

National Study of Youth and Religion Codebook

Data Overview

Wave 3 (gathered in 2007-2008) of the National Survey of Youth and Religion (NSYR) is a nationally representative telephone survey of 2,532 English and Spanish-speaking teenagers between the ages of 18 and 24. The purpose of the NSYR is to research the shape and influence of religion and spirituality in the lives of American youth, and to foster an informed national discussion about the influence of religion in youth's lives, in order to encourage sustained reflection about and rethinking of our cultural and institutional practices with regard to youth and religion. This dataset includes measures relating to youth religious practices, demographic information, relationships, risk behaviors, and subjective well-being and mental health, among other things.

Codebook

A brief description of the variables in the dataset is below. The descriptions are drawn from the codebook from the original dataset. All of the variables in the original codebook do not appear in the data that is provided to you. Note that no NA values appear in this dataset. Missing values are coded as 999, “don’t knows” are coded as 777, and refused to answer are coded as 888. You should recode missing values and check for other unreasonable values of the variables.

Variable Name	Description
ids	Respondent ID
gender	Respondent Gender “Male” “Female”
currenrl	Are you currently enrolled in school of any kind? “No, not in school” “Yes, enrolled in school” “Home schooled”
compgrad	What is the highest grade or year of school you have completed? No formal schooling 1st grade 2nd grade 3rd grade 4th grade 5th grade 6th grade 7th grade 8th grade 9th grade 10th grade 11th grade 12th grade One year of vocational/technical school Two years of vocational/technical school Three years of vocational/technical school

	One year of college Two years of college Three years of college Four years of college/grad school Five years of college/grad school Six years of college/grad school
currlive	Where do you live now? That is, where do you stay most often? “Another person’s home” “Group quarters, like a dorm, sorority...” “Homeless” “Your own place” “Your parent’s home”
parbrkup	How many times, if any, have the people you consider to be your parents experienced a break-up of a marriage or marriage-like relationship?
FAITH1	How important or unimportant is religious faith in shaping how you live your daily life? “Not important at all” “Not very” “Somewhat” “Very” “Extremely important”
prayansr	In the last two years have you experienced a definite answer to prayer or specific guidance from God? “No” “Yes”
miracle	In the last two years have you witnessed or experienced what you believe was a miracle from God? “No” “Yes”
comitgod	In the last two years have you made a personal commitment to live your life for God? “No” “Yes”
attreg	Do you attend religious services more than once or twice a year, not counting weddings, baptisms, and funerals? “No” “Yes”
churtype	What religion or denomination is the place where you go to religious services? Adventist/Seventh-day Adventist Apostolic Assemblies of God (Assembly of God) Baptist Bible church/Bible believing Brethren Buddhist CATHOLIC Catholic Charismatic

	<p> Christian Science (Christian Scientist) Christian and Missionary Alliance (CMA) Christian or just Christian Church of Christ (Churches of Christ) Church of God Church of the Nazarene Congregational Disciples of Christ Episcopalian Evangelical Evangelical Covenant Church Evangelical Free Church Four Square Free Methodist Church Hindu Holiness Interdenominational Islamic Jehovah's Witness (Kingdom Hall) Jewish Latter-day Saint(s) Lutheran Mennonite Methodist Missionary Church Moravian Mormon Muslim Nazarene Non-denominational Protestant Orthodox (Eastern, Greek, Russian, et.. Pagan Pentecostal Presbyterian Protestant Quaker Reformed Roman Catholic Unitarian/Universalist United Church of Christ (UCC) Wesleyan Church Wiccan </p>
ATTEND1	<p> (For those who answer yes to attreg) About how often do you attend religious services there? “A few times a year” “Many times a year” “Once a month” “2-3 times a month” “Once a week” “More than once a week” </p>

A THEIST1	Do you consider yourself to be an atheist, agnostic, just not religious, or something else? “Agnostic” “Atheist” “Not religious” “Something else”
WORKHRS1	How many hours in a typical week are you currently working for pay?
socnet	Are you a member of any of the social networking web sites that allow you to communicate with others, such as Facebook or Myspace? “No” “Yes”
SOCNET4	About how often do you visit social networking sites? “Less than every few weeks” “Every few weeks” “One to two days a week” “Three to five days a week” “About once a day” “Several times a day”
god	Do you believe in God, or not, or are you unsure? “No” “Yes” “Don’t know/unsure”
drink	How often, if at all, do you drink alcohol, such as beer, wine or mixed drinks, not including at religious services? “Never” “A few times a year” “About once a month” “A few times a month” “About once a week” “A few times a week” “Once a day or more”
drunk	How many times, if at all, over the past two weeks have you drunk at least drinks in the same night? “Never” “Once or twice” “Three or four times” “Five or more times”
smoke	How often, if at all, do you smoke cigarettes? Is it: “Never” “A few times a year” “About once a month” “A few times a month” “About once a week” “A few times a week” “Once a day or more”
pot	How often, if ever, do you use marijuana? Is it: “Never” “A few times a year” “About once a month” “A few times a month”

