A bibliography of research based on data from the
Children of the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth
1979 Cohort

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Children of the NLSY79: Child Assessment Research

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The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY79) is a multipurpose survey of more than 12,600 individuals in the U.S. who have been interviewed annually since 1979 when they were 14 to 21 years of age. Sponsored by the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), the NLSY79 contains extensive information about the employment, education, training, and family experiences of the respondents. Since 1982, through support of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), questions have been asked about pregnancy and postnatal histories, fertility, and child care. The Center for Human Resource Research (CHRR) at The Ohio State University and NORC at the University of Chicago are responsible for the design, collection, and dissemination of the NLSY79.

Starting in 1986, the Children of the NLSY79 mothers have been assessed every two years to measure their cognitive ability, temperament, motor and social development, behavior problems, perceived competence, and the quality of their home environment. This assessment information, combined with data from the mothers’ longitudinal record, forms a detailed set of histories for users interested in exploring the interrelationships between family and environmental factors, maternal behavior and child development.

Bibliographies. The Child Assessment Research bibliography cites work, known as of this date, that is based on the NLSY79 child assessment information. Entries in this listing are grouped, regardless of publication status, into the topics listed in the Table of Contents. Papers and publications using more than one assessment are cited multiple times within the document. Additions or revisions to this listing can be sent to NLS User services at: usersvc@chrr.ohio-state.edu. A comprehensive, annotated, searchable database of all NLS research can be found at: http://www.nlsbibliography.org. This site also contains links to many NLS articles and unpublished papers.

NLSY79 Child Assessment Documentation. A summary of the assessments used in the NLSY79 Child surveys is included at the end of this document. Detailed information on the assessments, as well as the design and the full content of the Child surveys, can be found at: http://www.bls.gov/nls/nlsy79ch.htm.

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BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS INDEX (BPI)


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BODY PARTS RECOGNITION

THE HOME - SHORT FORM


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SELF-PERCEPTION PROFILE FOR CHILDREN (SPPC)


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VERBAL MEMORY


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CHILDREN OF THE NLSY79: BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSESSMENTS

The Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment-Short Form (HOME-SF). Administered in four age-appropriate versions, the HOME measures the quality of the child's home environment. Reports are collected from both mother self-reports and interviewer observations during each biennial assessment interview. Provides information on several dimensions of the home environment, including maternal responsiveness, emotional support, organization of the environment, presence of materials for learning, and variety of stimulation.

Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test-Revised (PPVT-R). Administered to children 3 years of age or older. Measures the child's hearing vocabulary of Standard American English. From 1988 through 1998, the Hispanic-American adaptation of the PPVT-R (Test de Vocabulario en Imágenes Peabody or TVIP) was used to measure receptive vocabulary of single Spanish words spoken by an examiner.


Peabody Individual Achievement Test (PIAT): Math, Reading Recognition, and Reading Comprehension. Administered to children 5 years of age and older. Measures ability in mathematics and oral reading and the ability to derive meaning from printed words.

Memory for Location. Administered to children 8 months through 3 years of age in 1986 or 1988. Measures a child's short-term memory.

Body Parts Assessment. Administered in the 1986 and 1988 to children 1 or 2 years of age. Measures receptive vocabulary knowledge of orally presented words.

Behavior Problems Index. Completed by the child's mother for children 4 years of age and older. The public file includes an overall behavior problems score, as well as an externality and internality scale. Additionally, subscales rate the child on the following six types of behavior problems: antisocial, anxious or depressed, hyperactive, headstrong, dependent, and peer conflicts.

Temperament Scales. Completed by the child's mother. These items measure the temperament or behavioral style of children under age 7. Three age-specific versions assess such factors as activity, predictability, positive affect, fearfulness, compliance, and insecure attachment. Interviewer assessments of the child's shyness, cooperation, interest, and persistence during the interview, as well as attitude about and rapport with the interviewer, also are collected.

Self-Perception Profile for Children (SPPC). A self-administered scale that measures, for children 8 and older (12 to 14 years old beginning with the 1996 survey), the child's perceived competence in academics and sense of general self-worth.

Motor and Social Development Scale. Completed by the mother. Measures developmental milestones in the areas of motor, cognitive, communication, and social development for children under 4 years of age.