

Education Information
Year 19
Fast Track Project Technical Report
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Citation

Instrument

Howe, D., & Frazis, D. (1992). *What researchers have learned from the National Longitudinal Surveys about Youth Unemployment* (Report No. 828). U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Report

Sandoval, J. M. (2011) Education Information (Fast Track Project Technical Report). Available from the Fast Track Project Web site, <http://www.fasttrackproject.org>

Data Sources

Raw: C19CN

Scored: EDY19

I. Survey Description

The Education Information is an 8-item instrument designed to establish the educational achievement of the respondent. The original scoring method was established by Howe and Frazis (1992) at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, as part of the National Longitudinal Surveys (NLSY97, Round 3). The NLSY97 was designed to gather information at multiple points in time about the youth labor market to include educational attainment. The measure "Education- Grade 12 and Beyond" was used for years 13 through 15. The latter used a different questionnaire consisting of 20 questions, considering that respondents were finishing high school.

II. Report Sample

These analyses were conducted on the first cohort on the high-risk control sample (n = 125) and the normative sample (n = 254) for the nineteenth year of the study. The distribution of respondents by site was as follows: for the control sample, 36 were from Durham, 26 were from Nashville, 36 were from Pennsylvania and 27 were from Washington. For the normative sample, 75 were from Durham, 47 were from Nashville, 73 were from Pennsylvania and 59 were from Washington.

III. Frequencies Tables

Table 1 show counts of respondents by sample group. Table 2 shows degrees received by sample group. This table is truncated at the Master's level. No respondent has reached a higher achievement than that.

Table 1 Education Completion by Sample Group

Table of c19cn588 by group			
Q588. How many years of school have you completed (beginning with 1st grade as 1 year)?	Group		
	Control	Normative	Total
Frequency			
8 Years	5	8	13
9 Years	11	12	23
10 Years	17	14	31
11 Years	19	26	45
12 Years	47	68	115
13 Years	9	26	35
14 Years	7	28	35
15 Years	2	12	14
16 Years	5	33	38
More than 16 Years	3	27	30
Total	125	254	379

Table 2 Degrees Earned by Group Sample

Question	Control	Control	Normative	Normative
What degrees have you received?	Yes	No	Yes	No
Q589_1 - High school graduation	65	60	166	88
Q589_2 - GED	18	107	31	223
Q589_3 - Associate's degree	8	117	23	231
Q589_4 - Bachelor's degree from college	6	119	49	205
Q589_5 - Technical training	10	115	26	228
Q589_6 - Technical certification	7	118	33	221
Q589_7 - Master's degree/M.B.A.	1	124	3	251

Table 3 Last Year School Attendance by Sample Group

Table of c19cn590 by group			
Q590. During THE LAST SCHOOL YEAR, did you attend any of the following?	Group		
	Control	Normative	Total
Frequency			
High school	14	14	28
College	11	37	48
Community/Junior college	7	18	25
Technical school	4	17	21
GED	13	14	27
Medical school	0	1	1
Business school	1	2	3
Other graduate school	1	9	10
Other post-college program	1	2	3
None	72	137	209
I prefer not to answer	1	3	4
Total	125	254	379

Table 4 Plans for Next Year School Attendance by Sample Group

Table of c19cn592 by group			
Q592. Select which of the following education plans, if any, you have for the NEXT SCHOOL YEAR	Group		
	Control	Normative	Total
Frequency			
High school	4	3	7
College	19	34	53
Community/Junior college	10	24	34
Technical school	8	11	19
GED	17	21	38
Medical school	0	4	4
Business school	2	4	6
Other graduate school	1	18	19
Other post-college program	2	9	11
None	61	125	186
I prefer not to answer	1	1	2
Total	125	254	379

IV. Item Frequencies, Means and SDs

The Education Information questionnaire asked two questions reporting open numeric answers. These questions assess the time period in years and months for respondents unemployment.

Table 5

Group	N Obs	Question	Mean	Std Dev
Control	125	Q594. Since high school the amount of time unemployed: Years	1.25	2.86
		Q595. Since high school the amount of time unemployed: Months	1.69	2.75
Normative	254	Q594. Since high school the amount of time unemployed: Years	0.73	1.49
		Q595. Since high school the amount of time unemployed: Months	1.63	2.79

Note: Don't know answers (coded as 999) have been omitted.

V. Recommendations for Use

Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 display frequencies for ordinal items. The user is encouraged to test association between items and sample group. Also the user is encouraged to test for differences in means, for the variables measuring unemployment. For some items there is significant association (not shown). The user is also encouraged to measure unemployment into a single variable in months or weeks units.