	“About once a week” “A few times a week” “Once a day or more”
fight	In the past 2 years, how often have you been in a serious physical fight that involved someone getting hurt? “Never” “Once or twice” “Three to five times” “More than five times”
trauma	In the past two years have you suffered any traumatic life events – such as someone you were close to dying or you or someone you were close to having a serious accident or illness? “No” “Yes”
future	How often, if at all, do you think about or plan for your future? Is it... “Never” “Rarely” “Sometimes” “Fairly Often” “Very Often”
GUILT1	In the last year, how often, if ever, have you found yourself feeling guilty about things in your life? “Never” “Rarely” “Sometimes” “Fairly Often” “Very Often”
meaningless	How often, if ever, does life feel meaningless to you? “Never” “Rarely” “Sometimes” “Fairly Often” “Very Often”
body	In general, how happy or unhappy are you with your body and physical appearance? “Very unhappy” “Somewhat unhappy” “Neither” “Somewhat happy” “Very happy”
lifesat	You are satisfied with your life. (Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?) “Strongly disagree” “Disagree” “Agree” “Strongly agree”
helpless	You often feel helpless in dealing with problems of life. (Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?) “Strongly disagree” “Disagree”

	"Agree" "Strongly agree"
sad	How often do you feel very sad or depressed? Is it always, usually, sometimes, rarely, or never? "Never" "Rarely" "Sometimes" "Usually" "Always"
accepted	In general, do you feel loved and accepted for who you are? "None" "A little" "Some" "A lot"
alienate	In general, do you feel alone and misunderstood? "None" "A little" "Some" "A lot"
invisibl	In general, do you feel invisible because people don't pay attention to you? "None" "A little" "Some" "A lot"
health	In general, how is your health? "Poor" "Fair" "Good" "Very good" "Excellent"
earnings	How much did you earn during the past twelve months, including wages from all jobs, salary, tips, bonuses, overtime and income from self-employment, before taxes and other deductions? No income \$2,000 or Less \$2,001 - \$4,000 \$4,001 - \$6,000 \$6,001 - \$8,000 \$8,001 - \$10,000 \$10,001 - 12,000 \$12,001 - \$14,000 \$14,001 - \$16,000 \$16,001 - \$18,000 \$18,001 - \$20,000 \$20,001 - \$22,000 \$22,001 - \$24,000 \$24,001 - \$26,000 \$26,001 - \$28,000 \$28,001 - \$30,000

	\$30,001 - \$32,000 \$32,001 - \$34,000 \$34,001 - \$36,000 \$36,001 - \$38,000 \$38,001 - \$40,000 \$40,001 - \$42,000 \$42,001 - \$44,000 \$44,001 - \$46,000 \$46,001 - \$48,000 \$48,001 - \$50,000 \$50,001 or more
debt	Currently, about how much in total do you owe on credit cards or personal loans, not including student loans or home buying loans or mortgages? No debt \$200 or less \$201 - \$400 \$401 - \$600 \$601 - \$800 \$801 - \$1,000 \$1,001 - \$1,200 \$1,201 - \$1,400 \$1,401 - \$1,600 \$1,601 - \$1,800 \$1,801 - \$2,000 \$2,001 - \$2,200 \$2,201 - \$2,400 \$2,401 - \$2,600 \$2,601 - \$2,800 \$2,801 - \$3,000 \$3,401 - \$3,600 \$3,601 - \$3,800 \$3,801 - \$4,000 \$4,001 - \$4,200 \$4,201 - \$4,400 \$4,401 - \$4,600 \$4,601 - \$4,800 \$4,801 - \$5,000 \$5,001 - \$5,200 \$5,801 - \$6,000 \$6,601 - \$6,800 \$6,801 - \$7,000 \$7,801 - \$8,000 \$8,001 - \$8,200 \$8,801 - \$9,000 \$9,401 - \$9,600 \$9,801 - \$10,000 \$10,001 or more
agecats	Age in years
bmi	Body Mass Index (NIH calculation) (BMI)

employst	Employment status “active armed forces” “Employed” “Employed and school” “In school only” “No school or work but looking” “Out of labor force”
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