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ABSTRACT

This compendium compiles in one volume brief descriptions of federally-supported data collection programs that provide national statistical information on children and their families. As a review of the data indicates, statistics on children vary greatly in availability, quality, adequacy of population coverage, geographic scope and detail, and continuity and comparability over time. The problems related to collecting such data are discussed in the introduction. The data collection programs are grouped under seven substantive headings: Population, Family Structure, Housing; Income, Expenditures, and Program Participation; Employment and Child Care; Health and Nutrition; Education; Social Behavior and Attitudes, Substance Use; and Crime, Delinquency, Child Abuse. Under each heading, three to sixteen different surveys are described, each including information on survey purpose, sponsorship, design, periodicity, content, limitations, availability, and child and family characteristics. (DST)

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NATIONAL STATISTICS ON CHILDREN,
YOUTH, AND THEIR FAMILIES:
A GUIDE TO FEDERAL DATA PROGRAMS

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Revised Edition
September 1984

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This guide was originally prepared for the Interagency Conference on Child and Family Statistics, that was held in Bethesda, Maryland on April 12-13, 1984, under the auspices of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Following the conference, revisions were made based on comments received from conference participants and from the agencies and individuals responsible for the data programs described herein.

The preparation of the compendium was supported by grant number SES-8320681 from the National Science Foundation. The Interagency Conference on Child and Family Statistics was supported by the same grant and by grant number 8866 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the positions of the sponsoring organizations, those of the federal agencies that took part in the conference, or those of the agencies that sponsor or conduct federal data collection.

Nicholas Zill, James L. Peterson, and Kristin A. Moore are on the staff of Child Trends, Inc. in Washington, D.C. Donald J. Hernandez was with the Center for Population Research, Georgetown University, at the time of the Interagency Conference. He is now the Chief of the Marriage and Family Statistics Branch of the Population Division of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

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INTRODUCTION

The federal statistical system is a primary source of information on children and their families. At present, this system is a loosely coordinated set of data collection activities undertaken by a number of federal agencies for a variety of purposes. Relatively little coordination occurs across agencies responsible for different topics, and research on children, as well as policy decisions that affect children's lives, are often hampered by a lack of suitable statistical information. Those data that are available are widely scattered, often in sources that are not well known. The purpose of this compendium is to bring together in one volume brief descriptions of a number of data collection programs supported by the federal government that provide national statistical information on children and their families.

As a review of the data sets described herein will show, statistics on children vary greatly in availability, quality, adequacy of population coverage, geographic scope and detail, and continuity and comparability over time. The best national trend data are basic statistics on how many children there are in the nation and their distribution by age, sex, ethnic group, and geographic location. These statistics come from the population enumeration and estimation programs of the Bureau of the Census. These programs depend on the vital registration of births and deaths, the decennial census, and the Current Population Surveys as well as other data sources.

The decennial census and the Current Population Survey also provide much of the available information about the basic conditions of children's lives: whether their parents live together; how many years of formal education their parents have had; whether their parents work and, if so, at what sorts of occupations; and the approximate amounts of their families' annual incomes. These surveys also provide information on the labor force participation of teenagers. Other surveys, such as the National Longitudinal Surveys of Labor Force Participation have produced data on job training, employment, and earnings.

The quantity and quality of data on children's development and well-being depend on whether the focus is on the physical, intellectual, or social and emotional aspects of child development. Trends in the physical health and growth of American children are relatively well documented. However, the lack of a full range of antecedent variables weakens our ability to understand factors underlying observed trends and to measure the impact of program changes. Major sources of information on the health status and health-care use of children are the Vital Registration System, the National Health Interview Survey, and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey.

Changes over time in young people's educational achievements have not been measured as long or as systematically as health trends. Data on school enrollment and educational attainment have been collected in the decennial census and the education supplements to the Current Population Survey. Actual tests of the knowledge and skills of American young people were not administered on any regular, comparable basis until 1969, when the National Assessment of Educational Progress was initiated. Another important source of data on students' educational experiences, performance, and aspirations is the National Center for Education Statistics' High School and Beyond survey.

Data on trends in the social behavior and emotional well-being of young people in the United States are least adequate. Until the 1970s, discussions of trends in these areas had to rely largely on institutional records, such as juvenile arrest statistics. The data base on young people's behavior and subjective well-being grew considerably during the 1970s as a result of a variety of surveys sponsored by both public and private agencies. However, many of these surveys dealt only with adolescents and focused on specific types of teenage behaviors, such as smoking, drinking, and drug use. Important sources of data in this area are the annual survey of high school seniors, Monitoring the Future; the National Survey on Drug Abuse; and the National Survey of Children.

A sense of the range of indicators that can be produced from extant data sources may be obtained by reviewing recent data books such as U.S. Children and Their Families: Current Conditions and Recent Trends (House Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, 1983); America's Children and Their Families: Key Facts (Children's Defense Fund, 1982); or Better Health For Our Children: A Statistical Profile (compiled by Mary Grace Kovar for the report of the Select Panel for the Promotion of Child Health, 1981). More narrowly focused collections of national statistics in which child indicators may be found are the annual volumes of Health, United States (National Center for Health Statistics) and the Condition of Education (National Center for Education Statistics).

Despite the availability of a range of statistical data on children, some topics are barely covered if at all. Several examples follow.

- o There is a dearth of reliable national information on adopted and foster children, on children with physical handicaps and learning disabilities, and on children in institutions.
- o Little statistical information exists about children between the time when they are born and the time that they enter school.

- o Although some information is collected on children who come into contact with social service systems, much of these data exist only at the state level, and children who do not receive services are omitted.
- o Data on the socialization of children, including especially their moral development, are almost completely lacking in the federal data system, as are data on the development of occupational and social skills other than what is taught in formal classroom instruction.

It is important to recognize that, in this era of budgetary constraints, the maintenance of basic data collection programs must not be taken for granted. Adequate funding is necessary to sustain sample size, maintain data quality, repeat surveys at suitable intervals, and allow timely production of descriptive reports, analyses, and public use tapes.

Organization of the Compendium

The data collection programs described in this compendium are grouped into seven substantive headings: Population, Family Structure, Housing; Income. Expenditures, and Program Participation; Employment and Child Care; Health and Nutrition; Education; Social Behavior and Attitudes, Substance Use; and Crime, Delinquency, Child Abuse.

Many surveys are applicable to more than one substantive area. Where a data set has primary relevance to a second substantive area as well, it is listed in parentheses in the Table of Contents.

Acknowledgments

Many individuals provided time and materials to make production of this compendium possible and to review the contents for accuracy and completeness. Their numbers are too great for individual acknowledgment; but the authors wish to thank them collectively. Without their contributions, the compendium would not be as detailed or complete as it is. Typing and retyping were done by Georgene Murray of Child Trends, with commendable cheer and accuracy. Of course, any remaining errors or omissions are the responsibility of the authors.

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POPULATION, FAMILY STRUCTURE, HOUSING

TITLE Decennial Census of Population and Housing

PURPOSE The census is designed to be a complete enumeration of the population and the housing stock of the U.S., and to provide additional demographic, social, and economic data pertaining to the population. The data are used to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as in State and local legislative districts. They also are used in the allocation of revenue-sharing and of other Federal and State funds among some 39,000 governmental units; and in marketing studies; academic research; Federal, State, and local planning; affirmative action programs; and many other activities.

SPONSORSHIP The census is designed, conducted, and funded by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

DESIGN The most recent census (1980) employed two types of questionnaires: (1) the short form with a limited number of basic population and housing questions (100-percent questions that is, questions asked of everyone), and (2) the long form containing the 100-percent questions plus additional questions on population and housing. The short form contains 19 questions. The long form contains all of the questions found on the short form, as well as 20 additional questions about the housing unit and a maximum of 26 additional questions for each household member. The questionnaires were designed to be understood and completed without enumerator assistance, to accommodate up to seven respondents, and to be suitable for computer processing.

The percentage of households receiving the long form depended upon the size of the locality. The sampling arrangement was as follows:

- o 50-percent sample (one-in-two) -- in governmental jurisdictions which were eligible for Federal revenue sharing funds (such as counties, some townships, and places) and had fewer than 2,500 people as estimated by the Census Bureau for July 1, 1977, one out of every two households received the long form. The 50-percent sampling rate was used in areas including approximately one-tenth of the Nation's population.
- o 17-percent (one-in-six) sample -- in the remainder of the country, one out of every six households received the long form.

Decennial Census of Population and Housing

The 50-percent sampling rate for small jurisdictions was adopted to ensure that accurate income data can be prepared for use in the allocation formula for general revenue sharing funds. In larger jurisdictions, the smaller sample size is adequate for the preparation of accurate data.

PERIODICITY

As mandated by the U.S. Constitution, a census has been conducted for every decade since 1790. No two censuses have been conducted exactly alike, and the decade-to-decade changes in the census content reflect the attendant changes in our society, economy, and technology. In recent years thought has been given to the possibility of a mid-decade census. Planning for one in 1985 was begun. However, it is not now scheduled to take place.

CONTENT

The 100-percent population questions include: name, household relationship; sex; race; age; marital status; and Spanish origin. The sample questions pertain to: education; place of birth; citizenship and year of immigration; current language and ability to speak English; ancestry; residence 5 years ago; activity 5 years ago; veteran status and period of service; disability; children ever born; marital history; employment status; place of work and journey to work; year last worked; industry, occupation, and class of worker; work experience; and income by type.

The 100-percent housing questions pertain to: number of living quarters at address; access to unit; completeness of plumbing facilities; number of rooms; tenure; condominiums; acreage and commercial establishment status; value; contract rent; and vacancy status. The sample questions pertain to: units in structure; stories in structure and presence of elevator; farm status; source of water and sewage disposal; year structure built; year householder moved into unit; heating equipment; fuels used for house heating, water heating, and cooking; cost of utilities and fuels; completeness of kitchen facilities; bedrooms; bathrooms; telephone; air conditioning; automobiles, vans, and light trucks; and selected shelter costs for homeowners.

LIMITATIONS

A unique virtue of the one-in-six "long form" sample of the entire U.S. population is that it provides reliable social, economic, and demographic data for relatively small geographic areas and subgroups of the population. From the perspective of children, the value of these data would be enhanced considerably by extending the content of the form in three directions the questions that are asked.

Decennial Census of Population and Housing

First, nuclear family relationships within the household are currently defined as relationships by birth, marriage, or adoption. For example, a child would be classified as a child of the householder if that child is: (1) the biological offspring of the householder, (2) the biological offspring from a previous marriage of the householder's spouse, or (3) the adopted child of the householder. In other words, census data typically do not distinguish between biological, step, and adoptive relationships. Thus it is not possible to measure the size or characteristics of these important subgroups of children.

Second, four types of marital status information are available from the census: (1) current marital status, (2) age at first marriage, (3) quarter of first marriage and (4) number of times married. More detailed marital history information pertaining to the timing of all marriages and divorces would allow the experience of children with parental marriages and divorces to be described. Many consequences for children are often associated with experiencing a parental marital disruption, including disrupted interpersonal relationships with one or both parents, and major reductions in income.

Third, the family relationships that link household members to a child who is living with a nonrelative householder cannot be ascertained, a foster child cannot be unambiguously identified, and the family relations linking a child to members of the household other than the householder cannot always be unambiguously determined.

These extensions to existing information would considerably enhance the value of the census for studying children, because the census also collects a wide range of related social, economic, and demographic information, and because the census provides the large sample sizes required to study relatively small geographic areas and subgroups of the population.

Two issues that are not substantive also should be noted. First, public-use micro-data samples are presently organized in terms of the household and the householder. New studies of children could be conducted more easily if a computer tape organized in terms of children were also available. Second, the census is conducted only once every ten years. A more closely spaced cycle, for example a five-year cycle, would considerably enhance the value of the census for current research.

Decennial Census of Population and Housing

AVAILABILITY

Six major types of 1980 census data products are prepared by the Census Bureau (Customer Services Branch, Data User Services Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233).

Printed reports and other printed products -- The Bureau produces many reports, often separately bound for each State or Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA).

Microfiche -- Microfiche records are used to disseminate certain reports not available in printed form. Data from selected computer summary tapes are also available on microfiche.

Summary data on computer tapes -- The Bureau provides statistical information on computer tape, similar to data found in reports, but often more detailed and sometimes for types of areas not covered in the reports.

Microdata on tape -- Public-use microdata samples provide the responses from a sample of long-form questionnaires (with names, addresses, and detailed geography deleted to protect confidentiality) which can be tabulated by users to meet their particular statistical needs.

Maps -- In addition to maps which mainly show census functional boundaries, the Bureau produces maps that display data -- income for example -- by geographic area.

Special tabulations -- Statistical information is also specially prepared by the Bureau at the request and expense of the user. The data are furnished on computer tape, printouts, or microfiche.

Contact: For data products (301)763-4100

Decennial Census of Population and Housing

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status (16 years old+)
- Limiting health conditions (16 years old+)

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- ___ Exact relationship of parents to child
- ___ Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- ___ Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- ___ Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

TITLE Current Population Survey--Core survey

PURPOSE The primary purpose of The Current Population Survey (CPS) is to provide monthly measures of the characteristics of the labor force, labor force participation, employment, and unemployment in the United States as well as selected states and regions. In addition the CPS serves as a vehicle for a series of supplements, conducted with varying degrees of regularity. Recent supplements have included job tenure and occupational mobility (January), demographic and income supplement (March), alimony and child support (April), fertility (June), immunization (September), school enrollment (October), and voting and registration (November). These supplements are not necessarily conducted each year. For example, the voting and registration supplements are conducted only in even-numbered years.

SPONSORSHIP The core survey is funded by the Bureau of the Census and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in the U.S. Department of Labor. The Census Bureau is responsible for sample design, data collection and tabulation. The BLS is responsible for data analysis and dissemination of information on unemployment and the labor force. The Supplements are funded by a variety of sponsors, such as the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (some of the fertility and childcare supplements) and the National Center for Education Statistics (the education supplements). The data are collected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

DESIGN The survey is designed to be representative of the civilian non-institutional population of United States, including armed forces personnel living off-base or living on base with their families. A multi-stage probability sampling method is used involving first the selection of geographically defined primary sampling units (629 in 1982), next (through sub-stages) the selection of households within the primary sampling units (73,000 households in 1982), and finally the identification of all usual residents 14 and over in sample households. In 1983, interviews, conducted in person or by telephone, were obtained in 58,000 of the 73,000 households selected. The sample is designed to cover each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

The sample is slowly changed through the use of rotation groups. Any given rotation group is in the sample for 4 months, leaves the sample for 8 months, and returns for a final 4 months. In any given month the sample is composed of households from 8 different rotation groups.

Current Population Survey--Core survey

- PERIODICITY** The survey was begun in 1940 and has been conducted monthly since then. For the purpose of measuring employment, that week which contains the 12th of the month is generally used as the reference week.
- CONTENT** In addition to data on employment, unemployment, and work-related activities, the core survey collects data on family income, housing tenure, household composition, age, sex, education, race, origin, and marital status.
- LIMITATIONS** Monthly data on children under age 14 are limited to age, sex, race, origin, and relation to the household reference person. (Additional data are available on some supplements having relevance to children.) Published tabulations from the survey are usually based on counts of adults, households or families. Although tabulations from the September Immunization Survey and the October School Enrollment Survey focus on children, most published statistics are not child-based. However, useful child-based tabulations can be produced with these data, as demonstrated by a recent set of special tabulations done by the Bureau using the March, 1983 survey.
- AVAILABILITY** A rich array of published tabulations are available in The Current Population Reports, especially Series P-20 (population characteristics), Series P-23 (special studies), Series P-25 (population estimates and projections) and P-60 (consumer income). Special reports and bulletins relating to employment are released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.
- Machine-readable microdata files are available from the Bureau of the Census for most months. For information about the availability of data for a particular month, inquiry may be made at the Census Bureau Data Users Services Division, Customer Services number: 301/763-4100. Each file contains the data for a particular month. The first year for which files are available is 1968. Files for March are typically available 5-6 months after the survey date. The delay for other months may be longer. For further information on file contents, contact the Current Population Surveys Branch, Demographic Surveys Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233 301/763-2773).

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled**
- Grade enrolled**
- Employment status**
- Limiting health conditions**

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents* in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: (1/4 sample only) Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents* in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history:** Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history:** Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin**
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence (metro/non-metro)

*The relationship between the reference person and each other person in the household (including children) is obtained. From this information it is possible to identify parent/child relationships in most cases. The Bureau uses the concept "own children", which is defined as sons and daughters, including stepchildren and adopted children of the householder, and the concept "related children" defined as own children plus any other children in the household related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Foster children are not explicitly identified.

**Questions asked on occasion only.

TITLE Current Population Survey--Fertility Supplements

PURPOSE The fertility supplements are designed to provide national estimates of women's fertility and expectations for future births. In addition some supplements (1977, 1982) have provided information about the child care arrangements used by working mothers for their youngest child under age 5.

SPONSORSHIP The fertility and birth expectations portions of the supplement are entirely a project of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The child care portions of the 1977 and 1982 supplements were sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services, and an expanded fertility supplement in 1980 was jointly sponsored by the Bureau and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

DESIGN A description of the basic design of the Current Population Survey was provided in the write-up of the core survey. The supplemental questions have been asked of all persons in sampled households meeting certain eligibility requirements. Most recently these criteria are being an ever-married female age 15-59 or a never married female age 18-59. Birth expectation questions are asked of women 18-44. However, these age criteria have varied from as low as age 14 to as high as age 75. In the expanded fertility supplement marital history data were gathered on men age 15-75 as well as women.

PERIODICITY The supplement has been conducted each June since 1971. The supplement for 1984 contained only two questions -- children ever born and the birth date of the last-born child for women aged 18-44. No questions were included on birth expectations. A 1985 supplement is anticipated.

CONTENT Each supplement collects data on fertility and birth expectations. In addition, the 1971, 1975, and 1980 supplements provide data on marriages and child spacing; and the 1977 and 1982 supplements provide information on child care. The 1980 supplement, like the 1975 and 1971 supplements, collected data on the marriage histories of men as well as of women. Questions about men's children under 18 from previous marriages and whether any of these children live elsewhere were included in the 1980 supplement for the first time.

LIMITATIONS The usual supplement is quite brief, only providing data on total number of births, the birthdate of the youngest (sometimes also the oldest) child, and the number of additional children expected. The child care sections in 1977 and 1982 cover only child care arrangements of working mothers with children under 5, and for only the youngest of

Current Population Survey-Fertility Supplements

these children. Data are gathered on the kind of payment (cash or non-cash) but not the amount. The exclusion of unmarried women under 18 from any of the supplements means that no data on out-of-wedlock births to younger teenagers are available from this source.

Analyses of data from the marriage histories have shown that such retrospective histories are subject to considerable error, especially with regard to events several years in the past. The survey's practice of obtaining information from proxy respondents undoubtedly compounds this effect. Since most respondents are women, the data for men are most seriously affected.

Comparisons with other sources of data also show that the reports of men's children from previous marriages living elsewhere are too low.

AVAILABILITY

Machine-readable micro-data files are available for June from 1973 on. The latest tape currently available containing data from the June supplement is for 1983.

Contact the Data Users Services, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233, 301/763-4100 to obtain a data tape or to obtain further information on the tapes. For substantive information, contact Martin O'Connell or Carolyn Rogers, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233, 301/763-5303.

Current Population Survey-Fertility Supplements

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year (available for all children ever-born in the June fertility history)
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics**

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father *
- Parent education:* Mother Father *
- Race of parents:* Mother Father *
- Hispanic origin:* Mother Father *
- Other origin/ethnicity:* Mother Father *
- Family income
- Employment status:* Mother Father *
- Hours worked:* Mother Father *
- Occupation:* Mother Father *
- Earnings:* Mother Father *
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: *** Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*This information is obtained for all persons 14 and older.

**If the parent resides in the household, the parent and child can be linked in most cases. The relationship between the reference person and each other person in the household (including children) is obtained. From this information it is possible to identify parent/child relationships in most cases. The Bureau uses the concept "own children", which is defined as sons and daughters, including stepchildren and adopted children of the householder, and the concept "related children" defined as own children plus any other children in the household related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Foster children are not explicitly identified.

***Detailed history in 1980 only.

Note: Items checked include data available from basic CPS and fertility supplements

TITLE The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG)

PURPOSE The National Survey of Family Growth is a primary source of data on U.S. fertility patterns, infertility, reproductive health, contraception, and fertility intentions. In addition, the Survey obtains information relevant to child development on such topics as unwanted childbearing, adoption, adolescent pregnancy and unwed motherhood, prenatal care, post-natal care, and infant health. These topics may be examined in relation to information obtained on a variety of social, economic, and family characteristics. In addition, because the NSFG represents the continuation of a line of fertility surveys extending back to 1955, it is possible to use the data to continue a set of time-series statistics on family building, contraceptive use, and reproductive health that has covered a period of dramatic change in U.S. family patterns. Data from these surveys have also been used for several studies of changes in family composition. Data are used by health care providers and researchers, demographers and other social scientists, and by policy makers at both the federal and local level.

SPONSORSHIP The survey is sponsored by the National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Vital Statistics, Family Growth Survey Branch. Funding in 1982 was provided by the Office of Family Planning Services in the (then) Bureau of Community Health Services, the Center for Population Research, NICHD, and the Office of Adolescent Programs, as well as NCHS.

DESIGN Women age 15 to 44 of all marital statuses are interviewed in the nationally representative NSFG. The 1982 area probability sample of approximately 8,000 women included an over-sample of 1,900 teenagers. Parental consent is obtained for all minors who are interviewed. Separate questionnaires are designed for women under age 25 and 25 and older. The 1982 interview--Cycle III of the NSFG--was the first to include all women in the childbearing years regardless of their marital status. Blacks were over-sampled to enable analyses of differences within the black population.

A change in fieldwork is planned for the 1987 Survey. To reduce costs, the sample will be selected on the basis of screening questions included in the much larger and nationally representative Health Interview Survey.

The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG)

PERIODICITY

The NSFG provides data that continue a statistical time-series on American fertility patterns that was initiated during the early years of the "baby boom". The Growth of American Families surveys took place in 1955 and 1960 and were continued by the National Fertility Studies of 1965 and 1970. Cycles I, II, and III of the NSFG were fielded in 1973, 1976, and 1982 respectively. Cycle IV is scheduled for 1987.

CONTENT

Detailed data are collected on fertility events, on infertility and contraceptive use, on childbearing plans, adoption, and sex education, on reproductive and infant health, pre-natal and post-natal care, and family composition. Considerable background information is also collected on the women and their families.

LIMITATIONS

Since the focus of the Survey is on fertility, the range of information on children under 15 and males 15-19 is limited. Under-reporting of abortion occurs in this, as in other, household surveys. Also, since this is a survey of women, children living only with their fathers are not represented.

AVAILABILITY

Public use data tapes are available for the entire series of national surveys from the National Technical Information Service. The public use tape for Cycle III of the NSFG will be available in late 1984.

Contact: Dr. William Pratt,
Chief, Family Growth Survey Branch
National Center for Health Statistics
3700 East-West Highway
Hyattsville, MD 20782
301/436-8731

The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child*
- Hispanic origin*
- Other origin/ethnicity*
- Whether enrolled*
- Grade enrolled*
- Employment status*
- Limiting health conditions*

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: ** Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents:** Mother Father
- Hispanic origin:** Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity:** Mother Father
- Family income**
- Employment status:** Mother Father ***
- Hours worked:** Mother Father ***
- Occupation:** Mother Father ***
- Earnings:** Mother Father ***
- Welfare status:**
- Number of children in household**
- Children ever born to mother in household**
- Number of parents in household**
- Exact relationship of parents to child**
- Exact relationship of siblings to child**
- Age(s) of siblings**
- Parents' current marital status:** Mother Father
- Parents' marital history:** Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion:** Mother Father ***
- Religiosity**
- National origin**
- Region of country**
- Urban/rural residence**

*This information is obtained only for respondents; thus it is available only for females 15-19 who were respondents.

**This information is only available if the child's mother is the respondent.

***This information is only available for fathers if the father lives in the household.

TITLE American Housing Survey

PURPOSE The American Housing Survey, formerly the Annual Housing Survey, is a source of up-to-date information on the quality and quantity of America's housing stock. Planners, researchers and policy makers at the national, local and corporate level are provided with data on housing cost, the physical condition of the unit and equipment such as the heating system, on residential mobility, neighborhood services available to residents, and needed improvements for public and private housing of all types in varied locations.

SPONSORSHIP The survey is funded and designed by the Division of Housing and Demographic Analysis, Office of Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development. Data are collected, tabulated, and published by the Bureau of the Census.

DESIGN The American Housing Survey is comprised of two separate parts: (1) a national sample of housing units from urban and rural areas; and (2) metropolitan area samples from 60 selected SMSAs, including the largest of the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas and many of the smaller, rapidly growing ones, with a quarter of the sample being visited each year.

This is not a survey of individuals or families but of housing units. The respondent is an adult who is knowledgeable about the housing unit, finances, and characteristics of household members. Typically the reference person or their spouse serves as the respondent.

All housing units in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, including vacant units, are represented. A sample of housing units is drawn and interviewers return to the same unit to interview the current residents.

For the national survey, an initial sample of households was drawn in 1973 and is still being followed. New dwelling units are added periodically to represent new construction. In 1983, the national sample was comprised of 76,000 households; but this number will be reduced to 47,000 in 1985 due to budget constraints. A new sample will be drawn in 1984 and these households will be followed over the ensuing decade.

American Housing Survey

The metropolitan area samples were initially chosen during the mid-1970s. Over 400,000 housing units in 60 cities have been interviewed, 15 cities each year. The number of cities covered is being reduced to 44 due to budget constraints. The new sample will include slightly more than 200,000 housing units, with a quarter continuing to be interviewed annually.

PERIODICITY

The national survey was first conducted in 1973 and was repeated annually until 1981. Beginning in 1983, interviews will be conducted every other year. Reflecting this change, the title of the survey has become the American Housing Survey.

The SMSA survey is and will continue to be conducted on a 4-year cycle, with a quarter of the cities being studied each year.

CONTENT

A great deal of information is collected on the characteristics and condition of the housing unit, the neighborhood, housing costs and household income, and other topics of concern to housing. Information on characteristics of the occupants is also collected.

LIMITATIONS

Because this is survey of housing units, children are a relatively peripheral focus. Children are not the unit of analysis, and only limited information is collected about specific children, about family composition and about topics other than housing.

AVAILABILITY

Reports based on the American Housing Survey, or from the Annual Housing Survey are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402. Public use data tapes are available from the Housing Division of the Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233 (301/763-2881).

Abt Associates will do computer runs or produce data extracts for users who do not want to use the full tape. Contact Louise Hadden at Abt Associates, 55 Wheeler St., Cambridge, MA 02138
617/497-7182

Further information can be obtained from Division of Housing and Demographic Research, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC 20410, 202/755-5630.

American Housing Survey

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

Note: Data on employment status are obtained for persons 15 and older.

TITLE Vital Statistics on Marriage and Divorce

PURPOSE These statistics are designed to provide detailed and accurate information on marriages and divorces and on the people involved in marriages and divorces for the largest possible number of States.

SPONSORSHIP The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) obtains complete counts of marriages and divorces by county of occurrence and marriages by month of occurrence from State and local officials. NCHS also obtains sample records from microfilm copies of the original certificates received from the registration offices of States and areas comprising the marriage-registration area (MRA) and the divorce-registration area (DRA). Exceptions to the latter procedure are statistics from those States in the MRA or DRA that submit precoded machine-readable data to NCHS through the Cooperative Health Statistics System.

DESIGN Marriage and divorce statistics for the United States, for the registration areas, and for individual States are limited to events occurring during the year and registered within the specified area. All tabulations are by place of occurrence and include events occurring to nonresidents. Marriages and divorces of members of the Armed Forces or other U.S. nationals that occur outside the United States are excluded. United States refers to the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

Registration areas for the collection of marriage and divorce statistics were established in 1957 and 1958 respectively. These areas include States with adequate programs for collecting marriage and divorce statistics. Criteria for participation in the registration areas are:

1. A central file of marriage or divorce records
2. A statistical report form conforming closely in content to the Standard License and Certificate of Marriage or Standard Certificate of Divorce, Dissolution of Marriage or Annulment
3. Regular reporting to the State office by all local areas in which marriages or divorces are recorded
4. Test for completeness and accuracy of marriage or divorce registration carried out in cooperation with NCHS.

In 1981 the MRA comprised 42 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The DRA included 31 States and the Virgin Islands. Marriages in the MRA accounted for 80 percent of all marriages in the United States in 1981, and divorces in the DRA accounted for 49 percent of all divorces.

Vital Statistics on Marriage and Divorce

The marriage sample was designed to yield estimates of State totals as well as frequency distributions by characteristics of the bride and groom. These estimates were made for the total MRA and each State in the MRA. A sampling rate was designated for each of the MRA States so that the selected sample for it would consist of at least 2,500 records. Five different sampling rates were used: All records, 1/2, 1/5, 1/10, and 1/20. Sampling procedures for the divorce sample parallel those for the marriage sample. Overall, in 1981 about 39 percent of all marriages in the MRA were included in the sample, and about 46 percent of all divorces in the DRA were included.

Samples for the entire United States are available for the census years of 1970 and 1980.

PERIODICITY

Annual data from the MRA have been compiled since 1957. Annual data from the DRA have been compiled since 1958. Samples for the entire United States are available for the census years of 1970 and 1980. Complete counts of events or estimates for the entire United States have been compiled since 1920.

CONTENT

The Marriage Data Tape is a microdata computer file consisting of records that include data for bride and groom, including age, date of birth, race, education, previous marital status, number of this marriage, date of last marriage, State of birth, State of marriage, State of residence, type of ceremony, and related characteristics. The Divorce Data Tape is a microdata computer file consisting of records that include data for date of marriage, date of separation, plaintiff, State of marriage, State of divorce, total number of living children, and for each husband and wife; age at decree, age at separation, date of birth, education, race, number of this marriage, number of previous marriages, and related items.

Data are classified by various demographic characteristics. Vital Statistics of the United States contains a section on marriages, divorces and annulments, marriages and divorces in Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands, and the Technical Appendix.

LIMITATIONS

Many States are not included in the MRA and the DRA.

Vital Statistics on Marriage and Divorce

AVAILABILITY

Final data are published in Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume III Marriage and Divorce and are available in Federal Depository Libraries. The National Center for Health Statistics will respond to requests for unpublished data whenever possible. Requests should be sent to the Scientific and Technical Information Branch at the address below.

Data tapes may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161, 703/487-4780. For information on tape specifications, price, and stock numbers, contact Kathy Santini of the Scientific and Technical Information Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782 (301/436-8500).

Vital Statistics on Marriage

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- | | | | | |
|--|--------|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of parents in household: | Mother | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent education: | Mother | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race of parents: | Mother | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic origin: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other origin/ethnicity: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family income | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment status: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hours worked: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Occupation: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Earnings: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare status: | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Number of children in household | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children ever born to mother in household | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Number of parents in household | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of parents to child | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of siblings to child | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Age(s) of siblings | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' current marital status: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' marital history: | Mother | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' employment history: | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion: (type of ceremony) | Mother | <input type="checkbox"/> | Father | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religiosity | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National origin | | | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region of country | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban/rural residence | | | | |

Vital Statistics on Divorce

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of parents in household: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent education: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race of parents: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic origin: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other origin/ethnicity: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family income | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment status: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hours worked: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Occupation: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Earnings: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare status: | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of children in household | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children ever born to mother in household | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Number of parents in household | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of parents to child | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of siblings to child | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Age(s) of siblings | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' current marital status: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' marital history: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' employment history: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religiosity | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National origin | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region of country | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Urban/rural residence | | |

TITLE 1980 Children and Youth Referral Survey

PURPOSE The Survey was commissioned by the Office of Civil Rights to help the Office carry out its responsibilities for enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Title VI prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color and national origin in federally assisted programs and activities. Section 504 prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving federal assistance.

SPONSORSHIP The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) within the Department of Health and Human Services developed and implemented the Survey. DBS Corporation of Arlington, Virginia and Opportunity Systems, Inc. of Washington, D.C., conducted the Survey under a contract with OCR.

DESIGN Respondents to the 1980 Children and Youth Referral Survey were to include all public welfare and social service agencies responsible for youth referral or placement for out-of-home care. The 1979 Public Welfare Directory, published by the American Public Welfare Association, constituted the initial list of respondents. This list was corrected and updated by contacting the individual states prior to mailing out the forms. All relevant agencies were contacted; thus the data are for a census of agencies rather than a sample. Eventually all 2,439 of the agencies contacted returned the survey instrument -- a 100 percent response rate. Since several forms were returned somewhat late, the file includes 2,436 agencies.

The universe for the survey included only public welfare and social service agencies. Juvenile justice and mental health agencies were not included, though they may also place children outside of their homes. Children over whom legal custody or case records had not yet been established by the agency as of the survey date are not counted in the survey. Children and youth are defined as being of age 17 or younger at the time of intake.

The survey form was mailed to respondent agencies in December of 1979. It should be noted that the agency is the unit of analysis; data on individual children were not reported.

This Survey represents the only national data on child placement arrayed by standardized race/ethnic categories and by type of placement of children with special needs.

1980 Children and Youth Referral Survey

- PERIODICITY** This was the first survey of its type, and there are currently no plans to conduct another such survey.
- CONTENT** The Survey was fielded to collect data on the following civil rights issues:
- o the racial and ethnic distribution of children in out-of-home care;
 - o the types of facilities that minority children are placed in compared with non-minority children;
 - o the distance from home community to out-of-home placement for minority compared with non-minority children;
 - o length of stay in out-of-home care for minority compared with non-minority children; and
 - o facility placement of special needs children.
- Careful definitions were provided to responding agencies regarding race and ethnicity; children's legal status; special needs; and type of placement facility. No data were collected on children's specific ages, characteristics, or family backgrounds. Only aggregate data -- counts of children served in several categories -- are provided by the agencies.
- LIMITATIONS** Only very limited information about the children was obtained -- no socioeconomic or family data were collected -- and only aggregate data were reported. Consequently the analytic possibilities for secondary analysis are quite limited and it is not possible to explore the impact of potentially confounding influences on children's referrals.
- AVAILABILITY** A file of the aggregate data could be made available. For further information about the tape or about the Survey, contact Robert Durst, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Health and Human Services, 330 Independence Avenue, SW, HHS-North Building, Room 5156. Washington, D.C. 20201, 202/472-7937.

1980 Children and Youth Referral Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics (aggregate data only)

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parent education: Mother ___ Father ___
- Race of parents: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hispanic origin: Mother ___ Father ___
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother ___ Father ___
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (to biological mother)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence (county)

INCOME, EXPENDITURES, AND PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

TITLE Current Population Survey - Income and Demographic Supplement

PURPOSE Whereas the core questionnaire of the Current Population Survey is designed to measure employment status at the time of the survey, the income and demographic supplement conducted every March covers employment and income during the entire calendar year preceeding the survey. Thus it provides a picture of work patterns (such as job changes, lay offs, part-year employment) which is not possible with the core survey. In addition it collects income data in much more detail, including sources of income other than earnings. It also collects data on migration and specifies family composition in somewhat more detail.

SPONSORSHIP The supplement is jointly sponsored by the Bureau of the Census and the Department of Labor. The data are collected by the Bureau.

DESIGN A description of the basic design of the Current Population Survey was provided in the write-up of the core survey. The supplemental data are gathered in all households. Some data are gathered which pertain to the household as a whole, such as housing tenure, subsidized housing, and federal energy assistance. The rest of the data are collected for each person age 14 or older. These data cover employment patterns, migration, and income.

PERIODICITY The supplement has been conducted each March since at least 1956. A supplement is planned for 1985. Since 1975 the supplement has been conducted in an expanded sample of households of Spanish origin to improve estimates for this population group.

CONTENT Household data are gathered on housing tenure, number of housing units in the structure, the receipt of food stamps, reduced price or free school lunches, subsidized housing, and energy assistance.

Individual data are available on each person in the household age 15 or over. Questions cover employment history in the previous year, including weeks worked, hours worked, reasons for non-work or part-time work, number of different jobs, and earnings from employment, Unemployment Compensation or Worker's Compensation; migration in the past 12 months; income from a variety of sources, including Social Security, Supplemental Security, survivors benefits, disability benefits, pensions, interest, dividends, rents,

Current Population Survey - Income and Demographic Supplement

and royalties, public assistance, veteran's benefits, child support and alimony, and other sources; and coverage by health and retirement benefits.

LIMITATIONS

Many of the published tabulations from the March supplement are based on the household or family as the units of analysis. Those that are based on the person are generally restricted to persons 15 or older, since these are the persons about whom the detailed income and employment data are gathered. It is both possible and useful, however, to produce child-based tabulations in which children are described by the social & economic characteristics of their parents and families. (This was done with a special tabulation of the March, 1983 survey.)

In spite of the detail in which the data are gathered, income appears to be somewhat underreported in the survey. This may occur because the data are based on retrospective recall or because the income of many household members is reported by proxy respondents. Comparisons with independent estimates from the Bureau of Economic Analysis indicate that the survey may miss about 11 percent of total income. However, wage and salary income is well measured, being underreported by only 3 percent.

AVAILABILITY

Refer to the description on the core survey. Public-use microdata files are available for each March from 1968 through 1983. These tapes typically become available 5-6 months after the survey.

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled**
- Grade enrolled**
- Employment status**
- Limiting health conditions**

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents* in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: (1/4 sample only) Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents* in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history:** Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history:** Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin**
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence (metro/non-metro)

*The relationship between the reference person and each other person in the household (including children) is obtained. From this information it is possible to identify parent/child relationships in most cases. The Bureau uses the concept "own children", which is defined as sons and daughters, including stepchildren and adopted children of the householder, and the concept "related children" defined as own children plus any other children in the household related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Foster children are not explicitly identified.

**Questions asked on occasion only.

TITLE Survey of Income and Program Participation

PURPOSE The survey is expected to become a major source of information on the economic situation of persons and families in the United States. The survey will provide data for a better understanding of the income distribution, wealth, and poverty in this country. In addition, the data will be used to study Federal and State transfer and service programs, to estimate future program costs and coverage, and to assess the effects of proposed changes in program eligibility rules or benefits. The data will also provide information for debating policy issues such as national pension and retirement plans, tax-reform, Social Security funding, and health care reform.

SPONSORSHIP The survey is funded and conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

DESIGN The survey uses a multi-stage stratified sample of the U.S. civilian non-institutionalized population consisting of 164 strata. The survey started in October 1983 with a sample panel of approximately 25,000 "designated" households. The "assigned" sample size will be somewhat smaller (about 20,000 households) because some of the selected households will be unoccupied, demolished, converted for non-residential use, or occupied by persons not eligible for interview, such as persons maintaining a usual residence elsewhere. Each assigned household will be interviewed once every four months for 2-1/2 years, resulting in eight interviews per household.

In January 1985 and every January thereafter, a new, slightly smaller panel will be introduced. This design will allow cross-sectional estimates to be produced for a combined sample of approximately 35,000 households. The overlapping panel design will also enhance the estimates of change, particularly year-to-year change. Finally, to facilitate field operations, each sample panel is divided into four approximately equal subsamples, called rotation groups; one rotation group will be interviewed in a given month.

PERIODICITY This is a continuous survey in which overlapping panels are added and existing panels rotated out every year with each panel being included for a period of 2-1/2 years.

Survey of Income and Program Participation

CONTENT

The survey consists of four major questionnaire components: (1) the control card, (2) the core set of questions repeated on each wave questionnaire, (3) fixed topic modules assigned to specific waves, and (4) variable topical modules to be added from time to time. In addition, the survey questionnaire content may be supplemented by administrative record data for items difficult to obtain in a survey (e.g., earnings and program benefit histories). To facilitate future linkages with administrative records, steps have been taken to insure that the Social Security number is obtained for as many persons as possible.

The control card is used to obtain and maintain information on the basic characteristics associated with households and persons, such as age, race, ethnic origin, sex, marital status, and educational level of each member of the household, as well as information on the housing unit and the relationship of the householder to other members. Questionnaire items included in the "core" mainly cover labor force participation and amounts and types of income received, including transfer payments and non-money benefits from various programs for each month of the reference period. A few questions on other topics such as coverage by private health insurance plans are also included in the core.

Fixed topic modules include the following topics. A wealth module will be administered twice in each panel, in waves one year apart, to collect detailed data on personal and household assets and liabilities. An annual "round-up" module will be administered in the waves at the end of the first and second years of interviewing to obtain wage and salary data from W-2 forms and estimates of annual self-employment and property income for each appropriate person. Three other topical modules will be administered in only one wave of each panel to gather; (1) school enrollment data, (2) marital history, fertility, and migration data, and (3) education, disability, and work history data.

Variable topic modules make up the final component of the questionnaire. These modules will include supplemental questions designed by or for other Federal agencies and will be added to one or more waves of interviewing. Variable topic modules may include the following topics: (1) health care and social services, (2) retirement, housing, and energy issues, (3) child care and duration of welfare, (4) work-related expenses and educational financing, and (5) neighborhood conditions.

Survey of Income and Program Participation

LIMITATIONS

The sample size is relatively small, compared for example to the Current Population Survey, leading to relatively large standard errors. The complexity of the survey, an advantage from the viewpoint of providing detailed and accurate information, may impair user access to microdata tapes which may be complicated and expensive to process. Because several of the topical modules will be developed in the future, an opportunity presently exists to provide suggestions to the Census Bureau regarding the content of these modules. Examples of such modules which are particularly relevant to children include: educational enrollment; childcare arrangements and financing; social services, in-kind childcare and other; educational financing; marital history, fertility, migration; and housing and neighborhood conditions.

AVAILABILITY

Preliminary plans have been made for a number of publications and public use computer data files based on this survey. Both publications and data files are differentiated by whether they are cross-sectional or longitudinal. Two types of cross-sectional reports are planned by the Census Bureau: (1) a set of quarterly or annual reports that will focus on core information; and (2) a set of periodic or single-time reports that will use the detailed socio-demographic data from the topical modules. Plans for longitudinal data reports have not been formulated; but they are expected to concentrate on data that can be used to examine trends and changes over time. This may include analyses of the dynamic aspects of the labor force, or the effect of changes in household composition on economic status and program participation.

Cross-sectional data files from SIPP will be issued on a wave-by-wave basis approximately one month after the published data are released. Each file will include person, family and household information collected in a given wave of the survey. It will be possible for users to produce a longitudinal file by matching two or more cross-sectional wave files, but it will be the user's responsibility to develop longitudinal edits, allocation values, and weights for these merged files. Plans for producing public use files specifically designed for longitudinal analyses are less well-defined at this time, but longitudinal data product plans are now under discussion at the Census Bureau.

