

ECLS-B 2-year Sample and Population Sizes

Table 1. Percentage distribution of children born in 2001 at 2-year follow-up, by child and family characteristics: 2003-2004

Characteristics	Sample ¹ (rounded to the nearest 50)	Population (rounded to the nearest 100)	Population percentage
Total	9,850	3,965,700	100
Child's race/ethnicity			
White, non-Hispanic	4,150	2,121,800	54
Black, non-Hispanic	1,550	542,500	14
Hispanic	2,000	999,400	25
Asian/ Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	1,100	114,200	3
Other, non-Hispanic	1,050	178,500	5
Child's assessment age			
16-21 months	#	6,400	#
22 months	150	70,700	2
23 months	3,650	1,517,200	38
24 months	3,750	1,506,200	38
25 months	1,350	491,000	12
26 months	500	195,600	5
27 months	250	79,800	2
28 months	100	47,900	1
29 – 39 months	150	50,700	1
Mother's education (at 2-year interview) ²			
Less than high school	1,650	706,800	18
HS diploma /GED/some college/vocational/technical	5,500	2,262,700	57
Bachelor's degree or higher	2,700	978,300	25
Poverty status (at 2-year interview)			
Below poverty threshold	2,400	948,100	24
At or above poverty threshold	7,400	3,017,600	76
Primary language spoken in home (at 2-year interview)			
Non-English	2,050	754,800	19
English	7,800	3,210,900	81

Estimate rounds to zero.

¹The total sample size in this column is the number of children with parent interview data from the 2-year data collection.

²Children living in households with no mother or mother figure are not included in these estimates.

NOTE: Estimates may not sum to total due to rounding and/or missing data. Estimates weighted by W2R0.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort (ECLS-B) Longitudinal 9-Month—Kindergarten 2007 Restricted-Use Data File.

ECLS-B 2-year Response Rates

Response rates can be either unweighted or weighted. The unweighted rate, computed using the raw number of cases, provides a useful description of the success of the operational aspects of the survey. The weighted rate, computed by summing the weights (usually the reciprocals of the probability of selecting the units) for both the numerator and denominator, gives a better description of the success of the survey with respect to the population sampled, since the weights allow for inference of the sample data (including response status) to the population level. Both rates are usually similar unless the probabilities of selection and the unit response rates in the categories with different selection probabilities vary considerably.

Weighted Response Rates

The weighted unit response rate for the 2-year parent interview, which is calculated as the weighted number of children with completed 2-year parent interviews divided by the weighted number of children eligible to participate in the 2-year collection, is 93.1 percent.

Some cases that have a completed parent interview did not complete one or more of the other study components. Therefore, it is necessary to calculate separate weighted unit response rates for these components. These rates are conditioned on the presence of a complete 2-year parent interview (as well as additional eligibility criteria, in some instances), because having a complete 2-year parent interview was the criterion for being considered a participant in the 2-year data collection. The weighted unit response rate for the 2-year child assessment was 94.2 percent. The weighted unit response rate for the resident father questionnaire, calculated for cases where a resident father was living in the household with the sampled child, was 77.7 percent. The weighted unit response rate for the nonresident father questionnaire, calculated for cases in which mothers reported that the sampled child had a biological father living outside the household who met predetermined criteria for frequency and recency of contact with either the mother or the child (and for whom mothers provided consent for participation), was 39.8 percent. The weighted unit response rate for the Child Care Provider (CCP) interview, calculated for cases in which the child had a regular nonparental child care arrangement, was 70.0 percent. The weighted unit response rate for the Child Care Observation (CCO), calculated for cases with a complete CCP interview and sampled for the CCO, was 51.3 percent.

The unit response rate is a round-specific rate in that it indicates the proportion of the eligible sample responding to a survey at a particular time point. For a longitudinal study such as the ECLS-B, it is also useful to calculate a longitudinal response rate, also called an overall unit response rate, which takes into account response for all rounds of collection. The 2-year overall unit response rate for the ECLS-B indicates the proportion of all cases originally sampled for the 9-month collection that participated at 2 years. For the 9-month collection, the weighted overall unit response rate for the parent interview was 74.1 percent (after substitution); this rate dropped to 69.0 percent when the 2-year parent interview was taken into account. The weighted overall unit response rate was 65.0 percent for the 2-year child assessment, 53.6 percent for the resident father questionnaire, 27.5 percent for the nonresident father questionnaire, 48.3 percent for the CCP, and 35.4 percent for the CCO.

Unweighted Response Rates

Unweighted unit response rates are calculated in the same way as weighted response rates, but with unweighted numbers. The unweighted unit response rate for the 2-year parent interview was 92.8 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the 2-year child assessment was 93.7 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the resident father questionnaire was 75.9 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the nonresident father questionnaire was 38.6 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the CCP interview was 69.3 percent. The unweighted unit response rate for the CCO was 50.1 percent.