



Dear NLSY97 Respondent,

Welcome to the 20th round of the NLSY97!

Since your first interview, you have transitioned from school to work and into adulthood. Over the years, you have updated us about your employment, schooling, marriages, and children; your experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic; and much more. We are so appreciative of your participation in the NLSY97 survey.

Sometimes it may seem that, as the Greek philosopher Heraclitus is said to have written, “The only thing constant is change”. From the expected to the unanticipated events of life, the value of the NLSY97 is that we can see not only where you are today, but how you got there. And now at the start of a new round of interviews, we again look forward to working with you to ensure that the NLSY97 continues to be successful at documenting the lives of Americans as they age and change over time. It is only through studies like the NLSY97 that we are able to understand the different experiences of individuals and their families along many dimensions—work, training, family relationships, health, and education. And because your story continues to unfold, the information you provide now is more important than ever!

And as the years have been counted and milestones added, more and more research has been done using the NLSY97. In fact, over 850 journal articles and book chapters have been written using information from the NLSY97. These studies are on topics such as employment, searching for a job, earnings, schooling, health, and much more. Once research is complete, news organizations see the research and put that information out for the general public. The awareness of issues facing your generation then becomes a catalyst for policy changes.

Finally, let me take a moment to again express my sincere thanks for your past participation in the NLSY97. Your willingness to offer your interview time is what keeps this important study going.

It is my hope that once again you will grant us the privilege of speaking with you and sharing your unique story.

Sincerely,

Keenan Dworak-Fisher

Director, National Longitudinal Surveys  
U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics