Amount of last year’s household income from sources other than job earnings | Amount of last year’s household income from sources other than job earnings | G4d |  |
| Any public assistance or welfare payments in last calendar year | Any current public assistance receipt\* | G4B1 | Prior public assistance receipt question asked one combined question about receipt of any public assistance. New items added to ask specifically about receipt of cash assistance and disability insurance. |
| Type of health insurance coverage for selected child | Type of health insurance coverage for selected child | G10 |  |
| Number of respondent’s other children under 13 with health insurance coverage | Number of respondent’s other children under 13 with health insurance coverage | G10A |  |
| Level of food insecurity in household | Level of food insecurity in household | G11 |  |
| Types of food assistance currently received | Dropped | N/A | Replaced items about receipt of SNAP/Food Stamps and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program with update items (see below), and removed item about Free and Reduced Price lunch. |
| N/A | Whether anyone in household receives benefits from Food Stamp Program/SNAP | G12\_1a | New, revised items added about current receipt of SNAP/Food Stamps Food Assistance, and receipt of WIC Nutrition Program. |
| N/A | Whether anyone in household receives benefits from Women Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program | G12\_1b |
| Any household members receive child care subsidies in last 12 months | Any household members receive child care subsidies in last 12 months | G12B |  |
| Number of months in the past year a household member received child care subsidies | Number of months in the past year a household member received child care subsidies | G12C |  |
| Main reason child care subsidies ended | Main reason child care subsidies ended | G12D |  |
| N/A | Any household member received child care subsidies in the last 5 years | G12B\_1 | Items added to learn more about families’ experiences and exposure to the child care subsidy system, asking whether household has ever received, ever applied for, and family’s experiences applying for and receiving child care subsidies. |
| N/A | Whether respondent applied for child care subsidies in the last 5 years | G12B\_2 |
| N/A | Family's experiences applying for and receiving child care subsidies | G12B\_3a |
| N/A | Ability to pay $400 emergency expense with cash or cash equivalents | HH17 | New item added about financial stability/security. |
| Ability to borrow $500 from someone/someplace for 3 months | Dropped |  | Removed item. New item added about financial stability (HH17 above). |
| Any internet access in the home | Any internet access in the home | G14 |  |
| Device used for internet access | Device used for internet access | G14a\_a |  |
| **Section H: Parental Consent to Access Administrative Records** | Confirmation respondent is able to authorize release of records for eligible children | Confirmation respondent is able to authorize release of records for eligible children | H1 |  |
| If respondent is not able to provide authorization: Name and contact information of person able to authorize release of records for eligible children | If respondent is not able to provide authorization: Name and contact information of person able to authorize release of records for eligible children | H2 |  |
| Respondent is asked to grant permission to access administrative records for eligible children | Respondent is asked to grant permission to access administrative records for eligible children\* | H5 |  |
| Roster and date of birth for every child under 13 in the household for whom respondent gives permission | Roster and date of birth for every child under 13 in the household for whom respondent gives permission | H6 |  |
| Full name of authorizing adult | Full name of authorizing adult | H6\_ADULT |  |
| Confirmation of household’s address | Confirmation of household’s address | H7\_ADDR |  |