Recent Health Research from the National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth

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 26 (2014 survey year); this ongoing cohort is now interviewed biennially.

The Children of the NLSY79 mothers have been assessed biennially since 1986 to measure their cognitive ability, academic achievement, social development, health, behavior, and home environment. Starting in 1994, children age 15 and older have been interviewed as Young Adults, and followed into adulthood. Child and YA data, which can be linked to the NLSY79 mothers' full histories, are available from 1986 to 2014, representing 15 survey rounds for the Child sample and 11 survey rounds for Young Adults in that time span.

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 17 times to date and is now interviewed biennially. Data are now available from Round 1 (1997-1998) to Round 17 (2015-2016).

Data are also available for the NLS original cohorts, comprised of 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). Respondents in these four original NLS cohorts are no longer interviewed, but data remain available for analysis.


Wraw, Christina, Ian J. Deary, Geoff Der and Catharine R. Gale. "Intelligence in Youth and Mental Health at Age 50.” *Intelligence* 58 (September-October 2016): 69-79.


---

**NLS data and documentation are publicly available for search and download at:** [http://www.nlsinfo.org/](http://www.nlsinfo.org/)

**The annotated, searchable NLS bibliography can be accessed at:** [http://www.nlsbibliography.org/](http://www.nlsbibliography.org/)