

TO: Shelly Martinez, Office of Management and Budget

FROM: Elise Christopher, National Center for Education Statistics

THROUGH: Kashka Kubzdela, National Center for Education Statistics

RE: The Education Longitudinal Study 2002/2012 (ELS:2002/12) Third Follow-up Abbreviated Questionnaire Change Request (OMB# 1850-0652 v.11)

In this memo, NCES requests permission to offer an abbreviated version of the Education Longitudinal Study 2002/2012 (ELS:2002/12) Third Follow-up questionnaire, which amends the ELS:2002 Third Follow-up 2012 Full Scale study¹. The abbreviated questionnaire would be offered – in place of the full-length questionnaire – to all remaining non-responding third follow-up sample members for the final 4 weeks of data collection (early January through early February 2012). We anticipate approximately 4,000 nonrespondents will remain (from a full-sample of roughly 16,000) at the time the abbreviated questionnaire will be made available. Once the abbreviated questionnaire is made available to nonresponding sample members, the full-length questionnaire would no longer be available.

Our intent in creating and offering an abbreviated questionnaire for the final 4 weeks of data collection is to lessen burden for potential respondents and thereby increase the likelihood of their response. The extra attention paid thus far to cases with a high propensity for nonresponse (higher incentive; field data collection; prepaid incentive in FedEx package; etc.) has proven effective, and the abbreviated questionnaire would provide a final boost to response rates while minimizing the potential nonresponse bias.

A subset of items from the full-length questionnaire have been selected to create the abbreviated questionnaire such that (1) the predicted overall average length of the abbreviated questionnaire is 10 minutes (as opposed to the 35 minute full-length questionnaire), and (2) questionnaire items necessary for a successful transcript data collection (e.g. names of schools attended) and other items of key analytic importance are retained. The format of the questionnaire items included in the abbreviated questionnaire (e.g. question wording, response options, etc.) will be identical to the format of these same items as they appear in the full-length questionnaire.

The incentive amount offered to the potential respondents of the abbreviated questionnaire will be the same as the approved incentive currently being offered: (a) the cases already identified for the higher incentive as part of the responsive design effort are offered \$55, (b) the cases already identified as "ever dropout" cases are offered \$55, and (c) all other cases are offered \$25.

The total approved estimated burden for the ELS:2002/12 3rd Follow-up interview was 8,505 hours. The use of the abbreviated interview protocol reduces the estimate of the total interview burden to 7,430 hours (see below).

¹ Originally approved on April 11, 2012 (OMB# 1850-0652 v.8), and amended on May 25, 2012, as part of the ELS:2002/12 Full Scale Survey Edits Change Request (OMB# 1850-0652 v.9).

Approved burden:

Exhibit A-3. Estimated Burden for ELS:2002 Third Follow-up Full-scale Study

	Sample	Expected response rate	Number of respondents	Average burden/response (minutes)	Range of response times (minutes)	Total burden (hours)
Spring 2012 panel maintenance	16,200	20%	3,240	5	----	270
ELS:2002/12 interview	16,200	90%	14,580	35	25 to 45	8,505

Revised burden (changes noted in blue):

Exhibit A-3. Estimated Burden for ELS:2002 Third Follow-up Full-scale Study

	Sample	Expected response rate	Number of respondents	Average burden/response (minutes)	Range of response times (minutes)	Total burden (hours)
Spring 2012 panel maintenance	16,200	20%	3,240	5	----	270
ELS:2002/12 interview	16,200	90%	14,580	----	----	7,430
35 minute interview			12,000	35	25 to 45	7,000
10 minute interview			2,580	10	5 to 15	430

Since the approval of the ELS:2002 Third Follow-up 2012 Full Scale study (OMB# 1850-0652 v.8), the ELS:2002) Third Follow-up Postsecondary Transcripts (ELS:2002 PETS) and Financial Aid Feasibility Study (ELS:2002 FAFS) was also approved on October 29, 2012 (OMB# 1850-0652 v.10). The total burden for PETS and FAFS is 2,784 respondents, 3,084 responses, and 2,382 annual burden hours. Because upon the approval of this abbreviated questionnaire change request only the 10 minute interview will be conducted as part of the ELS:2002 Third Follow-up 2012 Full Scale study, the total estimated burden for the 10 minute interviews plus ELS:2002 PETS and ELS:2002 FAFS will be **5,364 respondents** (2,580+2,784), **5,664 responses** (2,580+3,084), and **2,812 annual burden hours** (430+2,382).

