

National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979

OSE-dev

Introduction

The **National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS)** are a set of surveys conducted by the US Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, designed to gather information at multiple points in time on significant life events of several population samples of US citizens, especially their labor market activities.

The **National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79)** is a survey of men and women born in the years 1957-64. The NLSY79 is a nationally representative sample of 12,686 young men and women who were 14-22 years old when they were first surveyed in 1979. These individuals were interviewed annually through 1994 and are currently interviewed on a biennial basis.

Topics

- ▶ education, training, and achievement
- ▶ employment
- ▶ health
- ▶ attitudes and expectations
- ▶ cognitive and noncognitive scores
- ▶ ...

Figure: NLS Investigator I

NLS Investigator

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Welcome to NLS Investigator

Sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the National Longitudinal Surveys (NLS) are a family of surveys dedicated to tracking the labor market and other life experiences of American men and women.

The seven NLS cohorts are:

- National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97)
- National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79)
- NLSY79 Child and Young Adult
- Older Men
- Mature Women
- Young Men
- Young Women

To access data for any of the seven NLS cohorts use the login box to the left or [begin searching](#) as guest.

NLSY User-Initiated Questions: We're soliciting suggestions for new questions to add to the NLSY97, NLSY79, and child/young adult surveys. Please visit the [NLSY User-Initiated Questions](#) page to learn how to make an informal suggestion or submit a formal proposal.

Attention

In the event that Investigator does not appear to be working correctly, first please try to clear your browser cache. If you continue to have issues, please contact usersvc@chrr.osu.edu

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Figure: NLS Investigator II

NLS Investigator

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Select the study you want to work with:
NLSY79 (National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979) ▾
Released March 01, 2017

Additional Resources:
[Errata, Documentation](#) (user's guide, questionnaires and other materials)
[Custom Weights](#)

To start a new search [click here](#)

Choose Tagsets

Variable Search

Review Selected Variables (5)

Codebook

Save / Download

Required / Recommended Variables:

- ☒ Required ID Variable - CASEID will always be selected (1 variable)
- ☒ Recommended Demographic Variables (4 variables)

Saved Tagsets (on server):
None Available

Upload Tagset (from PC):

Choose File

 | No file chosen

Upload

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Figure: Number of observations

