

# Overview of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97)

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CFDR Workshop Series  
March 14, 2022

BGSU



Center for  
Family and  
Demographic Research

# Outline

- Introduction to the NLSY97
- Advantages and challenges of using NLSY97
- Navigation through NLSY 97 website
  - Asterisk tables
  - Marital history, childcare, and fertility
  - NLSY 97 sample
  - Using and understanding Data
  - Other documentations
- How to obtain the NLSY97 data
  - NLS Investigator website
  - How to obtain weight variables
- How to weight NLSY97 data
- An example of Using NLSY97 data
- Journal articles using NLSY97
- Conclusions

# Introduction to the NLSY 97

- NLSY97 is one of the five cohort studies conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (see <https://www.bls.gov/nls/cohorts.htm>).
- NLSY97 was designed to document how the youth transits from school to work and into adulthood.
- The subject areas of NLSY97 now include:

Education, Training & Achievement Scores	Income, Assets & Program Participation
Employment	Health
Household, Geography & Contextual Variables	Attitudes, Expectations, Non-Cognitive Tests, Activities
Parents, Family Process & Childhood	Crime & Substance Use
Dating, Marriage & Cohabitation; Sexual Activity, Pregnancy & Fertility; Children	

# Introduction to the NLSY97 (Cont.)

- NLSY 97 is a cohort survey whose target population is youths who were 12 to 16 years old as of December 31, 1996.
- NLSY97 was conducted annually between 1997 and 2012 and biennially afterwards. Nineteen rounds of NLSY97 data are currently available. Not every subject topic was examined in every round of NLSY97.
- NLSY97 used a multi-stage stratified sampling method to select eligible households. Blacks and Hispanics were over-sampled. At the first phase, 96,512 households were selected from 1,748 sample segments embedded within 147 primary sampling units (PSUs). At the second phase, screening interviews were used to identify 9,907 households with eligible youths, and 8,984 of them participated in the 1997 survey.
- The NLSY97 data were mainly collected using Computer-Assisted Personal Interview(CAPI), Audio Computer-Assisted Self-Interview (ACASI), and questionnaires.

# Advantages and Challenges of Using NLSY97

## Advantages:

- NLSY97 covers many research topics.
- NLSY97 oversampled Black and Hispanic respondents, which allows for examining racial differences on many topics.
- NLSY97 data have been collected at a one- or two-year intervals, which provides vast information on when, why, and how youths transitioned into adulthood.
- Many constructed variables are included in NLSY97 data, and tutorials are provided for researchers to construct additional variables.
- Custom weight variables can be generated for researchers using certain rounds of NLSY97.

## Challenges:

- As data collected by a cohort design, the findings of NLSY 97 may not be able to be generalized to people of other birth cohorts.
- Changes to designs and questionnaire of NLSY97 over time create some problems in analyzing data longitudinally.
- Researchers should learn to use the NLS Investigator website to select and download the data.
- Special statistical techniques are needed when researchers analyze data from multiple rounds of NLSY97.

# NLSY 97 Website

(<https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97>)

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the NLSY 97 website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97>. The website header includes navigation links for Home, FAQs, Site Map, Bibliography, and Contact Us, along with a search bar. The main content area features a navigation menu with 'Getting Started', 'Cohorts', and 'Access Data / Investigator' tabs. The 'Cohorts' section is expanded, showing a list of cohorts including NLSY97, NLSY79, and NLS Mature and Young Women. The NLSY97 section is highlighted, showing a 'Topical Guide to the Data', 'Introduction to the Sample', 'Using and Understanding the Data', 'Asterisk Tables', 'Other Documentation', and 'Get Data' links. The 'Topical Guide to the Data' section provides a detailed description of the NLS Youth 1997 data, including information on the sample, design, and screening process. The 'Introduction to the Sample' section describes the sample design and screening process, interview methods, retention, and reason for non-interview, and confidentiality. The 'Using and Understanding the Data' section provides information on survey instruments, variables types, the interviewing process, item nonresponse, sample weights and design effects, data documentation, and how to access the data. The 'Asterisk Tables' section provides a table of NLS Youth 1997 topics across all survey rounds (often referred to as the "Asterisk Table."). The 'Other Documentation' section provides tutorials, NLS Youth 1997 Codebook Supplement, Geocode Supplement, Technical Sampling Report, List of Errata, and questionnaires for all rounds. The 'Get Data' section provides a link to NLS Investigator to access all public NLS data. Direct link to NLS Youth 1997 data.