Included in this memo is a facsimile of the approved *Appendix 1 ELS 2002 3rd-Follow-up 2012 Survey*, with the items selected for inclusion in the abbreviated questionnaire highlighted in yellow. Also included in this memo is *Amendment to Appendix 2 ELS 2002 3rd-Follow-up 2012 Communication Materials -- Abbreviated Interview Contact Materials* which will be used to contact remaining non-respondents with regards to the abbreviated questionnaire. Additionally, the abbreviated questionnaire is provided as a standalone document in *Appendix 3 ELS 2002 3rd-Follow-up FS 2012 Abbreviated Survey* accompanying this memo.

This change request does not affect the total cost to the government for the ELS:2002/12 study.

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EI S 2002 2rd Follow up 2012 S.

Item: F3CNSNT

In years past you responded to one or more questionnaires for the Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS:2002). This study is sponsored by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), within the U.S. Department of Education, and includes about 15,000 other participants who were selected from high schools across the country in 2002 and 2004. The purpose of ELS:2002 is to better understand young people's transition from high school to adulthood, including the different pathways people take towards further education and the world of work. Today, we are asking you to complete a follow-up interview which will ask questions about any further schooling you may have received, your most recent work experiences, your family, and your community. On average, it takes about 35-10 minutes to complete, depending on your responses.

Participation is voluntary. Your answers may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law [Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA 2002) 20 U.S.C., § 9573]. You may withdraw from the study at any point. However, your answers are very important because they represent many others who were not selected to take part. You may skip any question that you don't want to answer.

Item: F3AINTRO

First we would like to ask you about your current activities and educational background.

Item: F3ACTCURR

Are you currently...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- working for pay at one or more full-time jobs? (please answer 'yes' if you have at least one job at which you work 35 hours/week or more)
- working for pay at one or more part-time jobs? (please answer 'yes' if you have at least one job at which you work less than 35 hours/week)
- serving in another work experience, such as an apprenticeship, training program, or internship?
- taking courses at a two- or four-year college, including graduate or professional schools?
- taking courses at a vocational, technical, or trade school?
- keeping house full-time (homemaker)?
- caring for dependent children or adults?
- serving in the armed forces or military, whether active duty, reserves, or National Guard?

Applies to: All respondents.

Item: F3ACTSAMEW

Were your **work and/or military activities** during the last week in June 2012 (if any) the same as they are now?

Yes

No

Applies to: All respondents.

Item: F3ACTJUNEW

During the last week in June 2012, were you...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- working for pay at one or more full-time jobs? (please answer 'yes' if you had at least one job at which you worked 35 hours/week or more)
- working for pay at one or more part-time jobs? (please answer 'yes' if you had at least one job at which you worked less than 35 hours/week)
- serving in another work experience, such as an apprenticeship, training program, or internship?
- serving in the armed forces or military, whether active duty, reserves, or National Guard?

Applies to: Respondents who answer 'no' to the previous question (i.e. all respondents whose work and/or military activities during the last week in June 2012 differ from their current work and/or military activities).

Item: F3ACTSAMES

Were your **school activities** during the last week in June 2012 (if any) the same as they are now?

Yes

No

Applies to: All respondents.

Item: F3ACTJUNES

During the last week in June 2012, were you...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- taking courses at a two- or four-year college, including graduate or professional schools?
- taking courses at a vocational, technical, or trade school?

Applies to: Respondents who answer 'no' to the previous question (i.e. all respondents whose school activities during the last week in June 2012 differ from their current school activities).