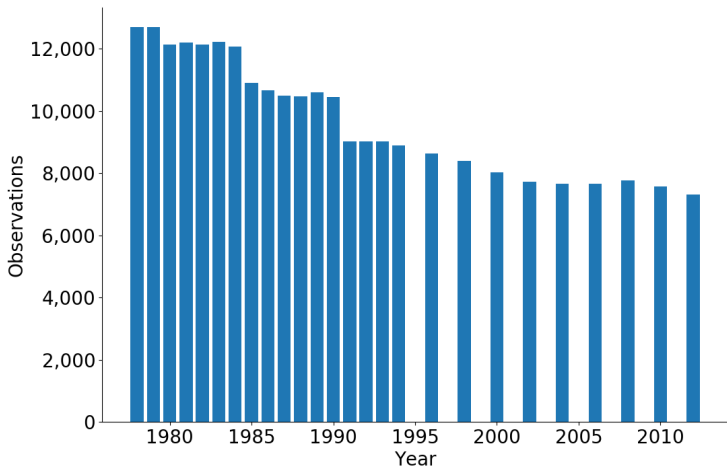


Figure: Number of observations

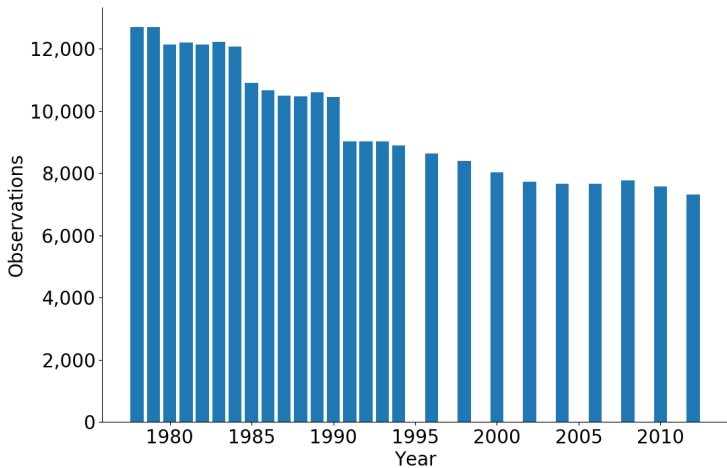


Figure: Year of birth

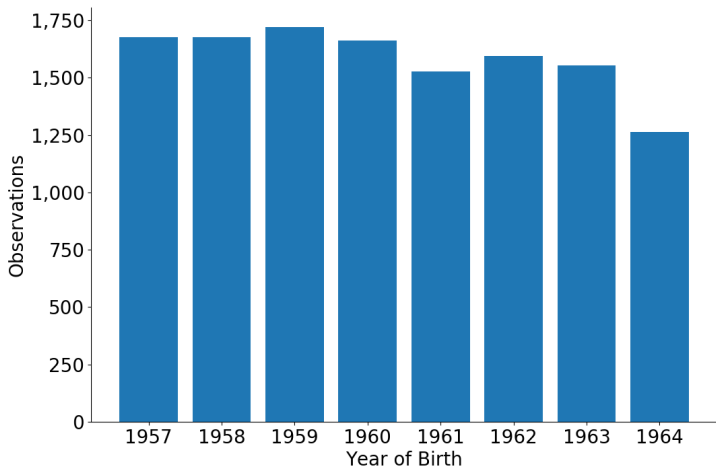


Figure: Gender

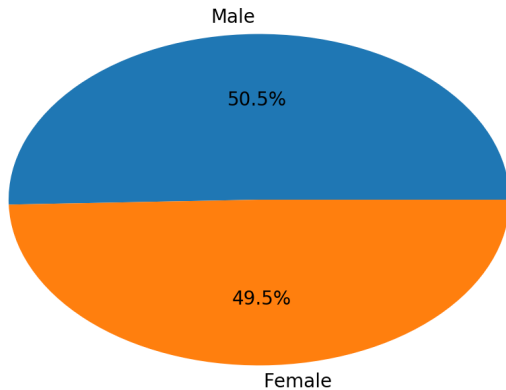
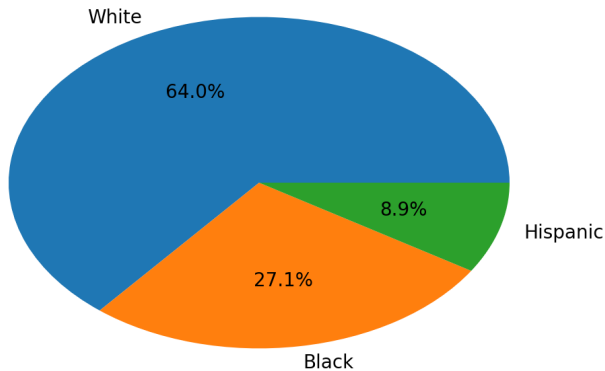


Figure: Race



Human Capital

Human capital is defined as:

The knowledge, skills, competencies and attributes embodied in individuals that facilitate the creation of personal, social and economic well-being.

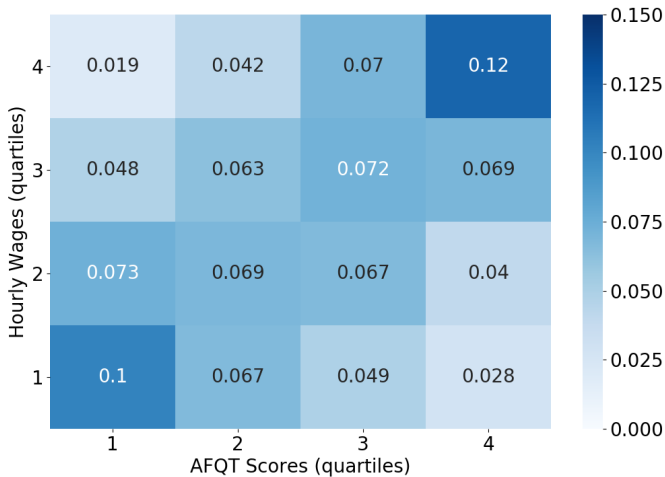
- OECD (2001)

Basics

We study the basic relationship between basic measures of human capital and wages at age thirty-five.