# NLSY 97 Website (Cont.)

## Asterisk tables

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the NLSY 97 website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97/topical-guide/asterisk/v-family-formation-age-restrictions-end-previous>. The website header includes navigation links for Home, FAQs, Site Map, Bibliography, and Contact Us, along with a search bar. The main content area is titled "National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth | 1997" and features a navigation menu with "Getting Started", "Cohorts", and "Access Data / Investigator". A sidebar on the left lists various topics under "COHORTS" and "NLSY97". The main content area displays a table with columns for NLSY97, NLSY79, NLSY79 Children, Mature and Young Women, and Older and Young Men. Below the table, there is a section titled "V. Family Formation (age restrictions as of end of previous calendar year--12/31/96 in rd 1, 12/31/97 in rd 2, and so on)" and a sub-section "A. Marital history" with a detailed table of variables and survey years.

**National Longitudinal Surveys**  
A Program of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Home | FAQs | Site Map | Bibliography | Contact Us

search site  
Advanced Search

Getting Started | Cohorts | Access Data / Investigator

Suggest Questions for Future NLSY Surveys

Home > Cohorts > NLSY97 > Topical Guide to the Data > Asterisk Tables >

## National Longitudinal Survey of Youth | 1997

NLSY97	NLSY79	NLSY79 Children	Mature and Young Women	Older and Young Men
--------	--------	-----------------	------------------------	---------------------

This page presents a table summarizing selected variables from the NLSY97 surveys (use the drop-down menu to select topics of interest). The table lists individual items or groups of related items, with year columns indicating the survey years in which the item(s) are available. Both survey questions and created variables are included. "R" used in variable descriptions stands for "respondent." Users are encouraged to consult the [questionnaires](#) for exact question wording in each survey round.

**Table codes:** For round 1, a letter code indicates which questionnaire included a given item/set of items; Y=Youth Questionnaire, P=Parent Questionnaire, S= Screener, Household Roster, and Nonresident Roster Questionnaire. An asterisk in subsequent rounds indicates the variable was present in the youth questionnaire. A number with the symbol  $\geq$  or = in front of it (such as  $\geq 15$ ) indicates the question was asked in the youth questionnaire to an age-restricted subsample. In rounds 2-5, U=Household Income Update.

**V. Family Formation (age restrictions as of end of previous calendar year--12/31/96 in rd 1, 12/31/97 in rd 2, and so on)**

**A. Marital history**

Variable	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	R11	R12	R13	R14	R15
Spells Y married or lived with sexual partner	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Y's current marital status	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Duration of Y's and partner's cohabitation	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	Y $\geq 16$	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

# NLSY 97 Website (Cont.)

## Marital history, childcare, and fertility

The screenshot shows the NLSY 97 website with the following content:

- Navigation:** Home, FAQs, Site Map, Bibliography, Contact Us
- Search:** search site, Advanced Search
- Buttons:** Getting Started, Cohorts, Access Data / Investigator
- COHORTS:** NLSY97, Topical Guide to the Data, Asterisk Tables, Education, Employment, Household, Geography & Contextual Variables, Family Background, Marital History, Childcare & Fertility, Income, Health, Attitudes, Crime & Substance Use, Intro to the Sample, Using & Understanding the Data, Other Documentation, Codebook Supplement, Geocode Codebook Supplement, Questionnaires, Errata, Tutorials, Technical Sampling
- Main Title:** National Longitudinal Survey of Youth | 1997
- Table:** A table with columns for NLSY97, NLSY79, NLSY79 Children, Mature and Young Women, and Older and Young Men. The main heading is "Dating, Marriage & Cohabitation; Sexual Activity, Pregnancy & Fertility; Children".
- Links:** Dating/Sex, Marriage/Cohabitation & Fertility/Children: An Introduction; Marital & Marriage-Like Relationships; Sexual Activity & Dating; Fertility, Pregnancy & Children; Child Care
- Section:** Dating/Sex, Marriage/Cohabitation & Fertility/Children: An Introduction
- Text:** The NLSY97 survey provides data on respondents' experiences with dating and sexual activity, marriage or marriage-like relationships, pregnancy, and children. Table 1 summarizes the topics available and any global universe restrictions affecting those topics.
- Table 1. Dating/Sex, Marriage/Cohabitation & Fertility/Children Topics and Universe Restrictions**