Item: F3ACTSAMEH

Were your **home activities** (such as keeping house and/or caring for dependents) during the last week in June 2012 (if any) the same as they are now?

Yes

No

Applies to: All respondents.

Item: F3ACTJUNEH

During the last week in June 2012, were you...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- keeping house full-time (homemaker)?
- caring for dependent children or adults?

Applies to: Respondents who answer 'no' to the previous question (i.e. all respondents whose home activities during the last week in June 2012 differ from their current home activities).

Item: F3HSCOMP

Have you received a high school diploma, certificate of attendance, or a GED or other equivalency certificate?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents except those who already indicated in a previous round of data collection that they had received a high school credential.

Item: F3CURGED

Are you currently working towards a GED or equivalent?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: Respondents who indicated (during their F3 interview) that they had not received a high school credential.

Item: F3HSCRED

What type of high school diploma or certificate did you complete? Did you receive a...

1=diploma

2=certificate of attendance, or

3=GED or other equivalency certificate?

Applies to: Respondents who indicated (during their F3 interview) that they had received a high school credential.

Item: F3HSDATE

In what month and year did you receive your [diploma/certificate of attendance/GED or other equivalency/high school credential]?

Applies to: Respondents who indicated (during their F3 interview) that they had received a high school credential.

Item: F3GEDPROG

How did you earn your GED or equivalency, or in other words, what program or school were you enrolled in, if any?

1=No program, you just took the exam

2=Part of a job training program

3=Enrolled through adult education

4=Part of a child care program or early childhood program

5=Some other program

Applies to: Respondents who indicated (during their F3 interview) that they had received a GED or other equivalency.

Item: F3GEDST

From what state did you receive your GED or equivalency?

Applies to: Respondents who indicated (during their F3 interview) that they had received a GED or other equivalency.

Item: F3GEDWHY

Why did you decide to complete your GED or equivalency? Was it...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- to improve, advance, or keep up to date on your current job?
- to train for a new job/career?
- to improve basic reading, writing or math skills?
- to meet requirements for additional study?
- required or encouraged by your employer?
- for personal, family or social reasons?

Applies to: Respondents who indicated (during their F3 interview) that they had received a GED or other equivalency.

Item: F3EVERATT

When we spoke with you in 2006, you indicated that after high school you had attended:

[school 1, school 2, school 3, etc.]

Since that time, have you attended any other college, university, or vocational, technical or trade school for college credit?

-or-

Since leaving high school, have you attended any college, university, or vocational, technical or trade school for college credit?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents.

Item: F3PSNAME

[Schools we know about so far are: school 1, school 2, school 3, etc.]

What [other] college, university, or vocational, technical or trade school have you attended since leaving high school?

Applies to: Respondents with one or more F3-added postsecondary institutions.

Item: F3PSSTDATE

In what month and year did you first attend [school name]?

Applies to: Respondents with one or more F3-added postsecondary institutions.

Item: F3PSOTHER

[Schools we know about so far are: school 1, school 2, school 3, etc.]

Have you attended any other college, university, or vocational, technical or trade school for college credit?

1=yes

0=no

Applies to: Respondents with one or more F3-added postsecondary institutions.

Item: F3PSLAST

Which institution [did you last attend / are you currently attending]?

Applies to: Respondents who have attended more than one postsecondary school.

Item: F3PSENDDATE

In what month and year did you last attend [school name]?

Applies to: Respondents who (1) had postsecondary attendance, and (2) were not currently attending postsecondary school.

Item: F3PSCRED

Have you earned a degree or certificate from [school name]?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: Respondents with postsecondary attendance.

Item: F3PSCREDTYPE

What type of degree or certificate did you receive from [school name]?

(Please select one option below; if you received more than one degree or certificate, we will ask you later about the other credentials you may have received.)

1=Undergraduate certificate or diploma (usually less than 2 years), including those leading to a license (for example, cosmetology)

2=Associate's Degree (usually a 2-year degree)

3=Bachelor's Degree (usually a 4-year degree)

4=Post-baccalaureate certificate

5=Master's Degree

6=Post-master's certificate

7=Doctoral Degree - research/scholarship (for example, PhD., EdD., etc.)

8=Doctoral Degree - professional practice (including: chiropractic, dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine)

9=Doctoral Degree -- other

Applies to: Respondents who had received a credential from their last attended postsecondary school.

Item: F3PSINCCRED

What type of degree or certificate were you pursuing when you were last attending [school name]?

-or-

What type of degree or certificate are you currently pursuing at [school name]?

1=Undergraduate certificate or diploma (usually less than 2 years), including those leading to a license (for example, cosmetology)

2=Associate's Degree (usually a 2-year degree)

3=Bachelor's Degree (usually a 4-year degree)

4=Post-baccalaureate certificate

5=Master's Degree

6=Post-master's certificate

7=Doctoral Degree - research/scholarship (for example, PhD., EdD., etc.)

8=Doctoral Degree - professional practice (including: chiropractic, dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine)

9=Doctoral Degree -- other

Applies to: Respondents who did not earn a credential from their last-attended postsecondary institution, and respondents who are currently attending a postsecondary institution.

Item: F3PSCREDDATE

In what month and year did you receive your [credential] from [school name]?

Applies to: Respondents who had received a credential from their last attended postsecondary school.

Item: F3PSMAJOR

What was your primary major or program of study for your [credential] from [school name]?

Applies to: Respondents who had received a credential from their last attended postsecondary school.

Item: F3PS2NDMAJ

Did you have a secondary major or program of study for your [credential] from [school name]?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: Respondents who had received a credential from their last attended postsecondary school.

Item: F3PSSECMAJ

What was your secondary major or program of study for your [credential] from [school name]?

Applies to: Respondents who had received a credential from their last attended postsecondary school.

Item: F3OTHERCRED

Question wording:

[You have already told us about: credential from last school attended

Have you received any other degrees or certificates from a college, university, or vocational, technical or trade school?]

-or-

Have you received any degrees or certificates from any other college, university, or vocational, technical or trade school?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: Respondents with postsecondary attendance.

Item: F3OTHCREDTYP

[You have already told us about:

Your [credential] from [school name]]

What other degrees or certificates do you have?

(Please select one option below; if you have multiple degrees/certificates, we will ask you later about the other credentials you may have received.)

1=Undergraduate certificate or diploma (usually less than 2 years), including those leading to a license (for example, cosmetology)

2=Associate's Degree (usually a 2-year degree)

3=Bachelor's Degree (usually a 4-year degree)

4=Post-baccalaureate certificate

5=Master's Degree

6=Post-master's certificate

7=Doctoral Degree – research/scholarship (for example, PhD., EdD., etc.)

8=Doctoral Degree – professional practice (including: chiropractic, dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine)

9=Doctoral Degree -- other

Applies to: Respondents who have earned one or more "other" postsecondary credentials.

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Item: F30THCREDSCH

From what institution did you earn this [credential]?

School name collected in F2/F3

School name collected in F2/F3

Etc.

Etc.

Another school

*Applies to: Respondents who have earned one or more "other" postsecondary credentials.*

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Item: F30THALTSCH

From what institution did you earn this [credential]?

Applies to: Respondents who indicate "another school" in the previous question.

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Item: F30THCREDDATE

In what month and year did you receive your [credential] from [school name]?

*Applies to: Respondents who have earned one or more "other" postsecondary credentials.*

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Item: F30THMAJOR

What was your primary major or program of study for your [credential] from [school name]?

Applies to: Respondents who have earned one or more "other" postsecondary credentials.

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Item: F30TH2NDMAJ

Did you have a secondary major or program of study for your [credential] from [school name]?

1=Yes

0=No

*Applies to: Respondents who have earned one or more "other" postsecondary credentials.*

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Item: F30THSECMAJ

What was your secondary major or program of study for your [credential] from [school name]?

Applies to: Respondents who have earned one or more "other" postsecondary credentials.

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Item: F3MORECRED

You have already told us about:

Your [credential] from [school name]

Etc.

Etc.

Have you received any other degrees or certificates?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: Respondents who have earned one or more "other" postsecondary credentials.

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Item: F3PSIMPACT

[Have you participated/Did you participate] in any of the following as a part of your [college/undergraduate] education?

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- Internship, co-op, field experience, student teaching, or clinical assignment
- Research project with a faculty member outside of course or program requirements
- Study abroad
- Community-based project (e.g., service learning) as part of a regular course
- Culminating senior experience, such as a capstone course, senior project or thesis, or comprehensive exam
- Program in which you were mentored

Applies to: Respondents with postsecondary attendance.

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Item: F3PSPREPLIFE

How important would you say your [undergraduate education was in/college education was in/college attendance has been in] preparing you for the following aspects of your life?

Response options: Very important / Somewhat important / Not at all important for each item below

- Work and career
- Further education
- Establishing your financial security
- Civic participation (for example, your involvement in the community, or voting)

Applies to: Respondents with postsecondary attendance.

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Item: F3WHYNOCRED

Earlier you indicated that you are no longer enrolled in any school and that you did not obtain a degree or certificate. Which of the following are reasons you left school?

-or-

Earlier you indicated that you had once attended a 4-year school, but did not obtain a credential from a 4-year school. Which of the following are reasons you left a 4-year school without completing a credential?

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- Done taking your desired classes
- You couldn't afford to continue going to school
- You'd rather work and make money than continue going to school
- Change in family status (for example, marriage, baby, or death in your family)
- Personal problems, injury, or illness
- Conflicts with demands at home
- Difficulty in completing requirements for your program, including developmental or remedial courses
- Classes were not available, or class scheduling wasn't convenient
- Job or military considerations

Applies to: Respondents who (1) are not currently enrolled, (2) have previous postsecondary attendance, and (3) have no postsecondary credential; or, respondents who (1) are not currently enrolled, (2) have previously attended a 4-year institution, and (3) have no credential from a 4-year institution.

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Item: F3EDEXP

What is the highest level of education you ever expect to complete?

- 1=Less than high school graduation
- 2=GED or other high school equivalency only
- 3=Undergraduate certificate or diploma (usually less than 2 years), including those leading to a license (for example, cosmetology)
- 4=Associate's Degree (usually a 2-year degree)
- 5=Bachelor's Degree (usually a 4-year degree)
- 6=Post-baccalaureate certificate
- 7=Master's Degree
- 8=Post-master's certificate
- 9=Doctoral Degree - research/scholarship (for example, PhD., EdD., etc.)
- 10=Doctoral Degree - professional practice (including: chiropractic, dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine)
- 11=Doctoral Degree - other
- 12=Don't know

Applies to: All respondents.

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Item: F3LOANEVER

Other than money you may have borrowed from family or friends, did you take out any type of education loans to help pay for your education since high school?

- 1=Yes
- 0=No

Applies to: Respondents with postsecondary attendance.

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Item: F3LOANOWE

What is the total amount of money you borrowed in student loans since high school? Do not include parent PLUS loans or any money borrowed from family or friends in your answer. (If you are unsure of the amount, please provide your best guess.)

Applies to: Respondents who have taken out an education loan.

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Item: F3LOANREPAY

Are you currently repaying any of your educational loans?

- Yes
- No

Applies to: Respondents who have taken out an education loan.

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Item: F3LOANPAY

How much do you pay each month for these loans?

Applies to: Respondents currently repaying their education loans.

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Item: F3LOANAFFECT

Did your student loan debt influence your employment plans and decisions in any of the following ways?

Response options: *yes/no for each item below*

- You took a job outside your field of study or training
- You took a less desirable job
- You had to work more hours than desired
- You had to work more than one job at the same time

Applies to: Respondents who have taken out an education loan.

