

# Recent Research on Health from the National Longitudinal Surveys

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ADOLESCENT HEALTH – ALCOHOL USE – ASTHMA – BIRTHWEIGHT – BREASTFEEDING – CHRONIC DISEASE – COGNITION & AGING – CONTRACEPTION – CHILD HEALTH – DEBT – DEPRESSION – DISABILITY – DRUG USE – GANG MEMBERSHIP – HEALTH INSURANCE – INCARCERATION – OBESITY – MATERNAL HEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH – NUTRITION – PHYSICAL ACTIVITY – POVERTY – PRENATAL CARE – RACIAL DISPARITIES – RISK TAKING – SEXUAL ACTIVITY – SLEEP – SMOKING – WELLNESS – WORKPLACE INJURIES

## Health data are collected for the three on-going NLS cohorts:

The **National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth 1979 Cohort (NLSY79)** is a longitudinal project that follows the lives of a sample of American youth born between 1957-1964. The cohort originally included 12,686 respondents ages 14-22 when first interviewed in 1979. Data are now available from Round 1 (1979 survey year) to Round 30 (2022 survey year); this ongoing cohort is now interviewed biennially.

The **Children of the NLSY79 (NLSCYA)** mothers were assessed biennially from 1986 to 2014 to measure their cognitive ability, academic achievement, social development, health, behavior, and home environment. In 2016, the Child survey is no longer conducted; however, interviewed NLSY79 mothers completed the Mother Supplement for children in the household at least part-time who were 0 to 13 years of age as of the end of 2016. Starting in 1994, children age 15 and older have been interviewed as Young Adults, and followed into adulthood. Additionally, beginning in 2016, children 12 and older were included in the Young Adult data collection. Child and YA data, which can be linked to the NLSY79 mothers' full histories, are available from 1986 to 2020, representing 16 survey rounds for the child sample and 14 for young adults.

The **National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth 1997 (NLSY97)** is a longitudinal project that follows the lives of a sample of American youth born between 1980-1984; 8,984 respondents were ages 12-17 when first interviewed in 1997. This ongoing cohort has been surveyed 20 times to date and is now interviewed biennially. Data are now available from Round 1 (1997-1998) to Round 20 (2021-2022), along with a COVID-19 supplement fielded in 2021.

## NLS original cohorts:

Health data were also collected for all four original NLS cohorts (for which data collection has ended), although in less detail than the ongoing cohorts. **NLS original cohorts** include the Young Men (ages 14-24 in 1966), Older Men (45-69 in 1966), Young Women (ages 14-24 in 1968), and Mature Women (ages 30-44 in 1967).

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**NLS data and documentation are publicly available for search and download at:** <http://www.nlsinfo.org/>

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