NLS Data Guide

This dataset is used for Psych 100A Spring 2019 (Instructor: Amanda Montoya). The dataset is saved as a .csv file "NLSData.csv."

Bibliographic Citation

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor (2015). National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 cohort, 1997-2013 (rounds 1-16) [Data file and code book]. Retrieved from https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/search.jsp?s=NLSY97

Download Date

March 27, 2019

Obtaining the Original Data File

The original data file can be downloaded from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website: https://www.nlsinfo.org/investigator/pages/search.jsp?s=NLSY97.

Data Collection

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics interviewed approximately 9000 adolescents and young adults every year from 1997 to 2008 as a part of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. The ultimate goal of the NLSY was to identify factors that contributed to the well-being, career success, and criminality of young Americans. They collected hundreds of variables that are available as public data. You can download individual variables through the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website.

Variable	Label or Question Prompt	Response Scale
ID	Respondent ID Number	Set of Digits
HrsSleep2009	On a typical week night, how many	0-24 hours
	hours of sleep do you usually get?	
Sex	Respondent's sex	-1 = female
		1 = male
BdayMonth	Month of Birth	1 = January
		2 = February
		3 = March
		4 = April
		5 = May
		6 = June
		7 = July
		8 = August
		9 = September
		10 = October
		11 = November
		12 = December
YearBorn	Year of Birth	Range (1980 – 1984)
Ethnicity	Respondent's Ethnicity	1 = Black
		2 = Hispanic
		3 = Mixed Race (Non-Hispanic)
		4 = Non-Black/Non-Hispanic

Variable	Label or Question Prompt	Response Scale
ASVAB	Armed Services Vocational Aptitude	0 - 100000
	Battery Test (ASVAB) total score	Scores can be translated to
		percentage up to 3 decimal
		points (e.g., 44567 = 44.567%)
LifeSat2008	In general, how satisfied are you with	1 = Extremely dissatisfies
	your life?	10 = Extremely satisfied
Income2008	During 2008, how much income did you	\$0 - \$84000
	receive from wages, salary,	
	commissions, or tips from all jobs,	
	before deductions for taxes or for	
	anything else?	
HeightFt2010	Approximately what is your height?	0-7 feet
HeightIn2010	Approximately what is your height?	0-12 inches
Weight2010	Approximately what is your weight?	0-475 pounds
Computer2010	In a typical week, how many hours total	1 = None
	do you use a computer?	2 = Less than 1 hour
		3 = 1 - 3 hours
		4 = 4 - 6 hours
		5 = 7 - 9 hours
		6 = 10 or more hours
HrsSleep2010	On a typical week night, how many	0-24 hours
	hours of sleep do you usually get?	
Cohab2009	Indication of whether respondent	1 = Yes (Cohabitated)
	cohabitated with a spouse or partner	0 = No (Did not Cohabitate)
	during the year 2009	