Variable name	Variable label	Additional description
ABSENT12	Number of times missed school	0 = Never; 1 = 1–2 Times; 2 = 3–6 Times; 3 = 7–9 Times; 4 = 10–15 Times; 5 = Over 15 Times
ACHMAT08	Math achievement in eighth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHMAT10	Math achievement in tenth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHMAT12	Math achievement in twelfth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHRDG08	Reading achievement in eighth grade	Gives a score for the student's performance in eighth grade on a standardized test of reading achievement. Actual values range from 36.61 to 77.2, from low to high achievement. 99.98 = Missing; 99.99 = Missing
ACHRDG10	Reading achievement in tenth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHRDG12	Reading achievement in twelfth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHSCI08	Science achievement in eighth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHSCI10	Science achievement in tenth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHSCI12	Science achievement in twelfth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHSLS08	Social studies achievement in eighth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHSLS10	Social studies achievement in tenth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ACHSLS12	Social studies achievement in twelfth grade	Similar to ACHRDG08
ADVMATH8	Advanced math taken in eighth grade	0 = No; 1 = Yes; 8 = Missing
ALCBINGE	Binged on alcohol ever?	0 = Never; 1 = Yes
ALGEBRA8	Algebra taken in eighth grade?	0 = No; 1 = Yes
APOFFER	Number of Advanced Placement courses offered by school	98 = Missing

Variable name	Variable label	Additional description
APPROG	Advanced Placement program taken?	0 = No; 1 = Yes; 6 = Missing; 8 = Missing
CIGARETT	Smoked cigarettes ever?	0 = Never; 1 = Yes
COMPUTER	Computer owned by family in eighth grade?	0 = No; 1 = Yes
CUTS12	Number of times skipped/cut classes in twelfth grade	0 = Never; 1 = 1–2 Times; 2 = 3–6 Times; 3 = 7–9 Times; 4 = 10–15 Times; 5 = Over 15 Times
EDEXPECT	Highest level of education expected	1 = Less than college degree; 2 = bachelor's degree; 3 = master's degree; 4 = Ph.D., M.D., J.D., etc.
EXCURR12	Time spent weekly on extracurricular activities in twelfth grade	0 = None; 1 = Less than 1 hour; 2 = 1–4 hours; 3 = 5–9 hours; 4 = 10–14 hours; 5 = 15–19 hours; 6 = 20–24 hours; 7 = 25 or more hours
EXPINC30	Expected income at age 30	−6 = Missing, −9 = Missing
FAMSIZE	Family size	98 = Missing
FINANAID	Received financial aid in college	0 = No; 1 = Yes; −9 = Missing; −8 = Missing; −7 = Missing; −6 = Missing
GENDER	Gender	0 = Male; 1 = Female
HOMELANG	Home language background	1 = Non-English only; 2 = Non-English dominant; 3 = English dominant; 4 = English only
HSPROG	Type of high school program	1 = Rigorous academic; 2 = Academic; 3 = Some vocational; 4 = Other
HWKIN12	Time spent on homework weekly in school per week in twelfth grade	0 = None; 1 = Less than 1 hour; 2 = 1–3 hours; 3 = 4–6 hours; 4 = 7–9 hours; 5 = 10–12 hours; 6 = 13–15 hours; 7 = 16–20 hours; 8 = Over 20 hours; 98 = Missing
HWKOUT12	Time spent on homework out of school per week in twelfth grade	0 = None; 1 = Less than 1 hour; 2 = 1–3 hours; 3 = 4–6 hours; 4 = 7–9 hours; 5 = 10–12 hours; 6 = 13–15 hours; 7 = 16–20 hours; 8 = over 20 hours; 98 = Missing
ID	Case number	
IMPTEDUC	How important is a good education?	1 = Not important; 2 = Somewhat important; 3 = Very important
LATE12	Number times late for school in twelfth grade	0 = Never; 1 = 1–2 Times; 2 = 3–6 Times; 3 = 7–9 Times; 4 = 10–15 Times; 5 = Over 15 times

Variable name	Variable label	Additional description
MARIJUAN	Smoked marijuana ever?	0 = Never; 1 = Yes
NUMINST	Number post-secondary institutions attended	
NURSERY	Nursery school attended?	0 = No; 1 = Yes; 8 = Missing
PARMARL8	Parents' marital status in eighth grade	1 = Divorced; 2 = Widowed; 3 = Separated; 4 = Never married; 5 = Marriage-like relationship; 6 = Married; 98 = Missing
REGION	Geographic region of school	1 = Northeast; 2 = North Central; 3 = South; 4 = West
SCHATTRT	School average daily attendance rate	Gives the average daily attendance rate for the secondary school the student attends. 998 = Missing
SCHTYP8	School type in eighth grade	Classifies the type of school each student attended in eighth grade where 1 = Public; 2 = Private, religious; 3 = Private, Nonreligious
SES	Socioeconomic status	Gives a score representing the socioeconomic status (SES) of the student, a composite of father's education level, mother's education level, father's occupation, mother's education, and family income. Values range from 0 to 35, from low to high SES.
SLFCNC08	Self-concept in eighth grade	Similar to SLFCNC12
SLFCNC10	Self-concept in tenth grade	Similar to SLFCNC12
SLFCNC12	Self-concept in twelfth grade	Gives a score for student self-concept in twelfth grade. Values range from 0 to 43. Self-concept is defined as a person's self-perceptions, or how a person feels about himself or herself. Four items comprise the self-concept scale in the NELS questionnaire: I feel good about myself; I feel I am a person of worth, the equal of other people;

Variable name	Variable label	Additional description
		I am able to do things as well as most other people; and, on the whole, I am satisfied with myself. A self-concept score, based on the sum of scores on each of these items, is used to measure self-concept in the NELS study. Higher scores associate with higher self-concept and lower scores associate with lower self-concept.
TCHERINT	My teachers are interested in students	Classifies student agreement with the statement "My teachers are interested in students" using the Likert scale 1 = Strongly agree; 2 = Agree; 3 = Disagree; 4 = Strongly disagree
UNITCALC	Units in calculus (NAEP)	Number of years of calculus taken in high school
UNITENGL	Units in English (NAEP)	Number of years of English taken in high school
UNITMATH	Units in mathematics (NAEP)	Number of years of math taken in high school
URBAN	Urbanicity	Classifies the type of environment in which each student lives where 1 = Urban, 2 = Suburban, and 3 = Rural.
ABSENT12	Number of times missed school	