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Item: F3GRANT

During your **first year** at [1<sup>st</sup> PS school attended], did you receive any grants or scholarships?

- Yes
- No

*Applies to: Respondents with postsecondary attendance.*

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Item: F3GRANTAMT

During your **first year** at [1st PS school attended], did those grants or scholarships pay for all, at least half but not all, or less than half of your...

Response options: *All / At least half, but not all / Less than half for each item below*

- tuition and fees?
- other college expenses such as rent, food, or books?

Applies to: Respondents who received a grant and/or scholarship for their first year of postsecondary attendance.

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Item: F3GRANTL

During your **last year** at [school name], did you receive any grants or scholarships?

*Applies to: Respondents with more than one year of postsecondary attendance.*

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Item: F3GRANTAMTL

How much of the tuition and fees forDuring your **last year** at [last PS school attended], did those grants or scholarships pay for all, at least half but not all, or less than half of your...

Response options: *All / At least half, but not all / Less than half for each item below*

- tuition and fees?
- other college expenses such as rent, food, or books?

Applies to: Respondents who received a grant and/or scholarship for their last year of postsecondary attendance.

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Item: F3LICENSE

Now we would like to ask you about professional certification and licensure. Do you have a current professional certification, a professional license, or a state or industry license?

(A professional certification or license verifies that you are qualified to perform a specific job. It includes things like licensed realtor, certified medical assistant, certified construction manager, or Cisco Certified Network Associate.)

- 1=Yes
- 0=No

*Applies to: All respondents.*

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Item: F3LICENSEBY

Were you certified or licensed by...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- your state?
- a professional organization?
- an industry, company, or some other organization?

Applies to: Respondents with a professional certification and/or license.

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Item: F3REQLICENSE

These next questions will be about your most recent certification or license. Did you have to do any of the following to get this certification or license?

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- Demonstrate skills while on the job
- Pass a test or exam
- Submit a portfolio of your work

Applies to: Respondents with a professional certification and/or license.

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Item: F3MNTNLICENSE

To maintain this certification or license, do you have to...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- take continuing education classes or earn continuing education units (CEUs)?
- take periodic tests?

Applies to: Respondents with a professional certification and/or license.

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Item: F3USELICENSE

Can this certification or license be...

Response options: Yes/No/Don't know for each item below

- revoked or suspended for any reason?
- used if you wanted to get a job with any employer in that field? (Answer "yes" for credentials that are recognized state-wide or regionally)

Applies to: Respondents with a professional certification and/or license.

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Item: FSJOBLICENSE

Was a professional certification or a state or industry license required for your current or most recent job?

- Yes
- No

Applies to: Respondents with a professional certification and/or license.

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Item: F3BINTRO

Next we'd like to ask you about your current or most recent employment, including any military experience.

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Item: F3EVRMILITARY

Have you ever been in the military?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents except those who already indicated (1) they were currently serving in the military, or (2) they were serving in the military as of June 2012.

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Item: F3MLTBRCH

In which branches of the military have you served?

(Check all that apply.)

Army

Air Force

Marine Corps

Navy

Coast Guard

*Applies to: Respondents with past and/or present military service.*

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Item: F3MLTACTIVE

In which component are you currently serving?

1=Active duty

2=Reserves

3=National Guard

Applies to: Respondents currently serving in the military.

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Item: F3MLTSTART

In what month and year did your first military service begin?

*Applies to: Respondents with past and/or present military service.*

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Item: F3MLTEND

In what month and year did your most recent military service end?

Applies to: Respondents with past military service who are not currently serving in the military.

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Item: F3MLTGRADE

What is the highest military pay grade you have achieved?