NLSY97 User's Guide Topic	Round 1 Universe	Round 2 Universe	Rounds 3 and 4 Universe	Rounds 5 and up
<b>Sexual Activity &amp; Dating</b>				
Dating	all ages	all ages	all ages	all ages
Intercourse & Pregnancy	>14	>=14 as of 12/31/97	all ages	all ages
Birth Control Use	>14	>=14 as of 12/31/97	all ages	all ages



# NLSY 97 Website (Cont.)

## NLSY 97 sample

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the NLSY 97 website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97/intro-to-the-sample>. The website header includes the title "National Longitudinal Surveys" and a search bar. The main navigation menu has tabs for "Getting Started", "Cohorts", and "Access Data / Investigator". The "Cohorts" tab is selected, and the page title is "National Longitudinal Survey of Youth | 1997". The left sidebar contains a "COHORTS" menu with "NLSY97" expanded, listing various sub-topics like "Topical Guide to the Data", "Intro to the Sample", "Using & Understanding the Data", and "Other Documentation". The main content area features a section titled "Introduction to the Sample" with a description and a list of links: "The NLSY97 Sample: An Introduction", "Sample Design & Screening Process", "Interview Methods", "Retention and Reasons for Non-Interview", and "Confidentiality & Informed Consent". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including OfficeSetup.exe, nlsy97\_2022 - HS...pptx, and nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx, along with system icons and the time 11:48 AM on 3/7/2022.

# NLSY 97 Website (Cont.)

## Using and understanding data

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the National Longitudinal Surveys website. The URL is <https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97/using-and-understanding-the-data>. The page title is "National Longitudinal Survey of Youth | 1997". The main content area is titled "Using and Understanding the Data" and contains a list of links to various data-related topics. The left sidebar shows a navigation menu for "COHORTS" with "NLSY97" expanded. The bottom of the screenshot shows the Windows taskbar with several open applications and the system tray.

**National Longitudinal Surveys**  
A Program of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Home | FAQs | Site Map | Bibliography | Contact Us

search site  
Advanced Search

Getting Started | Cohorts | Access Data / Investigator

Suggest Questions for Future NLSY Surveys

Home > Cohorts > NLSY97 >

## National Longitudinal Survey of Youth | 1997

### Using and Understanding the Data

Information on survey instruments, variable types, the interviewing process, item nonresponse, sample weights and design effects, data documentation, and how to access the data.

- Survey Instruments (Questionnaires)
- Types of Variables: Raw, Symbols, Rosters & Created
- Sample Weights & Design Effects
- Interviewer Remarks, Characteristics & Contacts
- Item Nonresponse & Interview Timings
- Interview Validation
- NLS Investigator
- NLSY97 Documentation
- Other Documentation
  - Codebook Supplement
  - Geocode Codebook Supplement
  - Questionnaires
  - Errata

OfficeSetup.exe | nlsy97\_2022 - HS...pptx | nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx | Show all

11:50 AM 3/7/2022

# NLSY 97 Website (Cont.)

## Other documentations

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the NLSY 97 website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97/other-documentation>. The website header includes the title "National Longitudinal Surveys" and a search bar. The main navigation menu has tabs for "Getting Started", "Cohorts", and "Access Data / Investigator". The "Cohorts" tab is selected, and the page title is "National Longitudinal Survey of Youth | 1997".

The "Other Documentation" section is highlighted, listing the following items:

- Codebook Supplement
- Geocode Codebook Supplement
- Questionnaires
- Errata
- Tutorials
- Technical Sampling Report

The left sidebar contains a "COHORTS" menu with options for NLSY97, NLSY79, and NLS Older and Young Men. The "HELPFUL LINKS" section includes "Subscribe for Updates", "Tutorials", and "Investigator User Guide".

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including OfficeSetup.exe, nlsy97\_2022 - HS..., and nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx. The system tray shows the time as 11:52 AM on 3/7/2022.

# How to Obtain NLSY97 Data

## NLS Investigator

(<https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/login>)

Mail - Hsueh-She... x Attachments - On... x nlsy97\_2022 - HS... x Investigator x Tutorials | Nation... x Situations parent x convert powerpo... x How to use \*pose... x +

← → ↻ https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/login 🔑 📄 ☆ ⚙️ H ⋮

# NLS Investigator

Welcome, Guest | [LOGIN](#) | [Register](#) | [Search](#) | [Help](#)

### Log In

Username:

Password:

[Forgot Password](#)

## Welcome to NLS Investigator

Sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS) are a family of surveys dedicated to tracking the labor market and other life experiences of American men and women.

The seven NLS cohorts are:

- National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97)
- National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79)
- NLSY79 Child and Young Adult
- Older Men
- Mature Women
- Young Men
- Young Women

To access data for any of the seven NLS cohorts use the login box to the left or [begin searching](#) as guest.

**NLSY User-Initiated Questions:** We're soliciting suggestions for new questions to add to the NLSY97, NLSY79, and child/young adult surveys. Please visit the [NLSY User-Initiated Questions](#) page to learn how to make an informal suggestion or submit a formal proposal.

[NLS Home](#) | [NLS Bibliography](#) | [System Use Policy](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

For help, email [usersvc@chrr.osu.edu](mailto:usersvc@chrr.osu.edu)

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# How to Obtain the NLSY97 Data (Cont.)

Mail - Hsueh-She | Attachments - On | nlsy97\_2022 - HS | NLS Investigator | Tutorials | Nation | Situations parent | convert powerpoi | How to use "pose" | +

https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/search

## NLS Investigator

Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng | [SEARCH](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Account](#) | [Help](#) | [Logout](#)

**Select the study you want to work with:**  
 NLSY97 (National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997) ▾

**Additional Resources:**  
[Errata](#), [Documentation](#) (user's guide, questionnaires and other materials)  
[Custom Weights](#)

**Select a substudy:**  
 NLSY97 1997-2019 (rounds 1-19) ▾  
 Released November 01, 2021

To start a new search [click here](#)

**Choose Tagsets** | **Variable Search** | **Review Selected Variables (6)** | **Codebook** | **Save / Download**

**Browse Index** | **Browse Index with Search** | **Search**

Index of Selected Variables

- Education, Training & Achievement Scores (24097)
- Employment (27360)
- Household, Geography & Demographics (9778)
- Dating, Marriage & Cohabitation (1683)
  - Dating (73)
  - Marriage & cohabitation (1610)
    - Summary measures (58)
    - Marriage & cohabitation history (969)
      - Monthly cohabitation history (315)
      - Monthly marriage history (319)
      - Partner ID by month (315)
      - More than 1 partner since DLI (16)

Options ▾ Showing 315 of 315 filtered by Primary Variables 500 ▾ 1 ▾

	RNUM	QUESTION NAME	VARIABLE TITLE	YEAR
+ □	8 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1994	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 05	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1995	1995 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1996	1996 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1997	1997 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1998	1998 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1999	1999 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2000	2000 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2001	2001 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2002	2002 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2003	2003 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2004	2004 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2005	2005 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
+ □	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2006	2006 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND

OfficeSetup.exe | nlsy97\_2022 - HS...pptx | nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx | Show all ×

12:22 PM 3/7/2022

# How to Obtain NLSY97 Data (Cont.)

The screenshot shows the NLS Investigator website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the title "NLS Investigator" and user information "Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng". Below this, there are search filters: "Select the study you want to work with:" (NLSY97) and "Select a substudy:" (NLSY97 1997-2019). The main content area displays details for variable E70214.05, including its description, survey year, and a list of values. On the right side, there are sections for "Lead In", "Default Next", "Selected Variables", "Stats as Graphs", "Documentation Links", and "Areas of Interest". The bottom of the image shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and the system clock.

**NLS Investigator** | Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng | SEARCH | Downloads | Account | Help | Logout

Select the study you want to work with:  
NLSY97 (National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997) ▾

Select a substudy:  
NLSY97 1997-2019 (rounds 1-19) ▾  
Released November 01, 2021

To start a new search [click here](#)

Additional Resources:  
[Errata](#), [Documentation](#) (user's guide, questionnaires and other materials)  
[Custom Weights](#)

Choose Tagsets | Variable Search | Review Selected Variables (6) | Codebook | Save / Download

E70214.05 [MAR\_COHABITATION\_1994.05] Survey Year: XRND  
PRIMARY VARIABLE

1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 05

Respondent's cohabitation status in this month in 1994; calculated for each month beginning with the month R turned 14