As they are produced, data products will be available from the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Customer Services Branch, Data User Services Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233, 301/763-4100. ●

For substantive questions, contact Roger Herriott, Chief, Population Division, 301/763-7646 or David McMillen, 301/763-5592, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

Survey of Income and Program Participation

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

TITLE Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)

PURPOSE The study was designed to supplement and complement the regular assessments of poverty conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The aim is to provide information about factors that influence changes in the well-being of families by observing the same people over an extended period of time. An array of economic, demographic, behavioral, and attitudinal data has been collected on households and household members that provides an unusually full and dynamic perspective on the interrelationships among these factors across time.

SPONSORSHIP The study was funded initially by the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity. Major funding of the study shifted to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (now Health and Human Services) in 1972 and to the National Science Foundation in the early 1980s, with considerable assistance from three private foundations -- Sloan, Ford, and Rockefeller. In 1984-86, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, DHHS, are also major sponsors.

DESIGN Since 1968, the study has conducted annual interviews with a representative sample of about 5,000 families. Data have been collected, processed, analyzed, and disseminated by staff of the Institute for Social Research. The original design included an atypically large fraction of low-income families, but included a complete, representative sample of families at all income levels as well. The full sample, when weighted, is representative of all U.S. families except families of immigrants arriving since 1968.

Each family in the sample has at least one member who was in one of the families originally interviewed in 1968. The family is not an unchanging unit; hence, the study has followed the 1968 original panel families which remained intact and also all members of the 1968 families who left home. Each year interviewing one primary adult in any family containing a member of one of those original families. The "splitoff" families are formed when children leave home, when couples divorce, and when other changes break families apart.

Survey procedures have produced a changing sample of families each year, as new families formed by children leaving home replace families which die off. Thus, the panel continues to be representative with respect to its basic sampling design. The inclusion of newly formed families has caused the total sample to grow gradually,

Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)

despite attrition among original sample households. As of the sixteenth wave of data, the sample consisted of some 7,000 families (16,000 individuals). Interviews are conducted with the "head" of the household, taken to be the husband in married couples. Couples not married but living together for two consecutive interviews are treated as though married.

PERIODICITY

Each family has been interviewed annually, or since it first constituted a separate household. Methodological research has recently been conducted on the representativeness of the current sample. The 1985 cycle will include fertility and marital histories of the mother and father, and educational information for the children. At least two additional cycles (1985 and 1986) will be conducted.

CONTENT

The main content of the study comes from a set of questions about income sources for the prior calendar year; family composition; detailed employment information about the head of the household and wife and less detailed employment information about others in the family; earnings of all family members (with greatest detail for the head); hours spent working, commuting, and doing housework; food expenditures; housing; and geographic mobility. While there has been some elaboration and change over the years, most of these variables are comparable from year to year. An extensive set of background information about the head, and some about the wife, was collected and continues to be gathered for each new head and each new wife. The county and State of residence is coded, and some environmental information reported by respondents is supplemented with county-level data about unemployment levels, unskilled wage rates, and labor market demand conditions obtained from the Employment Security officials of the State. Much additional information has been collected at various times. Education data and fertility and marital histories will be obtained in 1985.

LIMITATIONS

The sample size is relatively small compared to other major surveys, since the entire age range is covered; and information on children themselves is somewhat limited.

AVAILABILITY

Cross-year family and family-individual computer tapes are available. The cross-year family tape is usually available within seven months after interviewing is completed, and the cross-year family-individual tape is available not long after that. Extensive documentation is printed annually, giving the tape codes, variable distributions, editing

Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)

methods, an alphabetic index of variables, and a concordance which facilitates location of the same variable in successive years. Each year starting in 1974, a volume of findings has been published. Available in the Fall of 1983 is a User Guide to the study that summarizes all of the important aspects of the study and is designed to complement existing documentation. Major findings of ten years are summarized in Years of Poverty, Years of Plenty by Greg J. Duncan (1984, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106).

For information on publications, call 313/764-8271. For substantive questions, contact Mary Wreford, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, The University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106 (313/763-1434). The data tape can be obtained from Janet Vavra, Inter-University Consortium for Political Research, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106 (313/763-5010).

Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled (1982 and after)
- Grade enrolled (1982 and after)
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions (in various years)

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (in 1985)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child (in 1985)
- Exact relationship of siblings to child (in 1985)
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: (1985) Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity (1968-72 only)
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

TITLE Consumer Expenditure Survey

PURPOSE Data from the Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES) are collected to revise the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and to provide timely and detailed information on the consumption patterns of different kinds of families. Rapidly changing economic conditions and use of the CPI to adjust numerous prices and benefits have emphasized the need for more frequent data collection. Thus the CES has become an ongoing survey. The Interview Survey, conducted quarterly, collects detailed information on that 60-70 percent of expenditures which respondents can be expected recall over a 3-month period and some information on other purchases. The Diary Survey obtains data on all purchases made during a week and provides detailed information on small, frequently purchased items.

SPONSORSHIP The Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor, plans the data collection effort, while the Bureau of the Census conducts the survey.

DESIGN Five thousand consumer units, defined in terms of financial independence, are interviewed in the Diary Survey, and another sample of 5,000 consumer units are interviewed in the panel survey. A "respondent" is a consumer unit. Five people living together constitute 5 units, if they are financially independent. A family is one consumer unit. Households in the CES represent the total civilian non-institutionalized population. This nationally representative probability sample includes all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Off-base military are covered. Data are collected by means of an in-person interview, except for the Diary which is left for the respondent to complete. Each consumer unit remains in the Interview Survey for 5 quarters, thus across-time data are available.

PERIODICITY Surveys were initiated long ago and have continued. Survey years were: 1888-91; 1901; 1917-19; 1935-36; 1950; 1960-61; 1972-73. The new continuing CES program began in late 1979. The CES is a continuing survey in which 20 percent of respondents are replaced each quarter.

CONTENT Though focused on consumption, data are collected on a number of characteristics of the consumers, including age and sex of children, income and family structure.

Consumer Expenditure Survey

AVAILABILITY

Both regular publications and a public use tape are prepared. As the data are available, a major publication is issued for each year by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. A description of the 1980-81 Diary Survey is available for \$4.50. A publication summarizing results from the panel household survey is planned for December, 1984. Public use tapes are made available a few weeks after a summary publication (such as the one described above) is issued. The Diary Survey tape is available for \$160. Tapes from the household survey should be available in February, 1985. Order forms can be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Division of Planning and Financial Management, Washington, DC 20212. For further information on the survey, publications, and data tapes, write the Division of Consumer Expenditure Studies, 600 E St., N.W., Room 4216, Washington, DC 20212, or call 202/272-5060.

Consumer Expenditure Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status, if 14 and older
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parent education: Mother ___ Father ___
- Race of parents: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hispanic origin: Mother ___ Father ___
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother ___ Father ___
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status: yes/no and \$ amt.
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

TITLE Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)

PURPOSE This series of surveys provided information on the demographic and program characteristics of persons receiving cash payments under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program. The existence of repeated surveys enabled policy makers and administrators to monitor the characteristics of the children receiving welfare payments and the characteristics of their mothers, fathers, and their family situation.

SPONSORSHIP The 1979 study was planned and carried out by the Division of Family Assistance Studies of the Office of Research and Statistics of the Social Security Administration.

DESIGN This was a survey of case records, rather than of persons, and survey forms were completed by AFDC caseworkers on the basis of information available to them in their files, supplemented by their personal knowledge of recipient households. Data were for a representative sample of families receiving AFDC cash payments, except for AFDC households composed solely of foster children. Using a sampling frame such as the AFDC payroll, cases were selected according to a specific sampling rate, beginning with a random start.

The studies were conducted in all states and jurisdictions except Guam and, when inflated, are representative of all families receiving money payments during the study month. As with all sample surveys, the data are subject to sampling variability and response error. Since comparable questions were included in all of the surveys, a valuable time-series exists describing the characteristics of AFDC recipient households at a time when that population was experiencing considerable growth and change.

PERIODICITY The survey was conducted every other year from 1967 through 1979. AFDC surveys are no longer being conducted.

CONTENT Since the survey is completed by the caseworker for administrative and policy purposes, the data are oriented toward demographic and economic information.

LIMITATIONS Since the data describe only those individuals living in households receiving AFDC, coverage is limited to a rather circumscribed if important segment of the population. In addition, the data are only as up-to-date and accurate as the caseworker's knowledge of the recipient household.

Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)

AVAILABILITY

Data tapes are available through the Office of Family Assistance, Department of Health and Human Services, 320 C Street, SW, Room 2216, Washington, DC 20201, 202/245-9234. Substantive questions can be addressed to Henrietta Duval of that office.

Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father *
- Parent education: Mother Father *
- Race of parents: Mother Father *
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father *
- Hours worked: Mother Father *
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (to biological mother)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child**
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father *
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Data were obtained only if the father resides in the household, which is atypical in an AFDC sample.

**Data were obtained for children in the household regarding their relationship to the youngest child in the assistance group.

TITLE AFDC Quality Control System

PURPOSE The purpose of the quality control system is to enable states to identify error concentrations in the determination of AFDC eligibility and in the amount of payment. It represents an effort to ensure the validity of the AFDC caseload. It is also a part of the federal audit, and as such, is set up to identify and disallow expenditures made beyond a tolerance level of 3 percent. The Office of Family Assistance makes grants to states based on each State's State Plan. This constitutes the agreement under which federal matching payments are made. The Quality Control System verifies recipients are in fact eligible and that they are receiving payments of the correct amount. States lose federal matching on AFDC payments if their error rate exceeds the allowed tolerance.

SPONSORSHIP The Quality Control System is sponsored by the Office of Family Assistance (OFA) in the Department of Health and Human Services, in conjunction with the states.

It should be noted that quality control surveys similar to the AFDC Quality Control Survey are sponsored for Medicaid recipients by the Health Care Financing Administration, DHHS and for Food Stamp recipients by the Department of Agriculture. At present, these three systems rely on separate sampling and data collection efforts. However, development of an integrated sample is currently being considered.

DESIGN On a national basis, a sample of 45,000 case records is produced every six months. Each state contributes a sample ranging in size from 150 to 1,200. The number is determined on the basis of a formula designed to produce estimates with a confidence interval of ± 1 percent.

Each state has a Quality Control unit to collect data. Statistical staff select the sample and produce the summary data that are forwarded to the Federal level (e.g., type and origin of error). Data are collected continuously from the case records maintained by the local case worker. The state quality control reviewer selects a case from a payroll list and evaluates eligibility on the basis of data from bank reports, home visits, etc. These checks are done to verify data. These data are collected on a worksheet, from which the Quality Control schedule is completed. From this information, it is determined whether an eligibility or payment error exists. The sampling frame currently extends across a six-month period; the independent samples are weighted and combined to create annual data. The possibility of extending the sample over a 12-month period is being considered.

AFDC Quality Control System

To ensure that the States are correctly applying error definitions, an independent sub-sample is drawn by Federal staff working at the regional level. About 9,000 records across the nation are pulled and the data are independently verified. If Federal and State estimates disagree, a regression methodology is used to adjust the error rate. Disagreements can be appealed.

PERIODICITY

The Quality Control System was first implemented in 1964 in all states. It was revised in 1970 and again in 1975 when the fiscal audit function was added. Previously, the system was only used for corrective purposes, then the procedure of disallowing for erroneous expenditures beyond tolerance was initiated. Departmental regulations were taken to court in 1976 by the States and the audit function was dropped until 1980 when a bill was passed establishing fiscal tolerance levels on a statutory basis. The 1982 Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act set tolerance levels that are 3% for FY 1984, and continued the statutory basis for this System.

CONTENT

In accord with the purposes established for this data system, a great deal of information is generated regarding error rates. Much richer data are collected on the state level than is currently forwarded to the Federal level in the form of summary tabulations, or than will eventually be keypunched and made available in a national computerized data file.

LIMITATIONS

The data are not currently available for secondary analysis. When a national file is ready, it will include a somewhat limited range of variables, given the delimited purpose of the data collection effort, and will represent only the population receiving income transfers. If the AFDC, Food Stamp, and Medicaid samples are drawn so they overlap, the data generated would be correspondingly richer.

AVAILABILITY

The Quality Control Systems are state-operated. In order to obtain the raw data, it would be necessary to contact the individual states. A national data file is not publicly available. A program is being initiated to create a unified file for the entire nation on a government computer. When this project is complete, and when personal and household identifiers are removed from the data, it is anticipated that the file will be available for research purposes.

AFDC Quality Control Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father *
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father *
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father *
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (to biological mother)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child*
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father *
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father *
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence (county)

*if in the household

EMPLOYMENT AND CHILD CARE

- TITLE** National Longitudinal Survey of the Labor Market Experience of Youth
- PURPOSE** In 1977, it was decided to both continue the existing panels of the National Longitudinal Survey and to expand data collection by initiating a new National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. Data from the new survey would replicate much of the information obtained on young people in the earlier cohorts and would thus support studies of changes in the labor market experience of youth. In addition, the new data on youth would permit evaluation of the expanded employment and training programs for youth established by the 1977 amendments to the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). The supplementary sample of 1,300 persons serving in the Armed Forces permit a study of the recruitment and service experiences of youth in the military. The richness of the data has also attracted researchers studying fertility issues, educational progress, marriage and divorce, income and family structure.
- SPONSORSHIP** The Department of Labor initiated the National Longitudinal Surveys and has provided much of the funding over the years. However, other agencies including the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse, and the Department of Defense have sponsored portions of the survey. Data are collected by the National Opinion Research Center, Chicago, Illinois.
- DESIGN** The Youth sample is comprised of a nationally-representative probability sample of 5,700 young women and an equal number of young men aged 14-21 as of January 1, 1979, augmented by a sample of 1,300 young persons serving in the Armed Forces. Blacks, Hispanics, and disadvantaged whites were all over-sampled to facilitate analysis of youth in these population groups. Individuals were considered to be in the population if they resided within the 50 states and were not institutionalized, or if they were on active military duty outside the United States. Non-military respondents were selected using a multistage, stratified area probability sample of dwelling units and group quarter units. A screening interview was administered at approximately 75,000 dwellings and group quarters in 202 primary sampling units. Military respondents were sampled from rosters provided by the Department of Defense. A total of 12,686 persons were interviewed. As of the completion of the fifth (1984) interview wave, 96 percent of those interviewed in 1979 were still being interviewed.

National Longitudinal Survey of the Labor Market Experience of Youth

- PERIODICITY** Interviews have been conducted annually since 1979. Interviews are currently planned to continue at least through 1985.
- CONTENT** The National Longitudinal Surveys were designed primarily to analyze sources of variation in the labor market behavior and experience of Americans. Consequently, the content of the surveys is weighted toward labor force training and experience. However a great deal of information is also collected regarding formal education, marriage and fertility events, income and assets, family background, attitudes, aspirations, and expectations. Questions on drug and alcohol use are included, as well, along with information on family planning, child care, and maternal and child health care.
- LIMITATIONS** If data collection is truncated in 1985, this would severely undercut the long-term utility of the data for analysis purposes.
- AVAILABILITY** Public use tapes and tape documentation as well as a list of publications are available from the Center for Human resource Research, 5701 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085.
- Contact Frank Mott with questions regarding data on fertility and maternal and child health at 612/422-7337. Information is also available from Pat Rhoton or Dennis Grey or Ken Wolpin, Principal Investigator for the NLS, at the Center for Human Resource Research, 5701 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085, 614/422-7337

National Longitudinal Survey of the Labor Market Experience of Youth

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics (children aged 14+)

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother **Father **
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings*
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Age is known for siblings living in the household; the number of older siblings is also known, as is the age of eldest.

**Information on these topics is available for all parents with whom the respondent lives. Some information is available on the children of the respondents as well.

TITLE National Longitudinal Surveys of the Labor Market
Experience of: Young Women, Young Men, Mature Women, and
Mature Men

PURPOSE This series of longitudinal surveys was initiated to explore the labor market experiences over time of several unique cohorts facing employment problems of particular concern to policy makers. The school-to-work transition, initial occupational choice, adaptation to the world of work, the work-family interface and attainment of stable employment are issues of concern for the cohorts of young men, aged 14-24 in 1966 and young women, aged 14-24 in 1968. For middle aged men, aged 45-59 in 1966, issues of declining health, unemployment, the obsolescence of skills, and age discrimination are of concern. Among women 30-44 in 1967, the key issue initially was labor force re-entry for women as their children became older. Subsequently issues associated with women's retirement became important. Following these cohorts over time enables analysts both to describe the situations of different population groups and to understand the factors that are antecedents and consequences and the interrelationships among factors ranging from education and employment, to marriage and family, to economic status.

SPONSORSHIP These four longitudinal surveys were initiated by the Office of Manpower Policy Evaluation, and Research of the Department of Labor. The Center for Human Resource Research of Ohio State University has developed the questionnaires and makes computer tapes and a wide range of documentation available. Field work is conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

DESIGN Each of the four age-sex cohorts is represented by a multi-stage probability sample. To provide samples of blacks that would produce statistically reliable statistics, households in enumeration districts that were primarily black were sampled at a rate between three and four times that of other households. From over 35,000 inhabited housing units, a sample of 5,020 men 45-59 was interviewed. A sample of 5,225 males 14-24 excluding males on active military service was interviewed. Five thousand eighty-three women 30-44 and 5,159 young women 14-24 were also interviewed. The total number of households represented in the four NLS samples is 13,582; thus the sample includes a number of families that have contributed more than one respondent. Initially, most interviews were conducted in person; however the majority of the interviews conducted during the 1970s were done on the telephone. Data have been weighted to adjust for over-sampling and for sample attrition; when weighted, the data are nationally representative. As of the 15-year interview points, approximately 56 percent of the males originally 45-59, 65 percent of the younger men, and about 70 percent of the two women's cohorts interviewed initially were still being interviewed.

National Longitudinal Surveys of the Labor Market Experience of: Young Women, Young Men, Mature Women, and Mature Men

- PERIODICITY** Young women were interviewed annually between 1968 and 1973, in 1975, 1977, 1978, 1980, 1982, and 1983. Further interviews are planned for 1985, 1987 and 1988.
- Women were interviewed annually between 1967-69, in 1971-72, 1974, 1976, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1982, and 1984. Interviews are tentatively planned for 1986 and 1987.
- Young men were interviewed annually between 1966 and 1971, in 1973, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1981, and 1983. Further interviews have been cancelled.
- Men were interviewed annually between 1966 and 1969, in 1971, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1981, and 1983. Further interviews have been cancelled.
- CONTENT** In keeping with the primary orientation of the surveys toward labor force issues, numerous questions focus on employment experience, unemployment, income, and training. However, quite a bit of information was collected about the family background and the social and economic status of the family as well. None of the respondents were still children after the mid-1970s; however, a majority of the young women and young men had become parents by the 1980s, and some limited information is available about their children. Considerable information, shown below, was collected on the family situation of the young men and young women respondents when they were growing up.
- LIMITATIONS** From the perspective of a researcher studying children and families, it is a limitation that the young men and women are no longer children and little information is provided regarding their children.
- AVAILABILITY** Data tapes and complete documentation as well as a publications list are available from the Center for Human Resource Research, 5701 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085.
- Contact: Ken Wolpin, or Pat Rhoton, or the respective cohort coordinators at the Center for Human Resource, 5701 North High Street, Worthington, Ohio 43085
Mature men - Gilbert Nestel
Mature women - Lois Shaw
Young men - Stephen Hills
Young women - Frank Mott
514/888-8238 or 614/422-7337

National Longitudinal Surveys of the Labor Market Experience of: Young Women, Young Men, Mature Women, and Mature Men

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics (the teenage respondents in the Young Women and the Young Men Surveys)

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother * Father *
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father —
- Parents' marital history: Mother — Father —
- Parents' employment history: Mother — Father —
- Religion: Mother — Father —
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Data are available for all parents with whom the respondent lives. Some information is available on the children of the respondents as well.

TITLE The 1977 Quality of Employment Survey

PURPOSE The principal aims of the survey are the following:

1. To assess the frequency and severity of work related problems experienced by employed people, especially problems that could be matters of public policy;
2. to indicate which major demographic or occupational groups are most affected by these problems;
3. to develop efficient measures of job satisfaction suitable for use with diverse samples of workers;
4. to assess the impact of working conditions upon the well-being of workers;
5. to establish base-line statistics for trend analyses using subsequent national surveys; and
6. to establish national norms to which other investigators can compare their data from more limited subsamples of workers.

SPONSORSHIP Three surveys were conducted by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor under contract with the U.S. Department of Labor (USDL). The 1969 survey was subsidized wholly by the Employment Standards Administration of USDL, then known as the Wage and Labor Standards Administration. The 1973 survey was subsidized primarily by the same agency of the Department of Labor, but with supplementary financial support provided by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health of the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. This supplemental support permitted an expanded treatment of data on work role stress, mental health and physical health. The 1977 survey was conducted under contract with the Office of Assistant Secretary for Policy, Evaluation, and Research (ASPER) of the U.S. Department of Labor, with funds provided by that office and also the following other arms of USDL: Employment and Training Administration; Employment Standards Administration; Labor Management Services Administration; Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The contracting agency, ASPER, provided the necessary coordinating services.

EO

The 1977 Quality of Employment Survey

DESIGN

The 1977 sample was designed to support two studies: (1) a panel or re-interview study of persons originally interviewed in the 1973 Quality of Employment Survey; (2) a current study of employed persons in the coterminous United States. Although the household samples for the two studies might have been selected independently, overlapping samples offered an opportunity for a considerable saving in data collection costs and, quite likely, some increase in the precision of estimated changes from 1973 to 1977. With these objectives in mind, the 1973 sample became the foundation for the 1977 design.

