



Introduction to the NHES

Module Objectives

- Introduce the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES)
- Describe the study design, target populations, sample designs, and data collection components
- Explain the primary uses of NHES data
- Highlight the topics for which data are available for analysis

NHES Target Populations

- Set of nationally representative repeating cross-sectional surveys of households
- Used to collect data on populations from newborns to retirees
- Household-based design collects information on children across care and education settings and adults participating in learning activities
- Nationally representative samples of children from birth through grade 12, as well as adults
- The NHES unit of analysis is the child or the adult, depending on the survey topic assigned
- Each NHES administration has a Screener survey and 2 or 3 in-depth Topical surveys



NHES Design and Data Collection

NHES uses a two-stage, stratified sample design

- Households are sampled in the first stage
- A person within the household is sampled within the second stage

NHES Design and Data Collection (Continued)

Data collection occurs in two parts

- Screener survey
 - Administered to all sampled households
 - Collects basic demographic information
 - Used to determine eligibility for the second part of the survey
- Topical surveys
 - Focuses on one specific household member's educational experiences
 - Specific topics vary by year
 - Completed by a parent or guardian of a sample child or the focal adult

NHES Survey Topics

Surveys	Data Collection Years
Adult Education	1991, 1995, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005
Before- and After-School Programs and Activities	1999, 2001, 2005
Early Childhood Program Participation	1991, 1995, 1999, 2001, 2005, 2012
Parent and Family Involvement in Education	1996, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2012
Civic Involvement	1996, 1999
Household Library Use	1996
School Readiness	1993, 1999, 2007
School Safety and Discipline	1993

NHES Design and Data Collection (Continued)

- From 1991-2007 NHES was conducted using list-assisted random digit dialing (RDD) and computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) methodologies
- Data were collected between January and June approximately every other year
- Interviews were conducted in English and Spanish
- In 2012 and for future planned collections, the NHES was conducted by mail using Address-Based Sampling (ABS)
 - Involves sampling from a frame, or list, of addresses that has near-universal coverage of households
 - Available from the US Post Office Address Management System
 - Provides greater coverage than RDD

NHES Redesign

- Prompted by
 - Declining telephone survey response rates
 - Coverage concerns with landline telephone sampling frame
- Redesign activities
 - Expert panel of survey methodologists
 - Feasibility pilot test
 - Cognitive interviews
 - Field test
- Redesign outcome: Conversion from a telephone survey to a self-administered mail survey

NHES:2012

- First full-scale data collection after the redesign
- Nationally representative address-based sample
- Conducted from January to August 2012
- Two Topical surveys:
 - Early Childhood Program Participation (ECP)
 - Parent and Family Involvement in Education (PFI)

NHES:2012 Target Populations

- Early Childhood Program Participation (ECP)
 - Children from birth to age 6 who are not yet enrolled in kindergarten
- Parent and Family Involvement in Education (PFI)
 - Children age 20 or younger who are enrolled in K-12 or homeschooled for these grades



Early Childhood Program Participation (ECP)

- Nonparental child care
 - Type of care
 - Amount of time spent in care
 - Characteristics of care arrangement
- Importance of different factors in choosing child care arrangement
- Early literacy and numeracy skills

Parent and Family Involvement in Education (PFI)

- Enrolled students
 - Parents' participation in school activities and meetings
 - School practices to involve families
 - Parent-reported student school performance
 - Parental involvement with homework
- Homeschooled students
 - Sources of homeschool curriculum
 - Use of distance learning
 - Reasons for homeschooling



Common Demographic Content

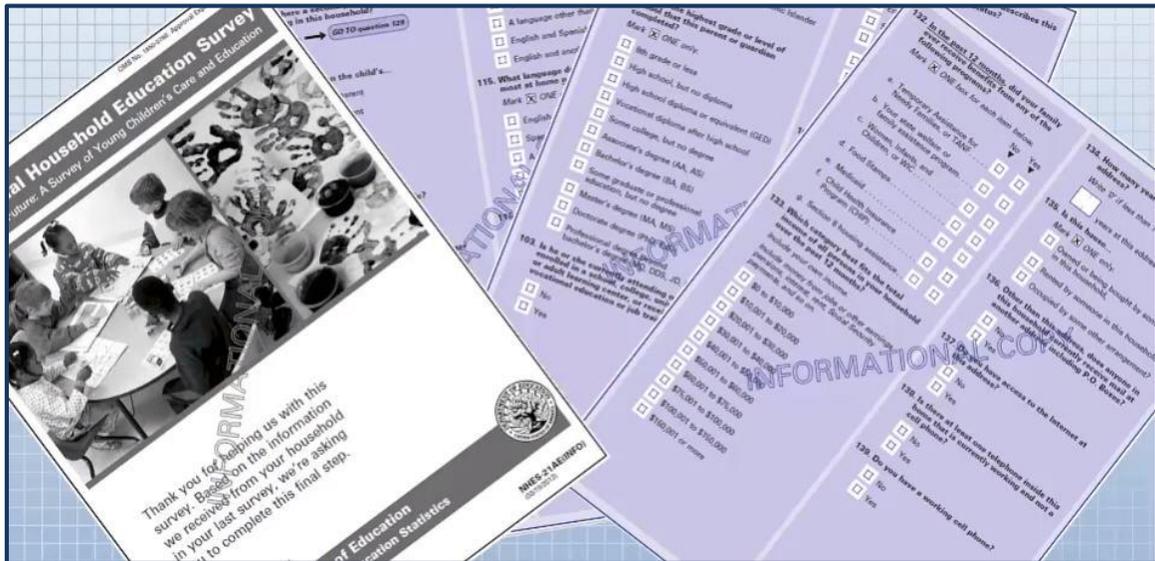
- Child characteristics
 - Race/ethnicity, language, country of origin, general health, disabilities
- Parent/guardian characteristics
 - Age, race/ethnicity, language, country of origin, marital status, educational attainment, employment status
- Household characteristics
 - Home ownership, household income, receipt of public assistance



Overview of NHES Research Potential

- The NHES data provide a snapshot of the target populations each time the surveys are administered
- Data from the NHES can be used in combination with other NCES data
 - Can be studied in conjunction with longitudinal studies of children's development and education experiences
 - Design of NHES instruments is coordinated with other NCES surveys, particularly those addressing early childhood and elementary school issues such as [ECLS-B](#) and/or [ECLS-K](#)

Links between NHES and ECLS-K



Overview of Trend Analysis Using NHES Data

- NHES data can be compared across years to study population changes
- Repeated measures of the same topics in different years allow for examination of trends over time
- Trend analysis that includes NHES:2012 data will need to note the change in data collection mode and gap in time between data collections in 2007 and earlier and 2012

Module Summary

- Introduced the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES)
- Explained the primary uses of NHES data
- Described study design, target populations, sample designs, and data collection components
- Highlighted the topics for which data are available for analysis

Module Resources

- [National Household Education Surveys Program \(NHES\)](#)
- [Adult Education Surveys](#)
- [Before- and After-School Programs and Activities](#)
- [Early Childhood Program Participation](#)
- [Parent and Family Involvement in Education](#)
- [Civic Involvement](#)
- [Household Library Use](#)
- [School Readiness](#)
- [School Safety and Discipline](#)
- [ECLS-B DLDT Training Modules](#)
- [ECLS-K DLDT Training Modules](#)