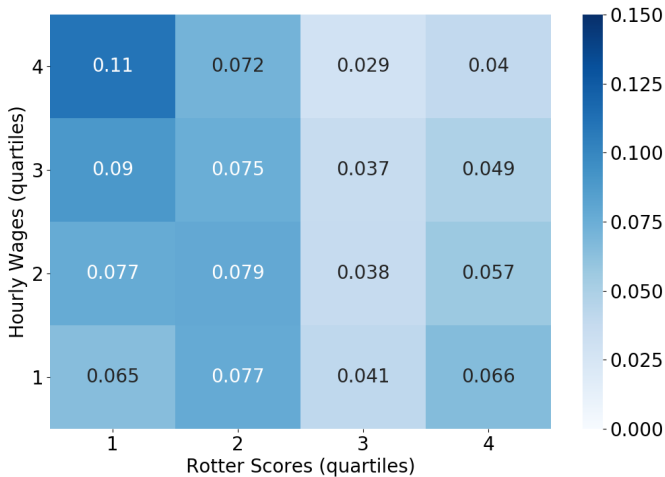
- ▶ The **Armed Forces Qualifications Test (AFQT)** is a general measure of trainability and a primary criterion of eligibility for service in the armed forces. It has been used extensively as a measure of cognitive skills in the literature (see, e.g., Heckman 1995; Neal and John- 416 Heckman et al. son 1996; Cameron and Heckman 1998; Ellwood and Kane 2000; Cameron and Heckman 2001; Osborne-Groves 2006).

Figure: AFQT Score



- ▶ The **Rotter scale** measures the degree of control individuals feel they possess over their life and has been used in previous studies analyzing the role of noncognitive skills on labor outcomes (Osborne-Groves 2006).

Figure: Rotter Score



- ▶ The **Rosenberg scale** measures perceptions of self-worth.