NOTE: SEE MAR\_PARTNER\_LINK TO MATCH THIS SPOUSE/PARTNER TO THE MAIN SURVEY DATA

1	101 Cohabiting with partner 1
0	102 Cohabiting with partner 2
0	103 Cohabiting with partner 3
0	104 Cohabiting with partner 4
0	105 Cohabiting with partner 5
0	106 Cohabiting with partner 6
0	107 Cohabiting with partner 7
0	108 Cohabiting with partner 8
0	109 Cohabiting with partner 9
0	110 Cohabiting with partner 10
0	111 Cohabiting with partner 11
0	201 Cohabiting with spouse 1
0	202 Cohabiting with spouse 2
0	203 Cohabiting with spouse 3
0	204 Cohabiting with spouse 4
0	205 Cohabiting with spouse 5
0	206 Cohabiting with spouse 6

Lead In  
[E70140.07](#) [Default]

Default Next  
[E70214.06](#)

Selected Variables  
 E70214.05

Stats as Graphs  
  

Documentation Links  
[Marital & Marriage-Like Relationships](#)

Areas of Interest  
MARRIAGE & COHABITATION  
TYPE: EVENT HISTORY

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# How to Obtain the NLSY97 Data (Cont.)

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https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/search#

Custom Weights

Select a substudy: NLSY97 1997-2019 (rounds 1-19) To start a new search [click here](#)

Released November 01, 2021

Choose Tagsets | Variable Search | Review Selected Variables (74) | Codebook | Save / Download

Browse Index | Browse Index with Search | Search

Index of Selected Variables

- Education, Training & Achievement Scores (24097)
- Employment (27360)
- Household, Geography & Demographics (9778)
- Dating, Marriage & Cohabitation (1683)
  - Dating (73)
  - Marriage & cohabitation (1610)
    - Summary measures (58)
    - Marriage & cohabitation history (969)
      - Monthly cohabitation history (315)
      - Monthly marriage history (319)
      - Partner ID by month (315)
      - More than 1 partner since DLI (16)
      - More than 1 partner in a month (4)
    - Partner-specific characteristics (583)
  - Sexual Activity, Pregnancy & Fertility (1933)
  - Children (2642)

Options Showing 315 of 315 filtered by Primary Variables 500 1

	RNUM	QUESTION NAME	VARIABLE TITLE	YEAR
	8 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1994	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 05	XRND
- 1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021405	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.05	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 05	XRND
- 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021406	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.06	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 06	XRND
- 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021407	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.07	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 07	XRND
- 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021408	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.08	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 08	XRND
- 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021409	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.09	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 09	XRND
- 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021410	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.10	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 10	XRND
- 7	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021411	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.11	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 11	XRND
- 8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E7021412	MAR_COHABITATION_1994.12	1994 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 12	XRND
	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1995	1995 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1996	1996 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1997	1997 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1998	1998 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_1999	1999 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2000	2000 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND
	12 variables	MAR_COHABITATION_2001	2001 MARITAL: COHABITATION STATUS IN MONTH 01	XRND

OfficeSetup.exe | nlsy97\_2022 - HS...pptx | nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx | Show all

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# How to Obtain NLSY97 Data (Cont.)

The screenshot displays the NLS Investigator web application interface. At the top, the browser address bar shows the URL <https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/search#>. The page header includes the title "NLS Investigator" and navigation links for "Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng", "SEARCH", "Downloads", "Account", "Help", and "Logout".

The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Select the study you want to work with:** A dropdown menu is set to "NLSY97 (National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997)".
- Select a substudy:** A dropdown menu is set to "NLSY97 1997-2019 (rounds 1-19)", with a note "Released November 01, 2021".
- Additional Resources:** Links for "Errata, Documentation" (user's guide, questionnaires and other materials) and "Custom Weights".
- Action:** A link "To start a new search click here".
- Navigation Tabs:** "Choose Tagsets", "Variable Search", "Review Selected Variables (74)", "Codebook", and "Save / Download".
- Save Tagset Section:** This section is active and contains:
  - Buttons: "Save Tagset", "Basic Download", "Advanced Download", "Manage Downloads".
  - Instruction: "Choose where to save the tagset of your selected variables:"
  - Options:  Save to PC,  Save on our server.
  - Tagset Type:  By Rnum,  By Qname with Year.
  - Filename: "Marital" (with a "Save" button and the message "Tagset saved on server.").
  - Notes: "Filename must only contain alpha, numeric, hyphen or underscore characters." and "Tagsets saved on your PC or our server can be reloaded at a later time through the 'Choose Tagsets' tab. Tagsets stored on our server with no activity may be deleted after 90 days."

At the bottom of the page, there are links for "NLS Home", "NLS Bibliography", "System Use Policy", and "Privacy Policy", along with contact information: "For help, email [usersvc@chrr.osu.edu](mailto:usersvc@chrr.osu.edu)".

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications: "Marital.NLSY97", "OfficeSetup.exe", "nlsy97\_2022 - HS...pptx", and "nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx". The system tray shows the time as 12:27 PM on 3/7/2022.



# How to Obtain NLSY97 Data (Cont.)

The screenshot shows the NLS Investigator website interface. The browser address bar displays the URL: <https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/search#>. The page title is "NLS Investigator".

Navigation links include: Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng | [SEARCH](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Account](#) | [Help](#) | [Logout](#)

**Select the study you want to work with:**  
NLSY97 (National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997) ▼

**Select a substudy:**  
NLSY97 1997-2019 (rounds 1-19) ▼  
Released November 01, 2021

**Additional Resources:**  
[Errata](#), [Documentation](#) (user's guide, questionnaires and other materials)  
[Custom Weights](#)

To start a new search [click here](#)

Navigation tabs: [Choose Tagsets](#) | [Variable Search](#) | [Review Selected Variables \(74\)](#) | [Codebook](#) | [Save / Download](#)

Download options: [Save Tagset](#) | [Basic Download](#) | [Advanced Download](#) | [Manage Downloads](#)

**Customize your advanced download:**

- Create Download of Data**
  - Tagset (list of selected variables)
  - SAS® control file (includes the datafile of selected variables)
  - SPSS® control file (includes the datafile of selected variables)
  - STATA® dictionary file of selected variables
  - R® Source code (includes the datafile of selected variables)
  - Codebook of selected variables
  - Short Description File
  - Comma-delimited datafile of selected variables (to be read in Excel, etc.)  
Column headers – Use  Reference Number  Question Name (does not guarantee uniqueness)
- Create Frequency / Table**
  - Apply Universe Restrictors** ([How to use Universe Restrictors](#))
  - Notify me by email when download is complete.

Filename:    
Filename must only contain alpha, numeric, hyphen or underscore characters.

Download status appears under 'Manage Downloads' tab.  
Downloads may be deleted after 10 days of inactivity.

Taskbar shows: Marital.NLSY97, OfficeSetup.exe, nlsy97\_2022 - HS....pptx, nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx, Show all

System tray: 12:28 PM 3/7/2022

# How to Obtain Weight Variables of NLSY 97

Sampling weights at each round, sampling panel weights, and design effect variables at 1997 are available via NLS Investigator

The screenshot shows the NLS Investigator web interface. The browser address bar displays <https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/search>. The page title is "NLS Investigator" and the user is logged in as "Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng".

**Select the study you want to work with:** NLSY97 (National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997)

**Select a substudy:** NLSY97 1997-2019 (rounds 1-19)  Released November 01, 2021

**Additional Resources:** [Errata, Documentation](#) (user's guide, questionnaires and other materials) [Custom Weights](#)

To start a new search [click here](#)

**Navigation:** Choose Tagsets | Variable Search | Review Selected Variables (74) | Codebook | Save / Download

**Search:** Browse Index | Browse Index with Search | Search

**Create search criteria below:** Area of Interest (pick from list) equals TABLE: SAMPLING WEIGHT (38) Add Reset

38 Variables [Display Variables](#)

Options  Showing 38 of 38 filtered by Primary Variables 500 1

	RNUM	QUESTION NAME	VARIABLE TITLE	YEAR
1	<input type="checkbox"/> R1236101	<a href="#">SAMPLING_WEIGHT_CC</a>	ROUND 1 SAMPLING WEIGHT CUMULATIVE CASES METHOD	1997
2	<input type="checkbox"/> R1236201	<a href="#">SAMPLING_PANEL_WEIGHT</a>	ROUND 1 SAMPLING WEIGHT PANEL METHOD	1997
3	<input type="checkbox"/> R2600301	<a href="#">SAMPLING_WEIGHT_CC</a>	ROUND 2 SAMPLING WEIGHT CUMULATIVE CASES METHOD	1998
4	<input type="checkbox"/> R2600401	<a href="#">SAMPLING_PANEL_WEIGHT</a>	ROUND 2 SAMPLING WEIGHT PANEL METHOD	1998
5	<input type="checkbox"/> R3923701	<a href="#">SAMPLING_WEIGHT_CC</a>	ROUND 3 SAMPLING WEIGHT CUMULATIVE CASES METHOD	1999