The 1973 survey used a multi-state-area probability design to select households in 74 different geographic areas. The primary areas are Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs), counties (sometimes part counties in New England), or county groups. Twelve of the areas, included with certainty, are two Standard Consolidated Areas and the ten largest SMSAs outside of the Consolidated Areas. The remaining primary areas are assigned to 62 strata averaging about 2.25 million in 1970 population. Each stratum contains two or more primary areas from which one is selected with probability proportionate to population to represent the stratum. In the second stage of sampling, cities, towns, villages, and the remaining portions of primary areas become the sampling units, selected with probabilities proportionate to housing units. Within secondary selections, city and town blocks or chunks of housing units are identified.

Altogether 2,788 households were selected for the sample. Approximately 70 percent of the households had one or more persons who met the eligibility criteria for respondent selection; from these households 1,982 persons, one per household, were designated as respondents. Of these 75.5 percent were successfully interviewed.

PERIODICITY

The survey was conducted in 1969-70, 1972-73, and 1977. As noted above, the most recent survey included a panel drawn from the 1972-73 survey. Due to a lack of funding, another round of the survey is not planned currently.

The 1977 Quality of Employment Survey

CONTENT

The topics covered in the survey include: earnings and fringe benefits; hours and other time related matters; health and safety; transportation to and from work; discrimination; job security and mobility; supervision and participation; unions; job content; outcome measures; motivation; work and family; work and leisure; and workers' social and demographic characteristics.

AVAILABILITY

These data are available on computer tape from the Inter-university Consortium of Political and Social Research, University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106, 313/763-5010. For substantive questions, contact Robert P. Quinn, 313/763-1393.

The 1977 Quality of Employment Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of parents in household: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent education: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race of parents: | Mother ___ | Father ___ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic origin: | Mother ___ | Father ___ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other origin/ethnicity: | Mother ___ | Father ___ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family income | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment status: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hours worked: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupation: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Earnings: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welfare status: | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of children in household* | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children ever born to mother in household | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of parents in household | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of parents to child | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of siblings to child | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age(s) of siblings | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' current marital status: | Mother ___ | Father ___ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' marital history: | Mother ___ | Father ___ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' employment history: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion: | Mother ___ | Father ___ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religiosity | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National origin | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region of country | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban/rural residence | | |

*By age group: 0-2, 3-5, 6-12, 13-17.

TITLE Study of Americans' Use of Time (1975-1976) and the 1975-1981 Time Use Longitudinal Study

PURPOSE The purpose of the Study of Time use is to obtain valid estimates of the amount of time individuals of different characteristics spend in paid work, housework and child care, leisure, and other activities. These data can be used to expand the national income accounts to include time spent on activities that are not paid. Also, data from the 1975-1976 and 1981 surveys can be compared with comparable data from previous studies to explore trends in media use, participation in various types of leisure activities, child care, and the division of housework among family members, as well as time spent in tasks such as home maintenance. In the 1981 Survey, information on the time use of children was collected, which will permit study of how children spend their time as a function of age, family composition, parental employment patterns, and other social and economic characteristics.

SPONSORSHIP The survey instruments were designed and fielded by the Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan. Funding for the 1975-76 Survey was provided by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The 1981 re-interview effort was funded by the National Science Foundation, with additional funds being provided by the Foundation for Child Development to make possible the collection of data on children.

DESIGN Respondents for the 1975-76 Study of Time Use were selected from a sample of Americans first interviewed in the fall of 1975 in the Omnibus Study conducted by the Institute for Social Research. Respondents were chosen to form a representative sample of adults 18 years of age or older living in the coterminous United States. Four interviews, spaced at even intervals over the period of a year, were conducted, in October-November, 1975 (the Omnibus Survey), in February, 1976, May 1976 and September 1976. Because time-use patterns on weekends and weekdays differ considerably, time diaries were collected for one Saturday, one Sunday, and two weekdays. Data for Wave 1 were obtained in the field through personal interviews with respondents. Data for Waves 2-4 were collected by telephone interview. Wave 1 interviews were completed with 1519 respondents and 887 spouses of respondents. The sample completing a Saturday, a Sunday, and at least one weekday time diary consists of 975 respondents and 473 spouses of respondents.

In 1981, recontact with the 920 householders completing at least 3 of the 4 interviews in the 1975-76 study was attempted for 4 more interviews. Data were collected from

Study of Americans' Use of Time (1975-1976) and the 1975-1981 Time Use Longitudinal Study

620 respondents and their spouses, if they were married when first contacted in 1981, and as many as three children between the ages of 3 and 17. In Wave 1, in February-March 1981, respondents, spouses, and children were interviewed. In Wave 2, in May-June 1981, respondents and spouses were interviewed. In Wave 3, in September 1981, the children from Wave 1 were again interviewed, along with respondents and spouses. Finally, respondents and spouses were interviewed in November-December 1981. As before, an attempt was made to collect data for both weekdays and weekend days; for children, diaries for school days and non-school days were completed.

PERIODICITY

There is no formal series of time-use surveys per se. However, a previous time-use survey was conducted by the Survey Research Center, University of Michigan, in 1965-66; and the Survey Research Center hopes to field a future study which would permit analysis of American's changing use of time over a considerable period.

CONTENT

In 1975-76, employment was a major focus and a great deal of information was collected on work and earnings. In addition, information was obtained on the division of labor in housework, on health, friendships, organizational activities, housing and household technology, media use, fertility, marriage and divorce, and family activities.

In 1981, many of the measures from the 1975-76 study were repeated; however a greater emphasis was placed on measures relating to the family and its functioning. Children's time use was reported for school and non-school days; and a variety of measures pertaining to school life and achievement as well as to family life were obtained. In addition, teacher ratings were obtained.

LIMITATIONS

Sample attrition is a problem for all longitudinal studies and can be a greater problem when the respondent burden is high. By Wave 4 of the 1975-76 study, only 45 percent of the initial sample completed interviews. By Wave 4 of the 1981 interview, only 54 percent of the eligible 1981 respondents completed interviews. Also, not as many variables were collected for spouses in 1975-76.

AVAILABILITY

A list of publications and assistance in use of the data tapes are available from Dorothy Kempter at the Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106. The public use tape and documentation are available from Janet Vavra,

Study of Americans' Use of Time (1975-1976) and the 1975-1981 Time Use
Longitudinal Study

Inter-University Consortium for Political Research, P.O.
Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106. Tapes are available
to members of the Consortium at no charge. For further
information, contact:

Martha Hill, Ph.D. or Dorothy Kempter
Survey Research Center
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48106
313/763-5131

Study of Americans' Use of Time (1975-1976) and the 1975-1981 Time Use
Longitudinal Study

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
 Birth date Month Year
 Sex of child
 Race of child
 Hispanic origin
 Other origin/ethnicity
 Whether enrolled
 Grade enrolled
 Employment status
 Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of parents in household: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent education: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race of parents: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hispanic origin: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other origin/ethnicity: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family income | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment status: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hours worked: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupation: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Earnings: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Welfare status: | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of children in household | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children ever born to mother in household | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of parents in household | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of parents to child | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of siblings to child | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age(s) of siblings | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' current marital status: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' marital history:* | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' employment history: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religiosity | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National origin | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region of country | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban/rural residence | | |

*Respondent only

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

- TITLE** Vital Statistics of the United States - Natality
- PURPOSE** The purpose of the natality reporting system is to collect and tabulate at the federal, state, and sub-state levels data on births from the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Demographic and health information from birth certificates can be analyzed by researchers and policymakers interested in assessing the health of infants and pinpointing health problems, making population projections and estimates, and measuring progress made by national health programs. In addition, the birth certificate provides legal proof of the birth.
- SPONSORSHIP** The National Center for Health Statistics, Division of Vital Statistics, collects and publishes natality data.
- DESIGN** A certificate of live birth is completed by the attending physician or other health personnel for each birth. Birth certificates are sent by local registrars to the State registrar. States report the data to the Division of Vital Statistics on State-coded data tapes or in the form of microfilm copies of birth certificates. In 1982, one hundred percent of the births were reported to NCHS in the form of State-coded data tapes for 45 States and a 50-percent sample of microfilm copies of birth certificates was used for the remaining 5 States and the District of Columbia.
- PERIODICITY** Data collection is continuous. Monthly and annual reports of provisional data and annual and special subject reports based on final data are issued. All states have been included in the birth registration area since 1933.
- CONTENT** The certificate of live birth, which is the source of vital registration data, contains a limited number of items. The mother's marital status is reported for only 41 states and D.C.; as of 1980 it is inferred for 9 states by comparing parent and child surnames. Parent education is reported for 47 states and D.C.
- LIMITATIONS** Not all states obtain all information and the range of data is limited (see above).

Vital Statistics of the United States - Natality

AVAILABILITY Data tapes may be purchased from the National Technical
Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161,
703/487-4650.

CONTACT Stephanie Ventura; Selma Taffel; or Bob Heuser, Chief
Natality Branch, Division of Vital Statistics
National Center for Health Statistics
3700 East-West Highway
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782
301/436-8954

Vital Statistics of the United States - Natality

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education:* Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin:*** Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity:**** Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status:**Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Reported in 47 states and D.C. in 1982

**Reported in 41 states and D.C. in 1982 and inferred for 9 states

***Reported in 23 states in 1982, covering 90 percent of the Hispanic population

****Reported in 13 states and New York City in 1982

TITLE Vital Statistics of the United States -- Mortality

PURPOSE The primary purpose of the registration system is to provide legal proof of the event. The data also provide statistical information on deaths in the United States needed by federal, State, and local government agencies, particularly health departments, to plan and evaluate their programs. Statistics are frequently used in public health research and administration to analyze rates of population growth and changes in population composition, to measure social problems, and to measure actual or potential consumers for numerous products and services.

SPONSORSHIP The Public Health Service of the National Center for Health Statistics issues standard certificates of death and fetal death. The states collect much or all of the recommended data on their forms and the National Center for Health Statistics of the Public Health Service collects and publishes the data.

DESIGN Mortality statistics are based on information obtained directly from copies of original death certificates received from the State registration offices, and from data provided to NCHS through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program. In 1980, 45 States participated in this program. For these States part or all of the mortality data for 1980 were coded from the original certificates and provided on computer tape to NCHS. For the balance of States which did not participate in this program NCHS coded information from copies of the original death certificates.

All deaths, including fetal deaths past (typically) 20 weeks gestation, are to be reported. Quantitative data on completeness of registration are not available, but in most areas practically all deaths are registered. However, under-reporting of fetal deaths is great. All fetal death data are obtained directly from copies of the original reports.

Provisional data include non-residents. Final data do not. Since 1933, the entire U.S. has been included in the death registration area. Death statistics for Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Virgin Islands are reported separately.

PERIODICITY Mortality statistics were first published by the federal government in 1850 based on Census data. Vital data on

Vital Statistics of the United States -- Mortality

mortality were first collected in 1880 for two states and several cities. The death registration area expanded steadily and has included all states since 1933. Data are collected continuously. Annual and monthly summaries are now produced.

CONTENT

Data are collected on various demographic characteristics and cause of death. Vital Statistics of the United States contains a section on general mortality, infant mortality, perinatal mortality, fetal deaths, accidents, life tables, geographic detail, deaths in Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, and Guam, and the Technical Appendix.

LIMITATIONS

No family information is included other than parents' names for deceased children. Also, states vary in how completely and accurately information is recorded. All identifiers are removed from the death certificate before the data are processed. Deaths to nonresidents and resident deaths occurring outside the United States are excluded.

AVAILABILITY

Final data are published in Vital Statistics of the United States, Volume II Mortality and are available in Federal Depository Libraries. The National Center for Health Statistics will respond to requests for unpublished data whenever possible. Requests should be sent to the Scientific and Technical Information Branch at the address below.

Data tapes may be purchased from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161, 703/487-4780. For information on tape specifications, price, and stock numbers, contact Kathy Santini of the Scientific and Technical Information Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782, 201/436-8500.

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions (cause of death)

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parent education: Mother ___ Father ___
- Race of parents: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hispanic origin: Mother ___ Father ___
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother ___ Father ___
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence (metro/non-metro)

TITLE National Mortality Followback Survey

PURPOSE Data from the Followback survey extend the range of items normally included on the death certificate, permitting epidemiological and statistical analyses of mortality not possible using just data from vital records. National estimates can be calculated by characteristics not on the death certificate and the reliability of data reported on the vital record can be evaluated.

SPONSORSHIP This data program is sponsored by the Office of Vital and Health Care Statistics Program, National Center for Health Statistics, Department of Health and Human Services.

DESIGN A mailed questionnaire is sent to the next of kin, defined as the person who provided the funeral director with information on the decedent for the death certificate. Deaths are sampled from death certificates. In 1966-68, one in every 260 deaths -- 19,526 records -- was chosen for a followback questionnaire. The 1986 sample will be nationally representative of all deaths of persons aged 25 and older.

PERIODICITY Surveys were conducted in 1961, 1962-63, 1964-65, 1966-68. The next survey is planned for deaths occurring in 1986.

CONTENT Information was not obtained on children in 1966-68. In 1986, it is again expected that children will not be included. No data on child characteristics or family characteristics for children are collected because children have not been included in the followback. (For this reason, a list of variables is not attached.)

LIMITATIONS In 1966-68, death certificates were sampled only for those 35-84. In 1986, the sample will probably be limited to those aged 25 and older.

AVAILABILITY Division of Vital Statistics tapes can be purchased from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia (703/487-4780). For further information on tape specification, price and stock numbers, contact Kathy Santini at the Division of Vital Statistics, Scientific and Technical Information Office, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782 (301/436-8500). For information on tape content, methodology and Procedures, contact the Division of Vital Statistics (301/436-8980). For information specifically on the 1986 National Mortality Followback Survey, contact Mr. Sam Seeman, Project Manager, 301/436-7107.

TITLE National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

PURPOSE The National Health Interview Survey is intended to provide a continuing picture of the health status of the U.S. population based on people's reports of their own health-related experiences and attributes. The survey collects national data on the incidence of acute illness and accidental injuries, the prevalence of chronic conditions and impairments, the extent of disability, the utilization of health care services, and other related topics. These health characteristics are determined and displayed for the population as a whole and for a number of demographic and socioeconomic subgroups.

SPONSORSHIP The Survey is designed and funded by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). Annual supplements on specific topics are usually funded by NCHS but can be funded by other agencies. Survey interviewing is performed by a permanent staff of trained interviewers and supervisors employed by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The sample is designed by the Bureau of the Census.

DESIGN The National Health Interview Survey is a cross-sectional household interview survey. It covers the noninstitutional, civilian population of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The sampling plan follows a multistage probability design that permits the continuous sampling of households. The overall sample is designed so that tabulations can be provided for each of the four major geographic regions and for selected places of residence in the U.S.

In-person interviews are conducted each week throughout the year. Each week's sample is representative of the target population and weekly samples are additive over time. Data collected over the period of a year form the basis for the development of annual estimates of the health characteristics of the population and for the analysis of trends in those characteristics. Each calendar year, data are collected on about 110,000 persons in approximately 42,000 households. Approximately 30,000 of the sample persons are children under the age of 18. The annual response rate of HIS is usually at least 95 percent of the eligible households in the sample. All adult members of the household 17 years of age and over who are at home at the time of the interview are invited to participate and to respond for themselves. The mother is usually the respondent for children. Between 60 and 65 percent of the adults 17 years or over are self-respondents.

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

Current plans call for an expansion of the survey sample to 51,000 households in 1985 and an increase in the number of households per segment from 4 to 8, with a decrease in the number of primary sampling units from 376 to 201. Consideration is also being given to making use of the NHIS sample and household screening information for other NCHS surveys, such as the National Survey of Family Growth and the National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey. NCHS and the Census Bureau are conducting tests to evaluate the feasibility of using telephone instead of in-person interviewing to survey at least part of the sample in future years of the NHIS.

PERIODICITY

The National Health Interview Survey has been conducted annually since 1957. Over that period, many changes have occurred in the format, content, and administration of the core questionnaire (see Vital and Health Statistics, Series 1, No. 11. "Health Interview Survey Procedure, 1957-74"). The basic procedures used for measuring the incidence of acute illness and injuries, the prevalence of chronic conditions, the extent of disability, and the use of health-care services have remained fairly consistent between the late 1960s or early 1970s and 1982; however questions on specific chronic conditions are now asked only of a subsample.

The most recent major changes in the core questionnaire took place in 1982. Changes were made in the format and order of questions on limitations of activity, disability days, doctor visits, hospital stays, and overall health status; and questions on the receipt of dental care were moved from the core to a periodic supplement. Revisions in the current core questionnaire are expected in 1985.

The supplements to the questionnaire change in response to current interest in special health topics. The content of some recent and planned supplements is described below. There has also been some variation in background items from year to year.

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

CONTENT

The questionnaire provides for the following types of core data:

--Basic demographic characteristics of household members, including age, sex, marital status, race and Hispanic origin, education, occupation of adults, and family income.

--Disability days, including restricted activity and bed days, and work- and school-loss days occurring during the 2-week period prior to the week of the interview and bed disability days during the preceding 12 months.

--Physician visits occurring during the 2-weeks prior to the interview.

--Acute and chronic conditions responsible for these disability days and for doctor visits.

--Long-term limitation of activity (3 months or more) resulting from chronic disease or impairment and the chronic conditions associated with the limitation.

--Hospitalization data, including the number of persons with hospital episodes during the past year and the number of discharges and days from hospitals.

--Indicators of the health status and health-care use of each household member, including the number of bed days and doctor visits in the past twelve months, the interval since the last doctor visit, and an overall rating of each household member's health from excellent to poor by the household respondent.

The core questionnaire also includes six lists of chronic conditions. Each list concentrates on a group of chronic conditions involving a specific system of the body (e.g., digestive, circulatory, respiratory). Respondents are asked whether anyone in the family has had each condition on the list. Prior to 1978, only one condition list was asked each year. Since then, each of six representative subsamples has been asked the questions in one of the six lists. In this way, national estimates on each of the body systems are obtained during the same interview year.

In recent years, supplements to the NHIS questionnaire have dealt with the following topics:

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Year</u>
Eye care; Immunization; Smoking	1979
Home health care; Residential mobility; Retirement income; Smoking	1979, 1980
Health insurance (includes section in 1983 and 1984 on loss of insurance coverage due to losing or being laid off from a job)	1980, 1982, last half of 1983, 1984
The health of children and youth (0-17 years) (See separate write-up on the Child Health Supplement.)	1981
Preventive health care	1982
Doctor services; Dental care; Alcohol/ Health practices (including smoking cessation)	1983
The health of the elderly (55 years and older)	1984

Supplements planned for future years include a major supplement on health promotion and disease prevention in 1985; and supplements on dental care, health insurance, over-the-counter drugs, and vitamin and mineral supplements in 1986.

LIMITATIONS

The National Health Interview Survey does not cover some of the least healthy segments of the population in that adults and children in long-term hospitals, prisons, and other residential institutions are excluded from the sample. The illness experience and medical-care use of persons who die during the course of a year are also underrepresented in the survey data.

Only persons aged 17 and older can be respondents and one adult aged 19 or older can respond for everyone in their family. Children and even teenagers as old as 16 are not permitted to respond for themselves.

Data on acute and chronic conditions are only as good as the respondent's ability to report them. Subclinical or symptom-free illnesses are generally not reported. Diagnostic categories are probably not well defined and the household respondent can usually only pass on the diagnostic information that a physician has given to the family. For conditions not medically attended, diagnostic information is often no more than a description of symptoms. Persons with more education or more exposure to medical services tend to be more familiar with the diagnostic terms used in the survey than persons with less

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

education or less exposure to physicians. Changes over time in the reported prevalence of a given condition may reflect increased public familiarity with a diagnostic label rather than (or as well as) changes in the actual prevalence of the condition.

Because six different lists of chronic conditions are used in the Health Interview Survey, the prevalence of a given chronic condition is obtained on only one-sixth of the sample. Inasmuch as the prevalence of chronic conditions is low in children, too few cases may be available for meaningful analysis of particular childhood conditions. Moreover, counts of the number of children with certain chronic conditions -- e.g., mental retardation -- are much lower when based on parent reporting than when based on teacher reporting or clinical evaluations.

Acute conditions or injuries are counted in the HIS only if they result in medical consultation or one or more days of restricted activity. Incidence data are collected by 2-week recall and summed over the survey year. This gives a valid estimate of the total volume of events in the course of a year, and the mean number of events per person per year, but not the distribution of persons by events experienced. (I.e., how many persons experienced no events, one event, two events, etc., over the course of the year?)

Some 12-month estimates of disability days and medical-care use are obtained directly from respondents, but these estimates tend to be lower than estimates based on shorter recall periods.

Data on the impact of illness -- e.g., the number of disability days caused by a given condition -- are probably obtained more accurately from household members than from any other source. However, these data are not simply measures of the severity of an illness; they reflect personal preferences and external constraints as well as medical need. For example, given two children with the same set of respiratory symptoms, one family may keep their child home from school whereas the other family may choose to send the child to school.

There appear to be persistent racial discrepancies in the NHIS data (and other surveys as well) that are due to differences in recall or reporting styles rather than to differences in illness experience. Black adults generally use less positive terms than white adults do when rating their own health or the health of their children. And black mortality rates are generally higher than white rates. Yet blacks report fewer episodes of illness-related disability and medical care controls than whites do, even when the 2-week recall periods are used and adjustments are made for racial differences in education levels.

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

AVAILABILITY

Basic descriptive statistical reports based on NHIS data appear in Series 10 of the Vital and Health Statistics publication series. The first report of a year's core data, which is typically published in October of the following year, is the "Current Estimates" report (e.g., for 1981, Series 10, No. 141). This report also contains a copy of the core and supplement questionnaires for the year. Three to five Series 10 reports and several additional reports on each year's data are also prepared, covering specific core topics, such as "Acute Conditions" and "Physician Visits," or basic tabulations of data from the year's supplementary questionnaires. Special analyses involving more detailed tabulations and/or data from more than one year appear on a less frequent schedule.

In addition to the data tables that appear in the Series 10 publications and Health United States, many unpublished tabulations of HIS data are routinely generated by NCHS and made available upon request. These include more detailed breakdowns of health data on the population under 17, including tabulations by age, sex, race, family income, and education level of the family head. Public use tapes covering both core and supplement data are released about two years after the completion of data collection. The data tapes are available back to the 1969 survey year from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22761 (703/487-4780).

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National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled (since 1982, grade completed)
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics*

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (1976 only)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings (in household)
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Unless a child is the child of the reference person (or of the head, prior to 1982), it may be difficult to ascertain family relationships because all relationships are based on relationship to the reference person.

TITLE 1981 Child Health Supplement to the National Health Interview Survey

PURPOSE The 1981 Child Health Supplement was designed to provide more detailed information on the physical and mental health, school performance and behavior of children than is provided in the core survey. In particular, it covers topics of special relevance to children, such as prenatal care, social and motor development, and behavior problems.

SPONSORSHIP The Supplement was designed and funded by the National Center for Health Statistics. Advice on questionnaire content was obtained from other health agencies and from a panel of non-government researchers convened by NICHD. Interviewing was conducted by the same permanent staff of trained interviewers and supervisors employed by the Bureau of the Census for the core National Health Interview Survey.

DESIGN The Child Health Supplement is a component of the National Health Interview Survey, the design for which is described in the write-up for that survey. For the Child Health Supplement, additional information was gathered for one child aged 0-17 in each family having such a child. In families having more than one eligible child, one was selected at random. A knowledgeable adult member of the household, usually the biological mother, served as a proxy respondent for each selected child. As with the core survey, interviewing was conducted continually throughout the year. Altogether 15,416 children were included in the 1981 Supplement.

PERIODICITY The first Child Health Supplement was conducted in 1981. Related earlier surveys providing some comparable data are Cycle II and Cycle III of the Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys. A second Child Health Supplement may be conducted in 1987 or 1988.

CONTENT The Supplement covers the following topics: the exact relationship between the child and each other household member; child care arrangements; contact with biological parents who live outside the household; the biological mother's marital history; residential mobility; breastfeeding; motor and social development; circumstances surrounding birth; health conditions at birth; prenatal care; hospitalizations and surgery; health condition history; height and weight; use of medications; progress

1981 Child Health Supplement to the National
Health Interview Survey

and behavior in school; need for or use of psychological counseling; behavior problems; social effects of ill health; and sleep habits. The data collected on the Supplement can also be linked to data from the core survey, so that additional individual data on the children, as well as background data on the family are available (see the write-up on the National Health Interview Survey).

LIMITATIONS

The information on the Supplement is provided by the biological parent or the adult in the household most knowledgeable about the health of the child. While such a respondent may be most appropriate for some topics and for all younger children, older children may be better able to provide some information on their own account. Only one child is selected in each family to be the subject of the Supplement interview. This situation precludes analyses of intra-familial variations in the physical and mental health of children, or of the relationship between the health of one child and that of other children in the household. Overall, the sample of children covered in the Supplement is relatively large. However, many questions are relevant for only certain age ranges. For such questions, the sample size is more modest (just under 900 per year of age).

AVAILABILITY

Data from the National Health Interview Survey including its supplements, are published by the National Center for Health Statistics in Vital and Health Statistics, Series 10. Reports based on the 1981 Child Health Supplement will appear shortly. A public use tape is available from the the Division of Health Interview Statistics, NCHS, Center Building, Room 2-44, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, MD 20782 (301/436-7089).

Contact: Robert Fuchsberg 301/436-7085

Child Health Supplement to the National
Health Interview Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (to biological mother)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

TITLE National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

PURPOSE The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, like its predecessor program, the Health Examination Survey, is a vehicle for collecting and disseminating medical and biometric data on the U.S. civilian noninstitutional population; data of the sort that can best be obtained by direct physical examination, clinical and laboratory tests, and related measurement procedures. The types of information collected include:

--objectively-measured data on the prevalence of specific diseases or pathological conditions;

--normative data that show the distribution of the population with respect to particular parameters such as height, weight, blood pressure, visual acuity, or serum cholesterol;

--data on the interrelationships among biometric and physiological variables in the general population, such as the relationship of height and weight to blood pressure; and

--data on the relationships of demographic and socioeconomic variables to health conditions.

The examination surveys have sometimes included measures of intellectual functioning and emotional well-being as well as physical health. Since 1970, the program has also been designed to measure the nutritional status and dietary intake of the population and to monitor changes in that status over time.

SPONSORSHIP The survey program is designed and conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). In some but not all cycles of the survey, initial household interviewing has been done by Census interviewers or contract employees. The rest of the interviewing, as well as history taking, examining, testing, and measuring of survey respondents are done, usually, by NCHS employees but contract employees have been used recently.

DESIGN Probability samples of the population are interviewed at home, then examined, tested, and interviewed further in mobile examination centers, where examination procedures can be carried out under uniform and controlled conditions. The examination centers are moved about the country along with data collection teams consisting of interviewers, medical examiners, and laboratory personnel. The general pattern of data collection and limitations in the number of persons who can be examined in a given time span have meant that each cycle of the survey has required 3-4 years to complete.

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

The samples for all of the cycles of the survey have been multistage, highly clustered probability samples, stratified by geographic region and population density. Persons residing in institutions are not included in the samples. The age range covered by the survey has varied across cycles. During the 1960s, three cycles of the Health Examination Survey (HES) were carried out that focused on specific age groups, namely adults, children, and adolescents. The two most recent national surveys, NHANES I and NHANES II, have covered a broad age range, from 1 through 74 years and from 6 months through 74 years, respectively. (Only persons aged 25-74 were given the detailed physical examination in NHANES I, however.)

The size of the survey sample has also varied. In each of the three cycles of the HES done in the 1960s, the sample size was approximately 7,500 and the response rate was high (87 percent for the adult cycle, 96 percent for the children's examinations, and 90 percent for the youth examinations). For the two NHANES cycles done in the 1970s, the samples selected for the major nutrition components of the examination contained approximately 28,000 people and yielded about 21,000 examined persons. Response rates for the household interviews were extremely high (about 99 percent). Completion rates for the medical history questionnaire were lower (88 percent in NHANES I and 91 percent in NHANES II); and those for the physical examination components were lower still (74 percent for the nutrition component of NHANES I, and 70 percent for the detailed health examination; 73 percent overall for the examination component of NHANES II). A policy of remunerating examined persons is used to maintain response levels.

Young people were over-sampled for this survey. The total number of young people examined in NHANES II was 9,605: 4,118 children in the 6 months-5 years age range; 3,762 children aged 6-11 years; and 1,725 adolescents aged 12-17 years.

The basic design of the examination program is that of the repeated cross-sectional survey. There have been two instances of longitudinal follow-ups to the examination surveys, however. In the 1960s, the same sampling areas were used for the youth examination survey as had been used for the children's examination survey. Hence, about 2,200 of the same children were examined in both cycles. More recently, there has been a longitudinal follow-up of the adults examined in NHANES I.

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

PERIODICITY The dates of the completed Health Examination Surveys and Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys are shown below.

<u>Survey</u>	<u>Age Range Covered</u>	<u>Years Conducted</u>
HES, Cycle I	18-79	1960-62
HES, Cycle II	6-11	1963-65
HES, Cycle III	12-17	1966-70
NHANES I	1-74	1971-74
NHANES I, Augmentation	25-74	1974-75
NHANES II	6 mos.-74	1976-80

The examination program in operation in 1983-84 is Hispanic HANES, a study of the health and utilization status of the Mexican-American population in the Southwest, the Cuban population in Miami, and the Puerto Rican population in New York. The next national survey is being planned for 1987 or 1988.

CONTENT

The kinds of information that have been collected in the HES and NHANES are many and varied, and these data have been put to important practical as well as scientific uses. For example, the body measurement data developed through the examination surveys form the basis for the growth charts that may be found in every pediatrician's office. Data on blood lead levels and pesticide residues in the population have figured in major policy decisions of the Environmental Protection Agency. And data based on the dental examinations that are performed in the survey have been used to estimate what it would cost to provide dental coverage under various national health insurance schemes. The following paragraphs present a sampling of the data that have been collected in the program.

Information about nutritional status collected in NHANES has included: data on nutritional intake and eating habits based on 24-hour recall interviews and food frequency questionnaires; a sizable battery of hematological and biochemical tests based on blood and urine specimens; careful body measurements of height, weight, and skinfolds; and data on the presence of various clinical signs of nutritional deficiency.

Information about dental health collected in the survey has included: counts of the number of decayed, missing, and filled teeth; and data on the presence of malocclusion and periodontal disease.



National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

Information about sensory functioning and communication disorders has included: tests of visual acuity in children and adults; tests of hearing acuity in children and adolescents; and evaluations of speech pathology in young children.

Information about pulmonary and cardiovascular health has included: measurements of lung function (spirometry); X-rays; measurements of blood pressure, EKG, and serum cholesterol; and data on clinical signs of respiratory or cardiovascular disease.

Information about environmental effects on health collected in NHANES has included: the amounts of carbon monoxide present in the blood (carboxyhemoglobin); blood lead levels; the presence of pesticide residues and certain trace elements in the blood; and medical history and test data about allergies.

A battery of psychological tests was administered to the children and adolescents examined in Cycles II and III of the Health Examination Survey. The tests included parts of the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children (WISC) and the Wide Range Achievement Test (WRAT); and the Goodenough-Harris Draw-A-Person Test.

Ratings of the behavior of children and adolescents by their parents and teachers were collected in Cycles II and III of the Health Examination Survey. Questionnaire data on the emotional well-being of adults were collected in Cycle I of the Health Examination Survey and in NHANES I. NHANES II contained a questionnaire for adults dealing with "Type A" behavior, which is thought to relate to the incidence of cardiovascular disease.

Each cycle of the survey has collected an extensive set of background data on the examined persons (and, in the case of children, on their parents) including age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, educational attainment, occupation, employment status, family income and poverty status. At ages 12+, pregnancy and menstruation histories are obtained, and questions are asked regarding alcohol, tobacco and drug use.

LIMITATIONS

The Health and Nutrition Examination Survey program has several important advantages as a source of data on the health of U.S. children. It is the only nationwide data program that provides estimates of the health status of the population based on direct examination and testing. Everyone is given a standard examination and the estimates of disease prevalence are not as dependent on the knowledge and reporting of a parent or a physician, as is the case in other health surveys. Nor are the estimates limited to

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

selected population groups, as is often the case with studies based on screening programs or clinic records. The quality of the data collected is generally very high. Adolescents aged 12 and over respond for themselves concerning matters such as their smoking habits, food consumption, pregnancy history, and recent bodily symptoms. (In Hispanic HANES, children as young as 6 years of age are being asked a short series of questions about possible vision and hearing problems in school.) In addition, questionnaires concerning diet, medication, and behavior are administered in the privacy of the examination trailers. This may produce more candid reporting, especially on the part of adolescents, who could be reluctant to disclose information about certain aspects of their behavior if the interview were conducted at home or in school. The examination surveys also afford the opportunity to compare interview and questionnaire responses with the results of examination and testing procedures, thus providing "calibration" data on the significance of different types of responses, the overall validity of respondent reporting, and differential bias or distortion in reports concerning certain groups of children.

Unfortunately, the HANES program also has several drawbacks as a source of social indicator data on children. To begin with, the long intervals between completed surveys make the program of little use for tracking short-term changes in child health or for assessing the impact of cutbacks in public health programs or the introduction of new programs. The number of specific components in any cycle is limited and the same components are not repeated in all cycles. There is, moreover, a good deal of variation in the wording of survey questionnaires from cycle to cycle, even when the same topics are being covered.

Another limitation of the HANES data sets is the lack of a summary evaluation, based on the full battery of tests and examinations administered, of each person's overall health status. Clinical findings are noted, but without an indication of the relative seriousness or prognostic significance of the findings. There is a summary rating by each examined persons of his or her own health (or, in the case of children under 12, a rating by the parent respondent). However, except for the fact that teenagers, aged 12 over rate their own health in NHANES, this rating is nearly the same as that collected in the National Health Interview Survey.

The estimates of disease prevalence produced by HANES are not dependent on the respondent's ability to remember and report clinical information, as is the case

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

for the Health Interview Survey. However, the medical examiners in HANES must still rely to a substantial degree on the medical history information provided by the respondent, especially for the diagnosis of conditions that are not readily apparent on examination. Thus, some biases associated with the respondent's education level and prior exposure to medical terminology may enter into the HANES data as well.

The institutionalized population is excluded from HANES, as it is from the National Health Interview Survey, the CPS, and the NSFG, among others. And with the broad age range covered by NHANES I and II, the sample of young people obtained is not large enough to produce many cases of children with relatively rare chronic conditions or handicaps, especially at single years of age. The original design was for cycles of the survey to be age-specific, as in the three cycles of the Health Examination Survey carried out in the 1960s. Consideration should be given to the possibility of returning to this age-specific plan so that subjects appropriate to children could be covered in greater depth and with larger sample sizes.

AVAILABILITY

Findings from the Health Examination Surveys and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys are presented in Series 11 of the Vital and Health Statistics publication series. Published reports are not issued on a set frequency, but rather made available as completed. The reports are generally organized on a topical basis with the earlier numbers from a survey being descriptive whereas the later numbers are more analytic.

Public use data tapes are also available for all completed cycles of HES and NHANES. Beginning with NHANES I, these tapes have been released to both in-house analysts and the public as soon as final editing has been performed and the necessary documentation prepared. There is an NHANES Data Users' Group that meets regularly in Washington. Tapes can be obtained from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22761 (703/487-4780).

Descriptions of the sample design and collection procedures for each cycle of the survey, and copies of all data collection forms, may be found in the following numbers of Series 1 of Vital and Health Statistics: Number 4 (Cycle I of HES); 5 (Cycle II); 8 (Cycle III); 10a & b and 14 (NHANES I); and 15 (NHANES II).

Contact: Robert Murphy 301/436-7068

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS -- NHANES II

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions
- Participation in school nutrition programs

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother (and birth order of subject child,
for children aged 6 months-11 years)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence
- Languages spoken in home

Note: In the medical history portion of NHANES II, a different series of questions was used for children aged 6 months-11 years and adolescents aged 12-17. A parent responded for the children, whereas the adolescents responded for themselves. Most of the same background items are available for both groups, however, as the same household questionnaire was used throughout.

TITLE 1980 National Natality Survey

PURPOSE The National Natality Surveys have been conducted in order to extend the range of information beyond the data available in the vital registration system. The data obtained can be used in statistical studies by health, social, and demographic researchers. Data can also be used to produce national estimates of births according to a broad range of characteristics not found on the vital record and constitute a basis for evaluating the quality of the information reported on birth and death certificates. The data can also be compared with data from previous followback surveys to permit studies of trends.

SPONSORSHIP The National Center for Health Statistics provided half the resources for the 1980 NNS, with six other agencies contributing the remaining half: (1) the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health sought data on occupations and shift work of mothers and fathers; (2) the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development wanted information on maternal and infant health and breast-feeding; (3) the National Center for Devices and Radiological Health of the Food and Drug Administration needed data on maternal exposure to X-ray, ultrasound and nuclear medicine; (4) the National Institute on Drug Abuse sought data on smoking before and during pregnancy; (5) the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism needed information on maternal drinking before and during pregnancy; (6) the Bureau of Health Care Delivery and Assistance of the Health Resources and Services Administration supported an oversampling of low birth weight infants in the NNS; and (7) the Center for Health Promotion and Education of the Centers for Disease Control sought information on family planning and sterilization. These agencies, among others, maintain an interest in data analysis.

DESIGN One in every 350 livebirth certificates for January through December, 1980, were sampled, and mailed questionnaires were sent to the mother, physicians, hospitals and other medical providers involved with the pregnancy. In cases of non-response, a telephone interview was sought. The total sample includes 9,941 births. Low birth weight birth records were sampled at four times their rate in the population, producing a sub-sample of approximately 2,200 low-birth weight babies. Only married mothers were asked to complete the mother's questionnaire.

For in-wedlock births, the response rates were 80 percent for mothers, 64 percent for physicians, 78 percent for hospitals, and 80 percent for X-ray facilities. Unmarried mothers were not sent questionnaires due to concerns about confidentiality in some of the states. For out-of-wedlock births, 49 percent of the physicians, 71 percent of the hospitals, and 71 percent of the X-ray facilities responded. All of the field work was done by NCHS staff.

National Natality Survey

- PERIODICITY** Followback National Natality Surveys were conducted by NCHS in 1963, 1964-66, 1967-69, 1972, and 1980. Another NNS may be fielded in 1988.
- CONTENT** A great deal of information on health and health care is collected in the NNS. A considerable amount of information is obtained on the family as well, though information that would be collected with the mother's questionnaire is not available for out-of-wedlock births. Thus labor force participation and welfare status are not known for births occurring to unmarried mothers, nor is it known whether the mother relinquished the child for adoption.
- LIMITATIONS** Since unmarried mothers are not sent questionnaires, it is difficult to generalize many findings to the entire population. This is a particular concern for blacks, among whom over half of all births occur outside of marriage.
- AVAILABILITY** A public use tape is available from the National Technical Information Service (703)487-4780.
- CONTACT** Paul Placek or Ken Keppel
Division of Vital Statistics
3700 East-West Highway
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National Natality Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education:* Mother Father
- Race of parents:* Mother Father
- Hispanic origin:* Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity:* Mother Father
- Family income*
- Employment status:* Mother Father
- Hours worked:* Mother Father
- Occupation:* Mother Father
- Earnings:* Mother Father
- Welfare status:*
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child**
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status:* Mother Father
- Parents' marital history:* Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Only married mothers were sent the mother's questionnaire.

**Presumed to be natural parents

TITLE 1980 National Natality Survey/National Death Index Match

PURPOSE The rich information obtained in the National Natality Survey combined with information on infant mortality among sample births permit a more detailed picture of the antecedents of infant mortality than can be developed on the basis of data in the vital registration system.

SPONSORSHIP The Division of Vital Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics designed and implemented the survey.

DESIGN In this record linkage study, the 1980 and 1981 National Death Index was searched for information as to which of the 9,941 liveborn infants from the National Natality Survey had died during the 12 months after birth. Since low-birth weight babies were over-sampled in the National Natality Survey, about 271 infants were expected to die during their first year. Given the detailed antecedent data collected in the National Natality Survey, the additional information provided by matching birth certificates with death certificates creates an unusually rich data set on the circumstances surrounding infant death. All 52 state and independent registration areas of the United States were included, and the weighted data will be nationally representative. Families were not re-contacted for this survey. After searching the National Death Index for possible matches, death certificates will be obtained from the states and evaluated manually. Statistical information about the deceased infants will be entered on the 1980 NNS data tape when processed, probably late in 1984.

PERIODICITY This is the first such record linkage study on this topic.

CONTENT The content is identical with that of the 1980 National Natality Survey except that data on the infant's death are added, including age at death and cause of death (see the National Natality Survey description).

LIMITATIONS The sample size of infants who died is less than 300.

AVAILABILITY Data based on the match will be disseminated in published reports.

CONTACT Dr. Paul Placek or Dr. Ken Keppel (301)436-8954, Division of Vital Statistics, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782

TITLE 1980 National Fetal Mortality Survey

PURPOSE The purposes of the 1980 National Fetal Mortality Survey are to expand on the information reportable through the vital registration system; to evaluate the quality of the data from the vital registration system; to make national estimates of variables not available on the fetal death certificate on, for example, caesarean deliveries; and to provide data to researchers, policy makers, epidemiologists and health practitioners and reporters to advance scientific understanding and enhance policy decision-making.

SPONSORSHIP The Division of Vital Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics designed and implemented the survey.

DESIGN Sixty-five hundred fetal deaths of 28 weeks or more gestation (stillbirths) were sampled from all 50 states. A mailed questionnaire was sent to the mothers, physicians, hospitals and other medical sources associated with the fetal mortality. In the case of out-of-wedlock births, the mothers were not contacted. The forms were identical to those used in the 1980 National Natality Survey. Those who did not respond were called by telephone. All data collection and processing were done by NCHS staff.

PERIODICITY The 1980 NFMS was the first on this topic to be conducted, though an infant mortality followback survey was conducted in 1964-66. Another followback may take place in 1988.

CONTENT Data relevant to health care during pregnancy were collected, as was a pregnancy history, along with data on occupation and income. Limited data on family characteristics were collected.

LIMITATIONS Data from the mother are only collected for fetal deaths among married women. Since morbidity and mortality are of particular concern for unmarried mothers, a significant population group is omitted.

AVAILABILITY A public use tape is available from the National Technical Information Service at 703/487-4780.

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National Fetal Mortality Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions*

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education:** Mother Father
- Race of parents:** Mother Father
- Hispanic origin:** Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity:** Mother Father
- Family income**
- Employment status:** Mother Father
- Hours worked:** Mother Father
- Occupation:** Mother Father
- Earnings:** Mother Father
- Welfare status:**
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child***
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status:**Mother Father
- Parents' marital history:** Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*birth weight only

**in-wedlock births only

***presumed to be natural parents

TITLE National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey

PURPOSE The survey is a unique source of detailed national estimates on the utilization of and expenditures for various types of medical care. It is designed to be directly responsive to the continuing need for statistical information on health care expenditures associated with health services utilization for the entire U.S. population. Repeated cycles of the survey will produce comparable estimates over time for evaluation of the impact of legislation and programs on health status, costs, utilization, and illness-related behavior in the medical care delivery system. In addition to national estimates for the civilian non-institutionalized population, the 1980 cycle also provides separate estimates for the Medicaid-eligible populations in four States.

SPONSORSHIP The first cycle of the survey, which covers calendar year 1980, was designed and conducted as a collaborative effort between the National Center for Health Statistics, Public Health Service, and the Office of Research and Demonstrations, Health Care Financing Administration. Data collection, coding, and tape preparation were accomplished by Research Triangle Institute, Research Triangle Park, N.C., and its subcontractors, the National Opinion Research Center of the University of Chicago, Ill., and SystemMetrics, Inc., Berkeley, Ca.

DESIGN Data were obtained from three survey components. The first was a national household survey and the second was a survey of Medicaid enrollees in four States (California, Michigan, Texas, and New York). Both of these components involved five interviews over a period of 15 months to obtain information on medical care utilization and expenditures and other health-related information. The third component was an administrative records survey that verified the eligibility status of respondents for the Medicare and Medicaid programs and supplemented the household data with claims data for the Medicare and Medicaid populations.

Data were obtained for approximately 31,000 people in the survey -- 17,123 in the national sample and 13,400 in the four State Medicaid samples. People in the samples resided in housing units and non-institutional group quarters. Both samples excluded people in institutions (nursing homes, long-term care facilities, prisons, etc.), members of the active Armed forces, and people residing outside the United States. The national sample consisted of two separate multi-stage area probability samples of housing units and group quarters that were selected with a known and approximately equal probability.

National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey

The November 1979 Medicaid eligibility files in California, Michigan, New York, and Texas were used to draw samples of cases for the State Medicaid household component. A case generally consisted of all members of a family receiving Medicaid within the same category of aid. The State aid categories were collapsed into three or four strata, depending on the State. These were: (1) aid to the blind and disabled, (2) aid to the elderly (those with Supplementary Security Income), (3) Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), and (4) State only aid in California, Michigan and New York, which provided some Medicaid coverage without Federal reimbursement. Cases in other Federal aid categories were excluded from the target population because the counts were too few to permit separate stratification. Approximately equal numbers of cases were selected from each stratum, and cases were clustered within ZIP codes for ease of interviewing.

PERIODICITY

The survey developed from a series of surveys concerning health, health care, and expenses for health care beginning with a nationwide survey conducted during 1928-31. The current survey drew most heavily from two surveys -- the National Medical Care Expenditure Survey conducted in 1977 and 1978, prior to this survey, and the National Health Interview Survey. Together, these three surveys provide extensive information comparable at two points in time. The current survey was conducted in 1980. The next cycle is planned for 1987 or 1988.

CONTENT

During the course of the survey, information was obtained on health, access to and use of medical services, associated charges and sources of payment, and health insurance coverage. In addition, data were obtained on expenditures and health services provided under the Medicaid and Medicare programs.

There are hierarchical files for households, persons, conditions, ambulatory health care visits, dental visits, hospitalizations, and prescribed medicines. There is also a family file that has been created and weighted to the estimated number of families in the United States. This file makes analysis of changing family dynamics over the course of the year possible.

AVAILABILITY

The data are available on computer tape from the National Technical Information Service (Attention: Sales, Department of Commerce, National technical Information Services, Springfield, VA 22761)

Contact: For data tape (703)487-4650
For substantive questions, Robert Wright (301)436-7100

National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household:* Mother * Father *
- Parent education:* Mother * Father *
- Race of parents:* Mother * Father *
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother * Father *
- Hours worked: Mother * Father *
- Occupation: Mother * Father *
- Earnings: (sources of income) Mother * Father *
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household*
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings (in household)*
- Parents' current marital status: Mother * Father *
- Parents' marital history:* Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Relationship to others in the household is derived from relationship to the respondent reported as head of household; exact relationships among other household members may not be obtainable.

TITLE National Medical Care Expenditure Survey

PURPOSE The survey is designed to collect data addressing major issues of national health policy. The household component of the survey is designed to bear particularly on issues related to (1) health insurance policy, (2) Medicare and Medicaid, (3) access to care, (4) tax treatment of health related expenses, (5) cost of illness, and (6) health insurance coverage.

SPONSORSHIP Funding for the survey was provided by the National Center for Health Services Research, which co-sponsored the survey with the National Center for Health Statistics. Data collection for the survey was done by Research Triangle Institute, N.C., and its subcontractors, National Opinion Research Center of the University of Chicago, and Abt Associates, Inc., Cambridge, MA, under Contract HRA 230-76-268.

DESIGN Data were obtained in three separate, complementary stages which surveyed (1) about 14,000 randomly selected households in the civilian non-institutionalized population in which each household was interviewed six times over an 18-month period during 1977 and 1978; (2) physicians and health care facilities providing care to household members during 1977; and (3) employers and insurance companies responsible for their insurance coverage.

Two national probability samples were used in the household component of the survey. The sampling design is best characterized as two independent replicates of similar four-stage samples of the civilian non-institutionalized population, with multivariate stratification in the first two stages. Sampling units in the first three stages of each replicate are land areas that range in size from small groups of contiguous counties in the first stage to small area segments consisting of several dozen housing units. Individual housing units and a special class of group quarters were chosen in the fourth stage. Sample selection was designed to give disproportionately greater representation to families having no health insurance, and the design thus is not self-weighting. Since estimating from the household survey requires appropriately formulated sampling weights reflecting the selection probabilities of observation units, the sample weights of units in the survey population accounted for by each sampling unit are multiplied by a number of adjustments.

National Medical Care Expenditure Survey

PERIODICITY

Households in the survey panel were interviewed 6 times during an 18-month period. The survey period included 1977 and 1978. The subsequent National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey draws heavily from the survey discussed here.

CONTENT

In the household survey, particular attention is given to the set of core questions asked in five of six rounds of interviewing, which inquired into disability days, the use of various types of health services and associated charges and sources of payment, health insurance coverage, and health conditions. Supplements to the core questionnaire were generally administered once during the course of the survey and were designed to collect data on health insurance policies, employment and income, and access to care.

AVAILABILITY

The data are available on computer tape from the National Technical Information Service (Attention: Sales, Department of Commerce, National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22761).

For information about the data tape call 703/487-4650
For substantive questions, call Daniel Walden 301/443-4836.

General inquiries and questions about publications can be addressed to the Publications and Information Branch, National Center for Health Services Research, Public Health Service, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1-46 Park Building, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

National Medical Care Expenditure Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin (17+ years old)
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status (14+ years old)
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

TITLE Immunization Supplements to the Current Population Survey and the National Health Interview Survey

PURPOSE The Immunization Supplement to the Current Population Survey is designed to provide information for persons 0-19 years of age on disease history and/or protection through immunization against the common childhood diseases (diphtheria, tetanus, and whooping cough; polio; measles; rubella; and mumps). The supplement to the National Health Interview Survey was designed to collect information on the type, timing, and source of immunizations for selected childhood diseases.

SPONSORSHIP The Immunization Supplement to the Current Population Survey is sponsored by the National Centers for Disease Control with interviews conducted by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The Supplement to the National Health Interview Survey is sponsored by the National Center for Health Statistics with interviews conducted by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

DESIGN For a description of the design of the National Health Interview Survey, see the main entry in the current compilation of data collection systems. Likewise, a description of the Current Population Survey design is found in the write-up of the core survey.

The immunization questions in the Current Population Survey are asked of every household member aged 0-19. (For persons 14-19, the questions are asked in only 6 of the 8 rotation groups, or about 75 percent of the sample households).

PERIODICITY An Immunization Supplement was included in the September Current Population Survey every year from 1959 to 1983, and current plans call for including it in 1984. The Supplement was changed considerably between 1959 and 1976, but since 1977 no major changes have been implemented. The 1978 and 1979 questionnaires of the National Health Interview Survey included a supplement on immunization for selected childhood diseases.

CONTENT The Immunization Supplement to the Current Population Survey of September 1982 obtains information about the immunizations received by children ages 0-19 during the past 12 months for: (1) polio, (2) DTP, (3) red measles, (4) rubella, (5) mumps, and (6) influenza. It also obtains disease history information for (1) red measles, (2) rubella, and (3) mumps.

Immunization Supplements to the Current Population Survey
and the National Health Interview Survey

The supplements to the National Health Interview Surveys of 1978 and 1979 contained questions pertaining to immunization for: (1) DPT, (2) polio, (3) mumps, and (4) measles. Sources of immunization identified were (1) doctor's office, (2) hospital outpatient clinic or emergency room, (3) public health clinic, (4) school, and (5) other to be specified by respondent.

LIMITATIONS

The estimates from the Current Population Survey of the proportion of children immunized appear to understate actual immunization levels, based on comparisons with State-collected immunization data. Immunization data from the National Health Interview Survey were collected in only two years. Most immunization data are now provided by schools.

AVAILABILITY

The data from the September 1982 Current Population Survey including information collected with the Immunization Supplement are available on computer tape from the U.S. Bureau of the Census (Customer Services Branch (Tapes), Data User Services Division, U.S. Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233). Data from the National Health Interview Survey are available from the National Technical Information Service (Attention: Sales, Department of Commerce, National Information Service, Springfield, VA 22761).

Contact: For Current Population Survey data tape
(301)763-4100

For National Health Interview Survey data tape
(703)487-4650

For substantive questions, Donald Eddins, Centers for
Disease Control, 1600 Clifton Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia
30333 404/329-1875

Immunization Supplements to the Current Population Survey
and the National Health Interview Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled (3/4 of sample)
- Grade enrolled (3/4 of sample)
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age of parents in household: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parent education: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Race of parents: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hispanic origin: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other origin/ethnicity: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family income | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employment status: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hours worked: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupation: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Earnings: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Welfare status: | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of children in household | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children ever born to mother in household (1/4 of sample) | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Number of parents in household | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of parents to child | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Exact relationship of siblings to child | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age(s) of siblings | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parents' current marital status: | Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' marital history: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents' employment history: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religion: | Mother <input type="checkbox"/> | Father <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Religiosity | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> National origin | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Region of country | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban/rural residence | | |

TITLE

The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)

PURPOSE

The system is designed to serve the Consumer Product Safety Commission in two ways. First, it provides national estimates of the number and severity of injuries associated with, though not necessarily caused by, consumer products and treated in hospital emergency departments. Second, the system serves as a means of locating injury victims so that further information can be gathered concerning the nature and probable cause of the accident.

SPONSORSHIP

The system is designed and funded by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The data are collected by the Commission through the use of trained coders working in cooperating hospital emergency departments.

DESIGN

Data are collected daily from a sample of 73 hospital emergency departments representative of all such departments in hospitals throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. The sample is stratified by size (number of emergency room visits per day) and region, and is updated periodically to reflect changes in the size and distribution of emergency departments.

Information is coded for each person who is treated in a sample emergency department for an injury which involves a consumer product in any way (not necessarily as a cause of the injury). The data are transmitted daily to the Commission. No restrictions are made regarding the demographic characteristics of persons about whom data are reported.

Injuries involving certain products of interest to the Commission and injuries resulting in death are investigated further to determine the cause of the injury and the sequence of events.

PERIODICITY

The data were first gathered in July 1972 and have been gathered continuously since then. A redesign in 1978 expanded the sample and the content, making the data before and after the redesign not fully comparable. The system is expected to continue without significant modification.

The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)

CONTENT

The following data are gathered for each injury: date of treatment; age and sex of patient; diagnosis; body part involved; disposition of the patient following treatment; products involved; accident locale, and fire or motor vehicle involvement.

LIMITATIONS

The system collects data on all consumer products but does not publish or make available directly data on products covered by other agencies, specifically motor vehicles, food, drugs, and firearms. Since the sample is based on hospital emergency departments, the system does not represent all consumer product related injuries, as many are treated at home or in other facilities.

AVAILABILITY

Public use tapes of individual-level data are not available. However, the Commission will respond to specific requests for data, and will produce special tabulations at minimal cost. Published tabulations are available in NEISS Data Highlights, published annually (formerly quarterly), and in the annual Product Summary Report and NEISS Estimates of National Injury Incidents.

Contact: Nancy Johnston, Director, or
Joyce Coonley, Technical Specialist
National Injury Information Clearinghouse
Consumer Product Safety Commission
5401 Westbard Ave., Room 625
Bethesda, MD (301/492-6424)

The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

Note: The same data are obtained on all patients regardless of age. No data on family relationships are obtained.

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parent education: Mother ___ Father ___
- Race of parents: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hispanic origin: Mother ___ Father ___
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother ___ Father ___
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

TITLE

The Nationwide Food Consumption Surveys

PURPOSE

The survey is designed to provide basic data on current food consumption patterns and on the nutritional quality of dietary intakes by the U.S. population. The data are used for administering public programs affecting food supply, safety, distribution, and consumption; planning food assistance and educational programs to improve dietary practices; and providing baseline data for research.

SPONSORSHIP

The survey is designed and funded by the Consumer Nutrition Division, Human Nutrition Information Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. In the most recent survey, the data were collected by National Analysts, Inc., under a contract.

DESIGN

The most recent survey (1977-78) was based on a stratified area probability sample of households in the 48 coterminous states. Separate samples were drawn for each quarter during the time period 4/77-3/78. Primary strata were based on region (9 categories) and urbanization (3 categories). Interviews were scheduled to provide representativeness over time by quarter, month, week, and day of the week. Information was obtained about the household as a whole, and about each household member individually. In all, data were obtained for 30,770 individuals from 14,930 households.

Supplemental surveys were conducted in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, and among the elderly and those households eligible for food stamps. A follow-up of the latter households was conducted in 1979-80 to determine effects of changes in the food stamp program.

Food intake data were gathered by recall for the day (24 hours) preceding the interview and by diaries for the interview day and the following day, providing 3 days of dietary information altogether. Food consumption data were gathered separately for food consumed at home, food consumed elsewhere from home supplies, and food purchased and consumed elsewhere.

PERIODICITY

Food consumption surveys have been conducted in 1936-37, 1942, 1948 (urban sample only), 1955, 1965-66, 1977-78, and 1979-80 (2-year follow-up of low-income households). Two methodological studies are now underway testing the use of personal, mail and telephone interviewing. The first year of a national longitudinal survey is planned for 1985.

The Nationwide Food Consumption Surveys

CONTENT

Data are collected about each item of food consumed during a 3-day period: a detailed description of the item; amount consumed; when, where, with whom consumed; type of service and amount paid for food purchased and consumed away from home. In addition, information is gathered on vitamin use and special diets.

LIMITATIONS

Only the most recent two surveys (1965-66, 1977-78) contain data on individual dietary intakes. Little health information is obtained so that health correlates of varying dietary patterns cannot be ascertained.

AVAILABILITY

The 1965-66 survey data and the 1977-78 survey data are available on computer tape from the National Technical Information Service. The Consumer Nutrition Division has published a series of reports based on the 1977-78 survey.

Contact: Sharon J. Mickle (301/436-8485),
USDA-HNIS
Food Consumption Research Branch
Room 338 Federal Building
6505 Belcrest Road
Hyattsville, MD 20782

The Nationwide Food Consumption Surveys

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child*
- Hispanic origin*
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household:** Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents:* Mother Father
- Hispanic origin:* Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings***
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Race and ethnicity were determined for the household respondent and then assigned to all household members.

**Information is for "male and female heads" of households.

***Similar data are collected for each individual in the household.

TITLE National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS)

PURPOSE The purpose of this survey effort is to collect and disseminate statistical information on the provision and use of ambulatory health care services in the United States. The principle source for this information is the practicing, office-based physician.

SPONSORSHIP The Survey is sponsored by the National Center for Health Statistics, the Division of Health Care Statistics.

DESIGN The unit of analysis is a physician-patient encounter in the office of a physician classified by the American Medical Association or American Osteopathic Association as an "office-based, patient care" physician. Visits are excluded if they are made to hospital-based physicians; doctors who primarily engage in teaching, research or administration; or to specialists in anesthesiology, pathology, and radiology. Telephone and nonoffice visits are also excluded. Visits made by patients of all ages are included in the survey.

Participating physicians are selected using a multistage probability procedure. From a sample of PSUs (primary sampling units), a sample of practicing physicians is selected. Nearly 80 percent of the physicians sampled participated in the study. For these physicians, a sample week is randomly selected and a sample of patient visits during that week is selected. Nearly 3,000 physicians have participated annually, and have provided data on approximately 45,000 visits.

Physicians are initially contacted by letter. The trained interviewer then calls on the telephone to provide further information and set up an appointment. At this meeting, materials are delivered, procedures are discussed and general information on the physician is obtained. At the end of the seven-day data collection period, the physician mails the forms to the interviewer, who edits them before submitting them for processing.

PERIODICITY The NAMCS was inaugurated in 1973 and continued to be conducted annually through 1981. The next survey is planned for 1985.

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS)

CONTENT

To minimize the amount of time required of participating physicians, only those questions deemed essential are included in the Survey. The age, sex, race and ethnicity of the patient are recorded. Data are also obtained on the reason for the visit, whether the patient had been seen for that particular problem before, the length of time since onset of the problem (if any); whether the patient was referred by another physician; diagnoses; diagnostic and therapeutic services; and disposition. No data are collected on the family or socioeconomic characteristics of the patient. It is anticipated that the data collected in the 1985 Survey will be similar to that collected in previous surveys.

LIMITATIONS

The range of information collected is very limited, from the perspective of anyone interested in how children's family characteristics relate to office-based physician care.

AVAILABILITY

The public use tapes are available from the National Technical Information Service. Contact Ray Gagnon with questions regarding availability of the tape, 301/436-7132. For substantive questions, call James Delozier, 301/436-7132, or write the Division of Health Care Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics, 3700 East-West Highway, Room 2-63, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782.

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child (in days)
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics (no family data are collected)

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (to biological mother)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence (county)

TITLE National Hospital Discharge Survey

PURPOSE The survey is designed to provide national estimates of the inpatient utilization of non-Federal short-stay hospitals in the United States. The survey focuses on describing characteristics of patients, their diagnoses and surgical procedures, lengths of stay, as well as information on the types of hospitals in which they are treated.

SPONSORSHIP The survey is designed and funded by The National Center for Health Statistics. Under a contractual arrangement, the U.S. Bureau of the Census participates in planning the survey and collecting the data.

DESIGN The survey is based on a multi-stage stratified probability sample of patients discharged from non-Federal short-stay hospitals in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. (Military and Veterans hospitals and hospital units within institutions are excluded from the sampling frame.) In the first stage a sample of hospitals was selected that was stratified by bed size and region. In 1981, 428 hospitals participated in the survey. In each participating hospital a systematic sample of daily discharges is selected. There is no restriction on the age or other characteristics of the patients sampled. The records of selected patients are abstracted by trained representatives of the Center. In 1981, 227 thousand records were abstracted. The final sample is weighted to produce national and regional estimates.

PERIODICITY The survey has been conducted continuously since it began in 1965.

CONTENT Information about the personal characteristics of the patient, and about the hospitalization are collected. Patient data include birthdate, sex, race, ethnicity (since 1979), residence (zipcode), and marital status. Data cover dates of stay, diagnoses, surgical and diagnostic procedures, expected sources of payment, and disposition of the patient at discharge. The same data are collected on all patients, regardless of age.

LIMITATIONS Newborns have been included in the survey since the late 1960's but data were not published until 1981. The published tabulations provided limited age-breaks for children, and then only for the basic discharge tables. In the more detailed tables, all those under age 15 are grouped together. However, very detailed age-breaks

National Hospital Discharge Survey

are available from unpublished tables and from the data tapes. The rate base used prior to 1980 was the civilian noninstitutional population. Thereafter it has been the civilian resident population. This change primarily affects rates for persons 65 or more, so the effects for children are minimal.

As can be noted from the following chart, information is obtained on a rather limited range of variables. In addition, since data are collected on episodes rather than people, a child hospitalized twice could be counted twice.

AVAILABILITY

Machine-readable data files of the survey are available for individual years from the National Technical Information Service and from the National Center for Health Statistics. The latest year currently available is 1982. Published and unpublished data are also available.