Figure: Rosenberg Score



Racial Differences

Figure: AFQT Score

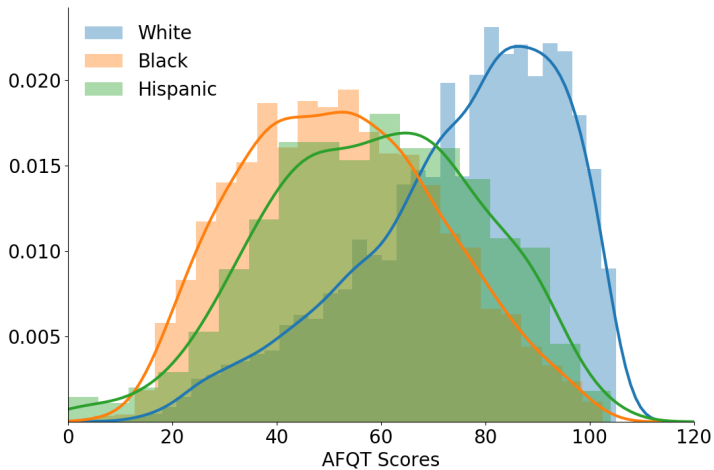


Figure: Rotter Score

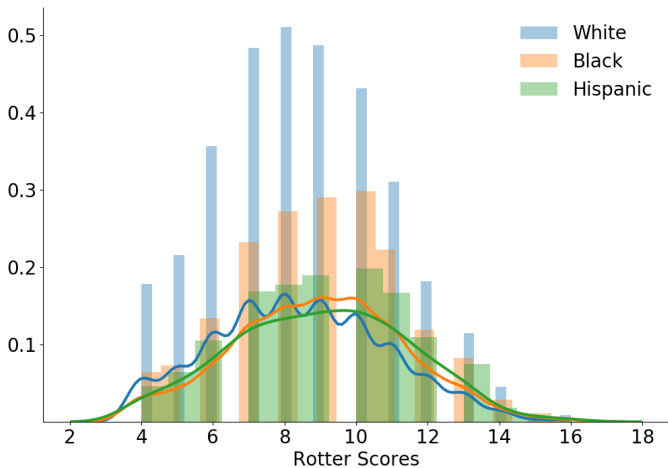
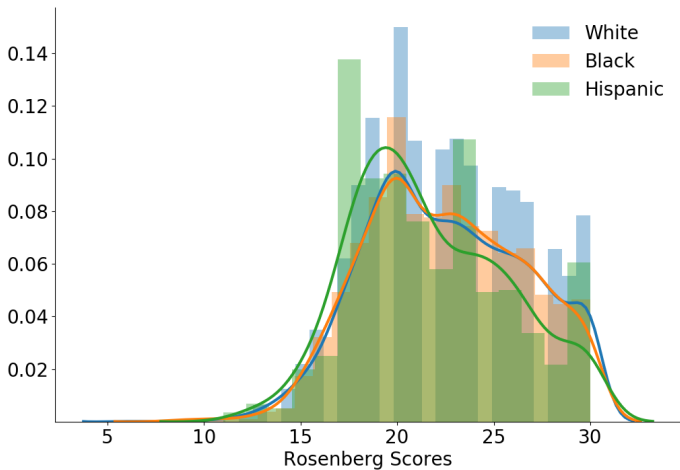


Figure: Rosenberg Score



Intergenerational Transmission

Figure: Father's education

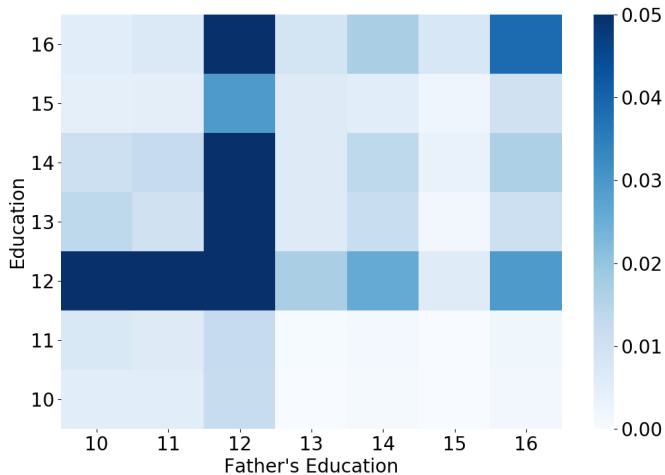
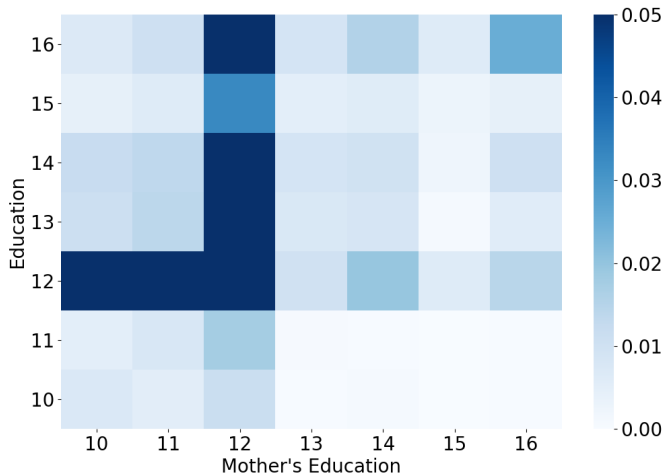


Figure: Mother's education



Appendix

References

Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2014). *National longitudinal survey of youth 1979 cohort, 1979-2012 (rounds 1-25)*. Columbus, OH: Produced and distributed by the Center for Human Resource Research, The Ohio State University.