Taskbar: Marital.NLSY97, OfficeSetup.exe, nlsy97\_2022 - HS....pptx, nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx

System tray: 12:42 PM 3/7/2022

# How to Obtain NLSY 97 Weight Variables (Cont.)

The screenshot shows the NLS Investigator website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'NLS Investigator' and links for 'Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng', 'SEARCH', 'Downloads', 'Account', 'Help', and 'Logout'. Below this, there are dropdown menus for 'Select the study you want to work with:' (NLSY97) and 'Select a substudy:' (NLSY97 1997-2019). A navigation bar contains buttons for 'Choose Tagsets', 'Variable Search', 'Review Selected Variables (74)', 'Codebook', and 'Save / Download'. Below this is another set of buttons: 'Browse Index', 'Browse Index with Search', and 'Search'. The main content area is titled 'Create search criteria below:' and shows a search filter 'Word in Title (pick from list) is VARIANCE (12)'. To the right, it says '12 Variables' and 'Display Variables'. Below the search criteria, there's a table of selected variables. The table has columns for 'RNUM', 'QUESTION NAME', 'VARIABLE TITLE', and 'YEAR'. The variables listed are VSTRAT, VPSU, ASVAB\_GS\_POST\_VARIANCE, ASVAB\_AR\_POST\_VARIANCE, and ASVAR\_WK\_POST\_VARIANCE. On the left side of the table, there's a tree view of the 'Index of Selected Variables' with categories like 'Education, Training & Achievement Scores', 'Employment', 'Household, Geography & Demographics', 'Dating, Marriage & Cohabitation', and 'Sexual Activity, Pregnancy & Fertility'. At the bottom, there's a Windows taskbar showing various open applications and the system clock at 1:02 PM on 3/7/2022.

**NLS Investigator**

Welcome, Hsueh-Sheng | [SEARCH](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Account](#) | [Help](#) | [Logout](#)

Select the study you want to work with:  
NLSY97 (National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997) ▾

Select a substudy:  
NLSY97 1997-2019 (rounds 1-19) ▾  
Released November 01, 2021

Additional Resources:  
[Errata, Documentation](#) (user's guide, questionnaires and other materials)  
[Custom Weights](#)

To start a new search [click here](#)

Choose Tagsets | Variable Search | Review Selected Variables (74) | Codebook | Save / Download

Browse Index | Browse Index with Search | Search

Create search criteria below:

Word in Title (pick from list) ▾ is ▾ VARIANCE (12) ▾ Add Reset

12 Variables [Display Variables](#)

Options ▾ Showing 12 of 12 filtered by Primary Variables ▾ 500 ▾ 1 ▾

	RNUM	QUESTION NAME	VARIABLE TITLE	YEAR
1	<a href="#">R1489700</a>	<a href="#">VSTRAT</a>	VARIANCE STRATUM	1997
2	<a href="#">R1489800</a>	<a href="#">VPSU</a>	VARIANCE PSU	1997
3	<a href="#">R9707600</a>	<a href="#">ASVAB_GS_POST_VARIANCE</a>	ASVAB - POSTERIOR VARIANCE FOR POWER TEST: GS	1999
4	<a href="#">R9707700</a>	<a href="#">ASVAB_AR_POST_VARIANCE</a>	ASVAB - POSTERIOR VARIANCE FOR POWER TEST: AR	1999
5	<a href="#">R9707800</a>	<a href="#">ASVAR_WK_POST_VARIANCE</a>	ASVAR - POSTERIOR VARIANCE FOR POWER TEST: WK	1999

Index of Selected Variables

- Education, Training & Achievement Scores (24097)
- Employment (27360)
- Household, Geography & Demographics (9778)
- Dating, Marriage & Cohabitation (1683)
- Sexual Activity, Pregnancy & Fertility (1022)

7z2107-x64.exe | customweight\_nlsy...zip | Marital.NLSY97 | OfficeSetup.exe | nlsy97\_2022 - HS...pptx | nlsy97\_2022 - HSP.pptx | Show all

1:02 PM 3/7/2022

# How to Obtain NLSY 97 Weight Variables (Cont.)

Customized Panel Weights are available at:

<https://www.nlsinfo.org/weights/nlsy97>

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the NLSY 97 website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://www.nlsinfo.org/weights/nlsy97>. The website has a navigation menu with 'Getting Started', 'Cohorts', and 'Access Data / Investigator'. The 'Access Data / Investigator' section is active, and the page title is 'NLS Youth 1997'. A 'HELPFUL LINKS' sidebar on the left includes 'Subscribe for Updates', 'Tutorials', 'Investigator User Guide', 'Investigator Video Tutorials', and 'Glossary'. The main content area explains that the NLSY97 is a complex longitudinal survey and provides instructions on how to use the website to create a custom set of survey weights. Below the text is a form with two tabs: 'Weight Years' and 'Weight IDs'. The 'Weight Years' tab is selected, and the form contains the following text: 'I am using data from the following years and would like to combine the weights where:'. There are two radio buttons: the first is 'The respondents are in **all** of the selected years.' and the second is 'The respondents are in **any or all** of the selected years.' Below these are five checkboxes for the survey rounds: '1997 Survey (Round 1)', '1998 Survey (Round 2)', '1999 Survey (Round 3)', '2000 Survey (Round 4)', and '2001 Survey (Round 5)'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including 'Marital.NLSY97', 'OfficeSetup.exe', and two PowerPoint files. The system tray shows the time as 12:45 PM on 3/7/2022.

# How to Obtain NLSY97 Weight Variables (Cont.)

- NLSY97 panel weight variables can be customized, depending on how many rounds of surveys are used and whether the focus is on respondents participating in all or any of these rounds.
- The customized panel weight variables were created by adjusting for differences in base weight, nonresponse to the screener, different response rates to the screener, different cross-sectional weights for Black and Hispanic respondents, nonresponse to the main interview.
- NLSY97 customized panel weight variables are post-stratification person weight variable.

# How to Weight NLSY97 Data

Source: <https://www.nlsinfo.org/content/cohorts/nlsy97/using-and-understanding-the-data/sample-weights-design-effects/page/0/1>

```
use NLSY97DATAFILE.dta,clear
svyset [pweight=WTVAR] , strata(vstrat) psu(vpsu) singleunit(scaled)
svy: mean ANALYSISVAR //mean for continuous variables
svy: proportion ANALYSISVAR //proportion for categorical variables
svy, subpop (if SUBGROUP==1): mean ANALYSISVAR // mean within a
subpopulation
svy: tabulate ANALYSISVAR //one way table
```

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# An example of Using NLSY97 data

- Research questions: Do age and education predict the respondent's marital status on December 2019?
- Select variables and weight variables
- Download the data
- Use the Stata to read in the data
- Examine the data to make sure the data are read in correctly.
- Code the missing values of variables
- Identify the analytic sample
- Specify survey design characteristics
- Conduct the descriptive and inferential analysis.

# Journal Articles Using NLSY 97

Manning, Wendy D. (2015) Family Formation Processes: Assessing the Need for a New Nationally Representative Household Panel Survey in the United States. *Journal of Economic and Social Measurement*, 40(1-4), 197-219.

Guzzo, K.B. (2015). Young parents and co-residence with their own parents (2015 Working Paper Series). Retrieved from California Center for Population Research: <http://papers.ccpr.ucla.edu/papers/PWP-BGSU-2015-008/PWP-BGSU-2015-008.pdf>

Sandberg-Thoma, S.S.; Snyder, A.R. & Jang, B.J. (2015). Exiting and Returning to the Parental Home for Boomerang Kids, *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 77(3), 806-818. <http://DX.DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12183>

Tumin, D.; Siqi Han, S. & Qian, Z. (2014). Estimates and Meanings of Marital Separation. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 77(1), 312-322. <http://DX.DOI: 10.1111/jomf.12149>



# Conclusions

- NLSY97 provides an excellent opportunity to examine how the youth transitioned into the adulthood. With measures of various subject areas, NLSY may shed light on why some youths made the transition while some did not.
- NLSY97 already includes many constructed variables on the timing and history of many events, so researchers do not need to start everything from scratch.
- Excellent tutorials are provided at NLSY website and document how to link different rounds of NLSY data and construct additional variables.
- When analyzing NLSY97 data, researchers need to correctly specify the survey design characteristics to obtain the correct estimate.
- If you have any questions about using NLSY97 data. Please feel free to contact Hsueh-Sheng Wu at [wuh@bgsu.edu](mailto:wuh@bgsu.edu).