Contact: Mary Moien, Branch Chief, 301/436-7125
Hospital Care Statistics Branch
National Center for Health Statistics
3700 East-West Highway, Room 263
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782

EDUCATION

- TITLE** National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
- PURPOSE** The primary goal of the National Assessment of Educational Progress is to measure change over time in the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes of young Americans in a number of different subject areas, at four different age levels, and in various demographic and socioeconomic subgroups. National probability samples of 9-, 13-, and 17-year-old students, and periodically young adults aged 21-36 are administered sets of exercises assessing their ability to perform certain tasks or answer certain questions in a given subject area. Each exercise reflects a previously defined educational goal or objective. The subject areas that are assessed include reading, writing, mathematics, and science, and, on occasion, special topics such as health knowledge or computer concepts. Past assessments also covered the subjects of citizenship, social studies, literature, art, music, and career and occupational development; but the frequency with which these "non-basic" subjects will be assessed in the future is undetermined at present.
- SPONSORSHIP** Since 1979, the National Assessment has been funded by the National Institute of Education (NIE) of the U.S. Department of Education. (NAEP is a line item in the NIE budget.) Prior to that time, the Assessment was supported by the National Center for Education Statistics (1974-79) and, before that, by the U.S. Office of Education (1968-74). The forerunner of NAEP was the Committee on Assessing the Progress of Education. It was initiated in 1963 by Francis Keppel, then U.S. Commissioner of Education who asked the Carnegie Corporation to present a means for determining the educational levels attained through American education. The earliest assessments (in 1969) were carried out with private as well as federal funding.
- From its inception through 1983, NAEP was administered by the Education Commission of the States in Denver, with field work being done by the Research Triangle Institute in North Carolina. The Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton has now assumed responsibility for the administration of NAEP, after carrying out a major redesign study and winning a grant competition in 1982. The sample design and field work are being done by Westat, Inc. in Rockville, Maryland. Ultimate authority for deciding what subjects will be assessed and when rests with NAEP's policy committee composed of state political leaders, education officials, scholars, and members of the general public.

DESIGN

The National Assessment is designed to measure change in the educational attainment of young Americans through the periodic replication of cross-sectional surveys that assess the knowledge of the student population at three age levels (9, 13, and 17) and of the out-of-school, young adult population in the 21-36 age range. The populations covered by the NAEP school-based surveys are students of the appropriate ages who are enrolled during the survey period in public or private schools in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. The populations covered by the NAEP surveys of young adults are persons in the eligible age range who live in identifiable housing units in the United States. Students and young adults are excluded if they are non-English speaking, institutionalized, or physically, emotionally, or mentally handicapped in such a way that they cannot respond to the exercises as administered.

The sampling plans for both the school-based and household-based surveys follow multi-stage probability designs. The primary sampling units (PSUs) are counties or groups of counties stratified by region of the country and by the size and type of communities contained within the counties. Within each selected PSU, schools are sampled from a list of all schools that is stratified by size and socioeconomic level. Within each selected school, students are randomly selected from lists of all students of the target ages and randomly assigned to one of the assessment packages scheduled for that school. Beginning with the ETS-administered surveys, samples are also being drawn of students in the modal grade for each assessment age (e.g., grade 4 for 9-year-olds; grade 8 for 13-year-olds; and grade 12 for 17-year-olds).

Between 75,000 and 100,000 young people are assessed in each survey year. Response rates have varied across age groups and assessments, but typical figures for recent school-based assessments seem to be about 90 percent cooperation from the selected schools and over 90 percent participation by the selected students within cooperating schools, for an overall response rate of more than 80 percent.

Each person in the assessment sample receives only a subset of the exercises designed for his or her age group. Indeed, within each age group and year, the number of people taking any given exercise ranges from about 1,900 to 2,800. This is because National Assessment was not originally designed to develop composite achievement scores for individual students (or for individual schools, school districts, or states, for that matter), but only to estimate the proportion of persons in an age group, and in certain demographic and socioeconomic subgroups, who could

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respond correctly to an exercise or set of exercises. The designers wanted to cover a wide range of exercises within each subject area, but to limit the time demands on each participating student to no more than a single class period (about 50 minutes) and to keep group size small in group-administered exercises.

These specifications led to a matrix sampling approach to the assignment of exercises to respondents. The exercise pool for a given age level is divided into packages or booklets such that each booklet contains about as many exercises as a student can answer in the allotted time period and there is relatively little overlap from one package to the next. Inasmuch as the samples for the different packages are statistically equivalent, group comparisons can be made across booklets. This allows the National Assessment to measure performance on far more exercises in a subject area than would otherwise be possible and provides broader coverage of the assessment objectives for each learning area. But it does not make it possible to determine the structure of performance consistencies in a subject area or to estimate levels and trends in composite variables created from exercises in different assessment packages.

Because of the limitations of the matrix sampling approach for the development of composite variables, the Educational Testing Service has instituted a modified data collection procedure called balanced incomplete block spiralling. Each exercise is administered the same number of times as it would be in matrix sampling, but in addition each pair of exercises is also assessed a prescribed number of times. This makes it possible to compute covariances among all exercises in a subject area and to apply factor analysis, cluster analysis, and scaling techniques to the exercise pool. The new design means that each exercise will be located in several different packages or booklets, so that many different packages must be printed for an exercise pool of a given size. It also implies that many different booklets, and thus different sets of exercises, will be administered in a particular assessment session.

The need to administer different sets of exercises in the same group session creates difficulties as far as adhering to previous NAEP practices is concerned. In the past, tape recorders were used in group sessions so that some types of exercises could be presented in spoken as well as written form and the testing sessions would be conducted at a uniform pace. This is not possible with the spiralling design unless multi-track tapes are used and students are provided with separate headphones, which might prove to be prohibitively expensive. For the 1983-84 assessments, ETS is using both the spiralling design with no taped

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presentation or pacing and, for a smaller, "bridge" sample, the matrix sampling design with the taped accompaniment to the printed booklets. The two samples will be used to evaluate how much difference the lack of the aural component makes for student performance and to develop equating procedures for making meaningful comparisons with past assessment results.

The lack of a soundtrack should not make much difference for the assessment of reading, where the ability to understand printed material is precisely what is being evaluated. Moreover, earlier reading assessments did not use the tape recording for the actual presentation of the exercises. But the lack of spoken guidance may make a great deal of difference for some students' performance in other subjects. Indeed, for some subjects it may not be possible to forego the taped presentation and still preserve continuity with past assessments.

It should be noted that because of the nature of some assessment exercises, about one fourth of the in-school respondents in past assessments were tested individually. (All respondents in the out-of-school surveys have been tested one-to-one.) At age 9, some exercises were administered individually so the youngest respondents could have an opportunity to express themselves verbally instead of by writing. In addition, some of the exercises at all of the target ages involved the presentation of unusual stimuli or required something other than a written response. For example, in the music assessment, respondents were asked to sing a song or perform on an instrument; in science, to conduct a small experiment; in mathematics, to make change from a change drawer; and in social studies, to interpret an election ballot. It is not clear what impact the adoption of the spiralling design will have on the use of exercises that depart from the standard paper-and-pencil format in future assessments.

PERIODICITY

The original plan for NAEP called for nationwide surveys to be conducted every year, with ten different subject areas being assessed on a rotating schedule, so that each subject would be assessed at least once every three to six years. The plan has since been altered, first by budgetary constraints and shifting educational priorities and, more recently, by the design modifications instituted by the Educational Testing Service. National field work is now carried out every other year, with developmental work and smaller-scale special studies being conducted in the alternate years. The school-based surveys of 9-, 13-, and 17-year-olds are conducted more frequently than the household-based surveys of young adults.

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After the 1983-84 academic year, the 15th year that NAEP has been in operation, four rounds of testing will have been completed in reading and writing, and three in science and mathematics. Fewer assessments have been conducted in the other six subject areas (see chart below). ETS now plans to carry out assessments in reading every two years, and assessments in the other two basic areas of writing and mathematics every four years, in alternate waves. Science will probably also be assessed every four years.

ETS had proposed to cover four subject areas in every biennial field year, so that the remaining, "non-basic" subjects could be assessed at least once every eight years. At present, however, there are no firm plans to assess the arts, humanities, or social science subjects in the immediate future.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Completed Assessments</u>	<u>Planned Assessments</u>
Reading	70-71, 74-75, 79-80, 83-84	85-86, 87-88, 89-90, etc.
Writing	69-70, 73-74, 78-79, 83-84	87-88, 91-92, 95-96, etc.
Mathematics	72-73, 77-78, 81-82	85-86, 89-90, 93-94, etc.
Science	69-70, 72-73, 76-77	85-86, 89-90, 93-94, etc.
Citizenship	69-70, 75-76, 81-82 (partial)	-
Social Studies	71-72, 75-76, 81-82 (partial)	-
Literature	70-71, 79-80	-
Music	71-72, 78-79	-
Art	74-75, 78-79	-
Career and Occupational Development	73-74	-
Computer Understanding		85-86
Young Adult Literacy Assessment (21-25)		85-86

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The rationale for assessing reading biennially is that this will heighten the pace with which at least one important barometer of educational progress can be brought before the public and the educational community. The use of two- and four-year cycles also serves to align the assessment intervals to the number of years intervening between the age levels sampled. Thus, the same student cohort assessed at age 9 (although not the same individual students) will be assessed again at ages 13 and 17. This introduces a quasi-longitudinal element into the assessment design, helps to control for cohort differences in a given subject area and should assist in the interpretation of achievement trends.

CONTENT

National Assessment gathers a great deal of specific information about what students know and can do at the different assessment ages. In the reading assessments, for example, students are tested on their ability to understand words and word relationships; comprehend graphic materials; follow written directions; use reference materials; glean significant facts from written passages; recognize the main ideas and organization of a passage; draw inferences from what they read; and read critically. Exercises are also grouped into higher-order clusters and results are reported in terms of the average percent correct on such clusters. In reading, for example, data are presented on the average performance of students on exercise clusters tapping "literal comprehension," "inferential comprehension," and "reference skills." (In the reports issued to date, exercise clusters have been formed solely on the basis of expert judgement. One of the main thrusts of the ETS redesign is to put these composite scores on a sounder and more sophisticated psychometric basis.)

Because NAEP regards the development of positive attitudes toward the various learning areas as an important educational outcome, affective exercises and attitude survey questions are included in each assessment. Information is also collected from students about their coursework, reading habits, and participation in extracurricular activities that are relevant to the subject being assessed. From a social indicators perspective, some of the most innovative exercises developed by NAEP, and some of the most interesting data collected in the assessments, have been in the less traditional subject areas, such as citizenship and career and occupational development.

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Within each age group, assessment results are typically reported for the nation as a whole and for each of the four broad geographic regions, as well as by sex; race/ethnicity (black, white, Hispanic); parental education level (where known by the student or teacher); and by the size and type of community which the school serves. Three "extreme" types of community ("advantaged-urban," "disadvantaged-urban," and "rural") are defined by an occupational profile of the area served by the school. Other communities are classified by population size.

More recently, assessment results have also been reported by the grade in which the student is enrolled, by the percent of minority enrollment in the school; and by the student's "achievement class." The last variable divides students into quartiles based on their performance on the whole booklet of exercises they take. Particular attention is paid to students in the top and bottom quartiles.

LIMITATIONS

When the plans for National Assessment were originally developed, great pains were taken to avoid any appearance that a national curriculum and testing program were being imposed on state education agencies and local school systems. NAEP was deliberately designed to make it difficult if not impossible to use the assessment findings to evaluate the performance of any particular school or school system or even to link assessment results to specific educational practices. This was done in order to secure the cooperation of state and local agencies and to help insure the political survival of NAEP. However, the design features that may have made the program more palatable to school administrators have severely limited the usefulness of the NAEP data base for educational research and for influencing educational policy and practice.

The Educational Testing Service hopes to make NAEP achievement data more useful for educational research and policy-making by developing better composite measures of achievement from the assessment exercises and by collecting additional information about the backgrounds of the students assessed and about their experiences in schools and educational programs. The kinds of student background data ETS hopes to collect include enhanced demographic descriptors; non-NAEP measures of achievement; information about participation in special programs; measures of interests and aspirations; measures of time spent studying, reading, watching TV, in athletics and other activities, and, for older students, in employment; and measures of a variety of family status and process characteristics. The kinds of school and program data ETS hopes to collect

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include measures of the racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic composition of the student body, as well as information about the desegregation history of the school; descriptors of the size and type of school; information about the availability of special programs; about types of curricula, tracking arrangements, and extracurricular activities; measures of resource utilization; and indicators of school climate and image.

Of course, obtaining valid and reliable measures of some of these student and school characteristics is not a simple matter. Previous research has shown that it is desirable to go to the parents in order to get valid information about some aspects of family background, such as family income level or maternal employment history. Likewise, valid measurement of how the school functions as a social organization is enhanced by some direct observation of the school in operation. Whether ETS will be given the license and the resources to collect such data is doubtful.

ETS intends to collect more detailed information about which students are being left out of the NAEP samples because of the policy of excluding handicapped and non-English-speaking students from the assessments. It also seems desirable to make adjustments for the bias that is introduced by absenteeism on the days that the assessment exercises are administered in a given school. ETS hopes to reinstate the practice of testing 17-year-olds who are not in school because they have dropped out or graduated early, perhaps using the sample frame for the Current Population Survey or another Census survey to locate suitable respondents. Again, however, there is a question as to whether sufficient funds will be available to pay for these improvements.

AVAILABILITY

More than 200 reports have been published describing NAEP objectives and procedures, the results of specific assessments, and changes over time in student performance. Most of the reports present assessment results in non-technical, summary terms along with straightforward tables that show group results on individual exercises and exercise clusters. There is also a technical report or appendix for each assessment that presents the results in more detail. A catalog of NAEP publications as well as the publications themselves may be obtained from the U.S. Government Printing Office or from: NAEP/ETS; P.O. Box 2923; Princeton, NJ 08541-6710, or call 800/223-0267

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Public use tapes are available for all assessments through 1981-82. As currently structured, however, these tapes are difficult to work with. Not only are the secondary analysis possibilities inherently limited by the matrix sampling design, the tapes are laid out in such a way that even for simple analyses of average percent correct, it is often necessary to process from 10 to 30 separate data files. ETS plans to develop more useful public data files for current and future assessments.

A detailed description of the ETS redesign for National Assessment may be found in NAEP Report 83-1, National Assessment of Educational Progress Reconsidered: A New Design for A New Era, by Samuel Messick, Albert Beaton, Frederic Lord, et al., March 1983.

Contacts: Educational Testing Service; Princeton, NJ:
Archie Lapointe or Protase Woodford, 609/734-5890.

National Institute of Education: Washington, D.C.:
Lawrence Rudner, 202/254-6271

To order public use data tapes from earlier assessments:
Norma Norris, 609/734-5898.

National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled (school-based survey)
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status - age 17
- * Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: (where known) Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household .
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence
- Language spoken in home

*Functionally disabled and educable mentally retarded children are excluded from National Assessment samples.

TITLE Current Population Survey-Education Supplements

PURPOSE The education supplements are designed to provide national estimates of school enrollment from elementary through college levels, and family data for college students temporarily away at school.

SPONSORSHIP The supplement in the past was jointly sponsored by the Department of Labor and the Bureau of the Census, with the Bureau taking responsibility for the data collection. The Bureau and the National Center for Education Statistics jointly sponsored the 1983 supplement and plan to do so in 1984.

DESIGN A description of the basic design of the Current Population Survey was provided in the write-up of the core survey. The supplemental questions are asked of all persons age 3 or more in sampled households.

PERIODICITY The supplement has been conducted each October since at least 1956. A supplement has been planned for 1984.

CONTENT Each supplement collects data on enrollment status, grade or level, type of school, and graduation status and date. Additional questions are included in most supplements covering various topics from time to time, including technical or vocational course enrollment, degrees sought, tuition and fees paid, field of study, homework and home instruction.

LIMITATIONS The supplement is quite brief. Consequently a number of useful topics are not covered, including educational outcomes, degrees earned (other than high school graduation), participation in SAT or other testing programs, skipped or repeated grades, and educational aspirations.

AVAILABILITY Refer to the description of the core survey. Machine-readable micro-data files are available for October from 1968.

Contact Person: Paul Siegel, Education and Social Stratification Branch, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233, 202/763-1154

Current Population Survey-Education Supplements

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics*

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: (14 & older) Mother Father
- Hours worked: (14 & older) Mother Father
- Occupation: (14 & older) Mother Father
- Earnings: (14 & older) Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status:# Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*The relationship between the reference person and each other person in the household (including children) is obtained. In addition, for each child, the line number of a parent is obtained, if one is present. From this information it is possible to identify parent/child relationships in most cases. Data on background, marital status and employment are only available for persons residing in the household.

Note: Items checked include data available from basic CPS and education supplements.

TITLE High School and Beyond (HS & B)

PURPOSE High School and Beyond is a study of the transition from secondary school attendance to early adulthood. It focuses especially on educational factors related to events in the years following high school graduation: post high school education, marriage, work, and family formation.

SPONSORSHIP The study is sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics. The data are collected by the National Opinion Research Center under a contract to the NCES.

DESIGN The study is based on a national probability sample of 30,030 high school sophomores and 28,240 seniors enrolled in 1,015 public and private schools in the fall of 1980. Students were selected through a two stage stratified sampling plan. In the first stage, schools were stratified by type and several strata were over-sampled. These over-sampled school types were: alternative, Hispanic, high performance private, other non-Catholic private, and black Catholic schools. Catholic and public schools were in regular strata which were not over-sampled. With the exception of over-sampled strata, schools were selected with probability proportioned to estimated enrollment. Within each school 36 seniors and 36 sophomores were randomly selected. (In schools with fewer than these numbers, all were selected into the sample.) The design resulted in a sample which (with the exception of the special strata) is approximately self-weighting. Nevertheless weights have been developed to take account of the over-sampled strata, and differential cooperation rates at the school and student level, as well as other minor sources of sampling error.

Data were collected directly from the students using self-administered questionnaires. In addition, the principal of each school completed a questionnaire providing information about the school. Teachers also filled out forms concerning their knowledge about and evaluations of students in the sample. A subsample of about 3,500 students in each cohort was selected and information was gathered from their parents.

High School and Beyond (HS & B)

PERIODICITY

High School and Beyond is a longitudinal study in which the first wave of data was collected in 1980. The first follow-up was conducted in 1982 and the second took place in 1984. Additional waves are planned every two years through 1990. A new sophomore cohort (of about 25-30 thousand) is planned for 1988. This survey is also part of a larger program of data collection which includes the National Longitudinal Study of the High School Class of 1972. This survey was based on a national sample of seniors. Four waves of data have been collected from 1972 to 1979. Another follow-up is planned for 1986. The questionnaires for the High School and Beyond survey were based largely on those of this earlier study so comparisons between the senior cohorts of 1972 and 1980 are possible.

CONTENT

The student questionnaires focus primarily on educational topics but also contain questions on social and demographic characteristics, personality characteristics, political and social attitudes and family environment. Educational topics include coursework, performance (including test scores), plans and aspirations for college, the influence of peers, parents, and teachers on educational goals, school-related activities, and attitudes toward school.

The parent questionnaire focuses primarily on the financing of higher education. It also includes questions on social and demographic characteristics of the family, home supports for education, and the occupational, family, and educational aspirations of parents for the students. A number of different files are available for secondary analysis. These are described below.

School File. The School File contains base-year school questionnaire responses that were provided by administrators in 988 public, Catholic, and other private schools. Each record has a total of 237 variables. The questionnaire focused on a number of school characteristics, including: type and organization, enrollment, faculty composition, instructional programs, course offerings, specialized programs, participation in Federal programs, faculty characteristics, funding sources, discipline problems, teacher organizations (e.g., unions), and grading systems.

Language File. The Language File contains information on each student who reported some non-English language experience either during childhood or at the time of the survey. This file contains 11,303 records (sophomores and seniors combined), with 42 variables for each student.

High School and Beyond (HS & B)

Parent File. The Parent File contains questionnaire responses from the parents of about 3,600 sophomores and 3,600 seniors who are on the Student File. Each record on the Parent File contains a total of 307 variables. Data on this file include parents' aspirations and plans for their children's post-secondary education.

Twin and Sibling File. The Twin and Sibling File contains responses from sampled twins and triplets; augmented data on twins and triplets of sample members; and from siblings in the sample. This file (2,718 records) includes all of the variables that are on the HS&B student file, plus two additional variables (family ID and SETTYPE -- type of twin or sibling).

Teachers' Comments File. The Sophomore Teacher File contains responses from 14,103 teachers on 18,291 students from 616 schools. The Senior Teacher File contains responses from 13,683 teachers on 17,056 students from 611 schools. At each grade level, teachers had the opportunity to answer questions about HS&B-sampled students who had been in their classes. The typical student in the sample was rated by an average of four different teachers.

Friends' File. The Friends' File contains identification numbers of students in the HS&B sample who were named as friends of other HS&B-sampled students. Each record contains the ID of sampled students and ID's of up to three friends. Linkages among friends can be used to investigate the sociometry of friendship structures, including reciprocity of choices among students in the sample, and for tracing friendship networks.

Sophomore File. The First Follow-Up Sophomore File contains responses from 28,737 students and includes both base-year and first follow-up data. This file includes information on school, family, work experiences, educational and occupational aspirations, personal values, and test scores of sample participants. Students are also classified as to high school status as of 1982 (i.e., dropouts, same school, transfer, or early graduate).

Senior File. The First Follow-Up Senior File contains responses from 11,995 individuals and includes both base-year and first follow-up data. This file includes information from respondents concerning their high school and post-secondary experiences and their work experiences.

High School and Beyond (HS & B)

LIMITATIONS

The family background data provided by students (such as family income, and parent education and occupation) have been found to be subject to some error when compared with the same information as provided by the parents themselves. For nearly 90% of the sample students are the only source of these data. Family size is also poorly measured. Furthermore, in 1980 many of the demographic variables were located near the end of the student questionnaires. Slow students who were unable to complete the questionnaires in the allotted time were thus unable to provide this basic descriptive information.

