

National Infant Sleep Position Study (NISP): PROTOCOL SUMMARY

The primary aims of the NISP study, which was conducted from 1992 – 2010, were to monitor trends in the prevalence of sleep position and other infant care practices over time, to examine differences in these trends for whites and blacks, and to examine other demographic characteristics associated with adherence to recommended sleep position and infant care practices.

DataStat, Inc. of Ann Arbor, Michigan, generated sampling frames that listed eligible families and were systematically compiled to have appropriate geographic representation for the 48 coterminous states, based on the number of births in each state.

Interviews were completed in households that responded affirmatively to the question: “Is there an infant in this house who was born in the last 7 months; that is on or after (date)?” Interviews were requested and completed with nighttime caregivers of the infant.

The interview scripts were developed specifically for the NISP study and in 2010 consisted of 41 questions. Some changes were made over the years of the survey, and the specific survey for each year is available on the study website. Information was obtained in the following order: 1) infant characteristics and characteristics of the sleep environment; 2) the usual position in which the caregiver places the child for sleep at night; 3) reasons for position placement; 4) whether the caregiver received a sleep position recommendation from specific sources and what positions were recommended; 5) maternal ratings of physician qualification to give advice about the AAP-targeted sleep practices; and 6) sociodemographic information about the mother and the household.

DataStat Specific Work Plan and Scope

A. Survey Services.

1. In each year of the project, DataStat attempted to complete 1050 interviews in households with a child 7 months of age or younger. Respondents were an adult 18 years of age or older who had, or shared, responsibility for the care of the child.
2. It was assumed that in each year of the project, of the 1050 interviews, 1000 would be at a national level and 50 will be from households with low education respondents.
3. DataStat obtained the sample from Experian. Experian claims a 50% incidence of the target group in the list.
4. Households were contacted and eligibility established through an initial screening interview. Households containing one infant age 7 months or younger were eligible and the interview was to be conducted with a parent/caregiver knowledgeable about the infant’s sleep practices.
5. Every effort was made to interview difficult to reach respondents, including:
 - After determining that the telephone number in the sample database was incorrect, steps were taken to find the correct number, up to and including accepting new telephone numbers for the respondent taken from another

- member of the household.
 - If a respondent was away from the household, firm appointments were made to attempt recontact when the respondent returned.
 - If a respondent was too ill at the time of the call, a firm appointment was set to attempt recontact at a later date within the data collection period.
6. Nine callback attempts, distributed by our sample management system across daytimes, evenings and weekends to determine viability of the number, were made to each sampled case. Once contact was made with a household, calling continued until an interview was completed, a final refusal obtained, or the field period terminated.
 7. The questionnaire was approximately 11 minutes in length, in each year of the project.
 8. Translation of the instrument into Spanish was done by DataStat.
 9. DataStat performed post-field coding of responses for 7 open-ended questions in the instrument. The remaining open-ended questions did not require post-field coding.
 10. The programming of the questionnaire for the CATI system was previewed and approved prior to fielding.
 11. Interviewing was conducted in either English or Spanish, at the respondent's choice. Calls were conducted in the Eastern, Central, Mountain, and Pacific time zones.

B. Project Reporting.

1. For each year of the project, DataStat provided a final dataset in ASCII format on CD, with layout specifications and their standard codings for "don't knows" and refusals. A SAS dictionary set up file was provided by DataStat, on CD and in hard copy, which permits production of an SPSS or SAS system file linking each question with its named variable and value labels.
2. DataStat provided tabulations of the data via a stub and banner book in each year of the project.
3. A sample disposition, a summary of the survey methodology, and a copy of the final CATI screening instrument was provided.

Data Analyses

Analyses of the NISP data have been conducted using the SUDAAN statistical package to account for sampling weights and design factors in estimating both parameters and standard errors. Multiple logistic regression models were used to examine trends in sleep position or other care practices over time. Interaction terms in these models examined differences in trends between whites and blacks. Associations between demographic and other risk factors and sleep position or other care practices were also examined through multiple logistic regression models.