The senior sample, based as it is on school children, does not cover the population of school-aged children who are no longer attending school. To a large extent, this problem will be solved as the sophomore cohort is followed and reinterviewed.

AVAILABILITY

The documentation and data tapes for the 1980, and 1982 waves of the survey are available directly from the National Center for Education Statistics. Subsequent waves are expected to be made available in a timely fashion as the data are collected.

Contact: Jeffrey Owings
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U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC 20202
202/254-7361

High School and Beyond (HS & B)

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hispanic origin: Mother ___ Father ___
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings (in broad categories relative to child's age)
- Parents' current marital status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father ___
- Religion: (of child) Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity (of child)
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES, SUBSTANCE USE

- TITLE** Monitoring The Future: A Continuing Study of the Lifestyles and Values of Youth
- PURPOSE** The survey is designed to describe and explain changes in many important values, behaviors and lifestyle orientations of American youth. Drug use and related attitudes receive the most extensive coverage, but the study aims to cover a broad array of other topics as well.
- SPONSORSHIP** The study has been designed and carried out by The Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, at the University of Michigan. Funding for the study has been provided primarily by The National Institute on Drug Abuse.
- DESIGN** The study is based on a national sample of seniors enrolled in high schools in the coterminous United States in the spring of each year. A three stage probability sample is used involving the selection of geographically defined primary sampling units, the selection of high schools within units and the selection of seniors within high schools. The final sample includes over 18 thousand seniors from about 130 public and private high schools. The data are collected through self-administered questionnaires completed in a supervised classroom setting. A subsample of 2400 students from each class has been randomly selected and followed longitudinally for up to ten years. One-half this group was followed-up in the first year after graduation and every two years after that. The other half was reinterviewed in the second year after graduation and every two years after that.
- Because many questions are needed to cover all of the topic areas, five different questionnaire forms are used and distributed in such a way as to produce five virtually identical subsamples. About one-third of each form consists of core questions which are common to all forms.
- PERIODICITY** The study was first conducted in the spring of 1975 and has been conducted annually since then. Follow-ups have also been conducted annually, but those from the classes of 1976 and, especially, 1975 are subject to problems of missing data and low response rates. A change in procedures in 1978 have put the response rates over 80% on follow-ups of the class of 1977 and subsequent classes.
- CONTENT** In addition to drug use and related attitudes, the survey covers the following topics: education, work and leisure, sex roles, family plans, religion, politics, social change, social problems, social institutions, military, interpersonal relationships, race relations, personality, deviant behavior and victimization, values, and demographic background.

Monitoring The Future: A Continuing Study of
the Lifestyles and Values of Youth

LIMITATIONS

Since the sample is based on high school seniors, those who have dropped out of school by the spring of the senior year (about 15-20%) are not included. Very few data are gathered on parent background characteristics. Data about earlier years of schooling or younger ages are not included. Furthermore, though the sample is large, only the core set of questions are asked of all respondents. For the preponderance of questions, data are available on only one-fifth of the sample.

AVAILABILITY

Published descriptive data on each variable by sex, race, region, college plans, and drug use are available in annual volumes published by The Survey Research Center. Trend data on drug use and related attitudes are available from the National Institute on Drug Abuse. A listing of other available articles, chapters, and occasional papers is available from the Principal Investigators. Micro-data tapes are available through the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research, Institute for Survey Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Contacts: Jerald Bachman, Lloyd Johnston, or Patrick O'Malley, Institute for Social Research,
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48106
313/763-5043

Monitoring The Future: A Continuing Study of
the Lifestyles and Values of Youth

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled (by sample definition)
- Grade enrolled (by sample definition)
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: (of child) Mother Father
- Religiosity (of child)
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence (where child grew up)

TITLE National Survey on Drug Abuse

PURPOSE The purpose of these surveys is to provide estimates of the prevalence of illicit drug use over time. Use of a number of drugs, ranging from marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine and heroine to tranquilizers, stimulants and analgesics, is estimated for individuals of different ages. Since content and question wording have been reasonably comparable in the several surveys, this series of surveys provides information on trends in illicit drug use over more than a decade.

SPONSORSHIP The National Survey on Drug Abuse is sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) of the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration. The Division of Epidemiology and Statistical Analysis within NIDA has oversight.

DESIGN The survey covers individuals age 12 and over who live in households in the contiguous United States. Youth aged 12-17 are sampled independently of adults 18 and older. Among adults, those aged 18-34 are over-sampled. Data are weighted to compensate for the over-sampling, and weighted data are nationally representative. All states except Alaska and Hawaii are covered.

In-person interviews are administered. The interviewer reads the questions to the respondent. The respondent fills out confidential answer sheets for sensitive questions. This is a cross-sectional survey and there is no longitudinal component.

In 1982, the sample included 1,581 youth 12-17, 1,283 young adults 18-25, and 2,760 adults 26 and older.

PERIODICITY Surveys were conducted in 1971, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1977, 1979 and 1982. The next survey is planned for 1985.

CONTENT Respondents are as young as age 12 and full information is collected on respondents. Little information on parents or on the family context is obtained.

National Survey on Drug Abuse

LIMITATIONS

Nonresponse and inaccurate response are of concern, since respondents are being queried about illegal activities; however, data seem consistent over time and in accord with data from a similar survey of high school seniors, Monitoring the Future. To date, little information about the respondent's family has been collected.

AVAILABILITY

A number of standard publications are issued for each survey: "Main Findings," "Population Projections," "Highlights" and occasional special reports. These publications are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Data from the most recent survey are summarized in "Highlights from the National Survey on Drug Abuse: 1982". Information about the 1982 tape can be obtained from:

Dr. Beatrice Rouse
NIDA, Division of Epidemiology and Statistical Analysis
Parklawn Building, Room 11A56
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20857
301/443-2974

National Survey on Drug Abuse

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled (last grade completed)
- Employment status (age 12 and above)
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status:* Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation:* Mother Father
- Earnings:* Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Chief wage earner

TITLE

General Social Survey

PURPOSE

The General Social Survey provides data for the National Data Program for the Social Sciences which is designed to be a data diffusion project and a program of social indicator research. Toward the goal of functioning as a social indicator program, questionnaire items which have appeared on previous national surveys between 1937 and 1978 have been replicated in the survey. By retaining exact wording, the aim is to facilitate time trend studies as well as replication of earlier findings. A second objective is the prompt distribution of fresh, interesting, and high-quality data to a variety of users who are not affiliated with large research centers.

SPONSORSHIP

The initial survey in 1972 was supported by grants from the Russell Sage Foundation and the National Science Foundation. The National Science Foundation provided complete support for the 1973 through 1978, 1980, 1982, and 1983 surveys.

DESIGN

In the original National Science Foundation grant, support was given for a modified probability sample. Samples for the 1972 through 1974 surveys followed this design. This modified probability design introduces the quota element at the block level. The NSF renewal grant, awarded for the 1975-77 surveys, provided funds for a full probability sample design, a design which is acknowledged to be superior. Having allowed for the appearance of all items in a "transitional samples design" which would provide the basis for methodological studies of the transition, the General Social Survey then switched to a full probability sample for the 1977, 1978, 1980, 1982, and 1983 surveys. A similar split sample transition design was used in the 1983 survey to measure the effect of switching from the 1970 sample frame to the 1980 sample frame. A detailed empirical analysis of the 1970 and 1980 samples on the 1983 survey is being prepared as part of the General Social Survey Technical Report Series.

The universe sampled in these studies is the total non-institutionalized English-speaking population of the continental United States, 18 years of age or older. The sample size is about 1500, but in 1982 the National Science Foundation also funded a separate project to oversample blacks, adding 247 extra black respondents, for a total of 510 black respondents in 1982.

The sample is a multi-stage area probability sample to the block or segment level. At the block level, however, quota

General Social Survey

sampling was used in the early surveys, with quotas based on sex, age, and employment status. The Primary Sampling Units employed are Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) or non-metropolitan counties selected from the National Opinion Research Center's Master Sample. These SMSAs and counties were stratified by region, age, and race before selection. The units of selection of the second stage were block groups and enumeration districts, which were stratified according to race and income before selection. The third stage of selection was that of blocks, which were selected with probabilities proportional to size. The average cluster size is five respondents per cluster, which provides a suitable balance of precision and economy.

PERIODICITY

The General Social Surveys have been conducted during February, March, and April of 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1983 and 1984. Funding is available to conduct the survey in 1985, 1986, and 1987.

CONTENT

The survey includes questions on ecology; family and life cycle; socioeconomic status; education; income; primordial groups; politics; social psychology (interaction, morale); satisfaction and happiness; the Kohn child quality scale; crime, violence, and punishment; health; leisure; use of alcohol; and attitude items on psychological well-being, spending priorities, abortion, civil liberties, race relations; and other topics.

LIMITATIONS

The survey is intentionally thin on political behavior (well covered by the Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan) and labor force activity (well covered by the Current Population Survey). Since children are not eligible to be respondents, no data are available on their attitudes and behaviors. The survey provides data on the number of children in the household, but only in broad age groups, and not by sex. However, the survey does provide good data on the social and psychological characteristics of the family environments of children.

AVAILABILITY

The surveys are available in a cumulative data set that merges all ten surveys into a single file with each year or survey acting as a subfile. This greatly simplifies the use of the General Social Surveys for both trend analysis and pooling. In addition, this cumulative data set contains items previously available only as supplemental data sets (e.g., the 1982 black oversample). Finally, the cumulative file contains items never before available (e.g., the 1982 Ford Foundation questions on the military).

General Social Survey

The data are available on computer tape from the Inter-university Consortium of Political and Social Research (The University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106), or from the Roper Public Opinion Research Center (The Roper Center, Office of Archival Development and User Services, Box U-164R, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06268).

For the data tape, contact the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research 313/763-5010 or Roper Public Opinion Research Center 203/486-4440
For substantive questions, call Tom W. Smith 312/962-1200

General Social Survey

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hispanic origin: Mother ___ Father ___
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household (respondent only)
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

CRIME, DELINQUENCY, CHILD ABUSE

- TITLE** National Crime Survey (NCS)
- PURPOSE** The purpose of the survey is to assess the character and extent of the criminal offenses that can be reported by a victim of the crime; to ascertain the characteristics of the victims and the circumstances surrounding the incidents; the characteristics of the offenders; and the consequences of the crime for the victim. The offenses covered for individuals are rape, robbery, assault, and personal larceny; for households, burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft.
- SPONSORSHIP** The survey was originally planned and designed by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. When that agency was dissolved, the survey was transferred to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The survey is funded by the Department of Justice. The data are collected by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.
- DESIGN** The survey is designed to collect data regarding persons age 12 and over living in households in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. A three stage stratified probability sample has been used. First 376 geographically defined primary sampling units have been selected; then enumeration districts within sampling units have been chosen; finally segments of about four housing units each have been chosen to be contacted within segments.
- Each person age 14 or over is interviewed regarding his or her experience as a victim of crime. Proxy respondents are used for persons 12 and 13. Information about crimes against victims age 11 or younger is not obtained in the NCS.
- The sample of households is divided into 6 rotation groups each interviewed every 6 months for 3 years (a total of 7 interviews). The first interview is done in person. Subsequent interviews may be done by telephone. Altogether, in 1980 information was gathered on 123 thousand individuals in 57 thousand households. Early surveys also included a sample of business establishments (14,000 in 1975) to gather data on crimes committed against businesses. This aspect of the survey was dropped in 1977 because it measured only robbery and burglary and did not provide comprehensive commercial data.
- While the first of the seven interviews does collect data about victimization incidents in the recent past, its primary purpose is to establish a boundary for the next interview. The inter-interview time periods then serve as a reference period for reports of victimization.

National Crime Survey (NCS)

Longitudinal data are available for the household and, to the extent that the same family or individual occupied the household during the three year period, for the family or individual as well.

The NCS is currently being redesigned. The new instrument will measure a larger number of crimes and obtain more comprehensive information about victim characteristics.

PERIODICITY

The survey was begun in 1973 and data have been collected regularly since then.

CONTENT

Information is collected both about the household as a whole and about individual members of the household age 12 or over. On a household basis, data are gathered on the type of structure, tenure, household size and composition, family income, and incidents of victimizations against the household (such as larceny, illegal entry, etc.).

On an individual basis, information is gathered on basic personal demographic characteristics and on each incident of victimization against persons (age 12 or over) in the household. The victimization data include information on the nature of the incident, the circumstances surrounding it, when it took place, the use of threats, force, or violence, damage or injury inflicted, the number of characteristics of offenders, the relationship of victim to offender, and whether the incident was reported to the police.

LIMITATIONS

The survey currently does not collect any victimization data on persons under 12 (age, sex, race, and origin are the only data available on children under 12). The identification of each child's mother and father is not clearly made in all cases.

Some factors may lead to biases in estimates of victimization. For example, using proxy respondents for 12 and 13 year-olds may undercount victimization events, as may the fact that children of this age never act as household respondents (being a respondent for the household as a whole tends to elicit more reports of personal victimizations as well). On the other hand, over-reporting may occur among 14 year-olds in their first interview as the interview is unbounded, making the time reference less clear.

The data can be used to assess the age and other characteristics of offenders. In this way, information about juveniles as offenders may be obtained. But these data are subject to the errors in the judgement of victims about the ages of their assailants.

National Crime Survey (NCS)

AVAILABILITY

Basic tabulations of results are published by the Bureau of Justice Statistics for each survey year in a report titled Criminal Victimization in the United States. The most recent report, issued in November, 1982, is for calendar year 1980. Public use tapes are available through the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106. Files are available which are structured by victims, and by household members (whether victims or not). Longitudinal files are also available.

Contact: Charles Kindermann of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. 20531 or 202/724-7775

National Crime Survey (NCS) .

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month Year (collected, not coded)
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled (only for those 16 and older)
- Grade enrolled (highest grade attended)
- Employment status (if age 16 or over)
- Limiting health conditions

Note: Items checked are for children 12 years or over. For younger children, the following is available: age, birthdate, sex, race, origin.

Family Characteristics*

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother Father
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother Father
- Hours worked: Mother Father
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother Father
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings (collected but not coded)
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother Father
- Parents' employment history: Mother Father
- Religion: Mother Father
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*Information is collected on the personal characteristics of each household member age 12 or over. One of the items of information is the relationship of the person to the household head (spouse, child, other relative, etc.). From this information it is possible to identify children and their parents in most households. However, problems in making such identifications may occur in households with subfamilies.

TITLE Uniform Crime Reports

PURPOSE The Uniform Crime Reporting Program provides annual assessments of crime in the United States as measured by offenses coming to the attention of the law enforcement community. Its objectives are to produce a reliable set of criminal statistics for use in law enforcement administration, operation, and management, and to provide the general public with a statistical picture of criminal activity in the United States.

SPONSORSHIP The Federal Bureau of Investigation collates and publishes data provided on a voluntary basis by state and local authorities. Common definitions of terms and standards for reporting are set by the Bureau with the advice of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Sheriff's Association.

DESIGN The FBI receives information either directly from local law enforcement agencies or through state-level Uniform Crime Reporting Programs to which local agencies report. State-level programs are now in effect in 41 states. During 1982 the jurisdictions of law enforcement agencies active in the program encompassed approximately 224 million persons in the United States, or 97 percent of the total population. Information is compiled at the local level according to guidelines and definitions established by the FBI. Two levels of offenses are defined by the Bureau. Part I, or Index offenses are the violent crimes of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, and the property crimes of burglary, larceny theft, and motor vehicle theft. Since 1979, arson has also been included in Index crimes. Part II offenses are all other crimes and are divided into 21 categories. The FBI collects data on all reports of Part I crimes, and on all Part II crimes for which an arrest was made. When reports of crime are found through investigation to be false, they are not included in the counts.

A comprehensive evaluation of the program is now underway. The capabilities of law enforcement agencies to supply crime information have expanded greatly and data from the program are being used for more diversified purposes. The evaluation is to explore ways of expanding and improving the system in light of these developments.

Uniform Crime Reports

- PERIODICITY** The reporting program began in 1930. Data are now collected monthly and reported annually. The most recent report covers calendar year 1983.
- CONTENT** The reporting unit for the Uniform Crime reporting Program is a crime, not a victim or offender. It should be noted that one crime may involve multiple offenders and victims, and that the arrest of one offender may clear several crimes. Part I (Index) crimes are reported whether an arrest is made or not. Additional information reported includes detailed type of crime (within the major reporting category), type of weapons used, amount of property loss, urban/rural location, city, county and state in which the crime occurred, characteristics of victims of murders, and characteristics of persons arrested where an arrest was made.
- LIMITATIONS** Since the Uniform Crime reporting Program is oriented around reports on crimes rather than victims or offenders, data about the persons involved are limited. With regard to victims, information is available only for murder victims. Even here, only a few individual demographic characteristics are reported (age, sex, race, ethnic origin).
- Data on offenders are available only in cases where an arrest is made or the offense is officially attributed to a suspect in some other way. In such cases the same individual characteristics (age, etc.) are available by type of offense. These data provide estimates of juvenile arrest rates and the kinds of offenses in which juveniles become involved.
- An arrest is counted on each separate occasion a person is taken into custody, notified, or cited. These annual arrest figures do not measure the number of individuals arrested since one person may be arrested several times during the year for separate crimes. Consequently the data provide no precise information on the number of offenders or the prevalence of multiple offenders or their characteristics.
- AVAILABILITY** The data are published annually by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in a volume entitled Crime in the United States. The most recent volume, covering 1983, was released in September, 1984.

Uniform Crime Reports

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics*

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parent education: Mother ___ Father ___
- Race of parents: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hispanic origin: Mother ___ Father ___
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother ___ Father ___
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status:
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence

*The items checked are gathered for victims of murders and for offenders arrested for crimes. These same data are gathered for victims and offenders of any age. Data about the victim's or offender's family are not collected.

TITLE National Study of Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

PURPOSE The study is to provide statistical information on official reports of child abuse and neglect. Specifically, it is to collect, summarize, and disseminate data regarding official reports of abuse and neglect; to assist participating reporting agencies in improving their recording and reporting of abuse and neglect cases; and to collect consistent and comparable nation-wide data.

SPONSORSHIP The study is designed and carried out by the American Human Association with funding from the National Clearing House on Child Abuse and Neglect in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

DESIGN Data are collected annually through reports submitted by state agencies. Currently all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and three territories participate. Each jurisdiction provides data on all officially recorded reports of abuse and neglect. Thus no sampling is involved. Two levels of participation are used. For Level I (29 states and 3 territories) individual level data are provided for all cases, either using a standard form designed by the Association, or on magnetic tape. For Level II (21 states and the District of Columbia) aggregate data are provided in varying formats with varying degrees of information. There is no longitudinal component in the design, nor is there the capability to link two separate cases which may be different reports of abuse or neglect involving the same child.

PERIODICITY Data are collected annually; the first year of collection was 1974. All states were included in the system starting with 1976. After 1983 data will continue to be collected, but the Department of Health and Human Services will no longer provide funding to the American Humane Society for the analysis and reporting of these data.

CONTENT The standard form used by Level I participants provides data from which the Association can compile the following information: the number and characteristics of the families, perpetrators, and victims involved in official reports of abuse and neglect, the type and severity of abuse and neglect, the source of referral and geographic distribution of such reports, the follow-up actions of child protective service agencies, and the trends in official reporting statistics for states, regions, and the nation.

National Study of Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

LIMITATIONS

Data are limited to official reports of abuse or neglect. Many such reports are not substantiated upon investigation. Furthermore, many cases of abuse or neglect are not officially reported. Consequently, estimates of the actual incidence of abuse and neglect cannot be determined directly from these data. Nor is it necessarily the case that trends in reporting reflect trends in actual incidence, since many other factors are involved, especially the propensity to report. To check on some of these errors a large study was conducted during 1979-1980. This National Study of the Incidence and Severity of Child Abuse and Neglect provides estimates for that period, of the magnitude of various components of abuse and neglect incidents.

AVAILABILITY

The data are published annually by the American Humane Association in a report titled National Analysis of Official Abuse and Neglect Reporting. The report for 1982 is just now being issued. Public use tapes are also available from the Association. A trend report covering the years 1976-1982, titled "Trends in Officially Reported Child Neglect and Abuse in the United States" is available from the Department or the American Humane Society.

Contact: Aeolian M. Jackson
National Center on Child Abuse & Neglect
U.S. Children's Bureau, HHS
P.O. Box 1182
Washington, DC 20013
202/245-2856

National Study of Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting

CHILD AND FAMILY DESCRIPTORS

Child Characteristics

- Age of child
- Birth date Month ___ Year ___
- Sex of child
- Race of child
- Hispanic origin
- Other origin/ethnicity
- Whether enrolled
- Grade enrolled
- Employment status
- Limiting health conditions

Family Characteristics

- Age of parents in household: Mother Father
- Parent education: Mother Father
- Race of parents: Mother Father
- Hispanic origin: Mother Father
- Other origin/ethnicity: Mother ___ Father ___
- Family income
- Employment status: Mother ___ Father ___
- Hours worked: Mother ___ Father ___
- Occupation: Mother Father
- Earnings: Mother ___ Father ___
- Welfare status: AFDC; other public assistance; retirement; pensions; Social Security; etc.
- Number of children in household
- Children ever born to mother in household
- Number of parents in household
- Exact relationship of parents to child
- Exact relationship of siblings to child
- Age(s) of siblings
- Parents' current marital status: Mother Father
- Parents' marital history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Parents' employment history: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religion: Mother ___ Father ___
- Religiosity
- National origin
- Region of country
- Urban/rural residence