1=E-1

2=E-2

3=E-3

4=E-4

5=E-5

6=E-6

7=E-7

8=E-8

9=E-9

10=E-10

11=O-1

12=O-2

- 13=O-3
- 14=O-4
- 15=O-5
- 16=O-6
- 17=O-7
- 18=O-8
- 19=O-9
- 20=O-10
- 21=O-1E
- 22=O-2E
- 23=O-3E
- 24=W-1
- 25=W-2
- 26=W-3
- 27=W-4
- 28=W-5

*Applies to: Respondents with past and/or present military service.*

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Item: F3MLTSRVTIME

Have you ever served on active duty?

- Yes
- No

Applies to: Respondents with past and/or present military service.

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Item: F3MLTCMBT

Have you ever served in a combat zone?

- Yes
- No

*Applies to: Respondents with past and/or present military service.*

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Item: F3JOB

Since January 2006, have you ever held a job for pay?

- 1=Yes
- 0=No

Applies to: Respondents who have not already indicated that (1) they are currently working, or (2) they were working as of June 2012, or (3) they have served in the military.

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Item: F3WANTJOB

You mentioned earlier that you are not currently working for pay [at a full-time job]. Do you want a [full-time] job for pay at this time?

- 1=Yes
- 0=No

*Applies to: Respondents not currently employed full-time (i.e. employed part-time or not employed at all) and not currently serving in the military.*

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Item: F3LOOKJOB

Are you currently available and looking for [full-time] work?

Yes

No

Applies to: Respondents not currently employed full-time (i.e. employed part-time or not employed at all) and not currently serving in the military.

Item: F3NUMJOB

[Including your military service, how/How] many employers have you had since January 2006?

(Please provide your best estimate. Please count yourself as an employer if you have ever been self-employed.)

Applies to: All respondents except those who indicate they have not held a job for pay since January 2006.

Item: F3LASTWORK

[Including service in the armed forces, in/In] what month and year were you last working for pay?

Applies to: Respondents who are currently not working (and are not serving in the military), but who have worked (or served in the military) since January 2006.

Item: F3CNUMJOB

Altogether, how many [full-time jobs/part-time jobs/full-time jobs and how many part-time jobs] do you currently have?

current full-time jobs (35 hours/week or more)

current part-time jobs (less than 35/hours week)

Applies to: Respondents currently working and/or currently in the military.

Item: F3JOBTITLE

These next questions are about [the job at which you work the most hours / your current job / your military job / your most recent job]. For your [primary/current/military/most recent] job, what [is/was] your job title, and what [are/were] your job duties?

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

Item: F3STARTJOB

In what month and year did you begin your [job name]?

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

Item: F3SELFEMP

For your [job name] [are/were] you...

1=working for yourself, or

2=working for someone else?

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

Item: F3SELFEMP2

[Are/were] you...

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- the owner of your own business?
- a partner with others?
- supposed to file a federal income tax form SE?
- an independent contractor, consultant, or freelancer?

Applies to: Respondents who indicate they were working for themselves in their current/most recent job.

~~~~~  
Item: F3SUPERVISE

[Do/Did] you supervise the work of others as part of your [job name]?

(Answer "yes" if you recommended or initiated personnel actions such as hiring, firing, evaluating, or promoting others. Teachers should not count students.)

Yes

No

*Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBTYPE

What type of organization or business [employs/employed] you? [Is/was] it...

1=a private, for-profit business or company

2=a non-profit or not-for-profit organization or company

3=local government

4=state government

5=federal government, including civilian employees of the military, or

6=the military, including the National Guard?

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBHRS1

Typically, how many hours per week [do/did] you work for pay in your [job name]?

*Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBHRS2

Now we would like you to consider all of your current jobs for pay. How many hours per week do you work for pay in a typical week at these jobs?

Applies to: Respondents who are currently working more than one job.

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBDESC

Which one of the following four statements best describes your [job name]?

1=Someone else [decides/decided] what you [do/did] and how you [do/did] it

2=Someone else [decides/decided] what you [do/did], but you decide how [to do/you did] it

3=You [have/had] some freedom in deciding what you [do/did] and how you [do/did] it

4=You [are/were] basically your own boss

*Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOB BEN

[Does your employer for you [job name] offer / Does your current employer offer / Did your most recent employer offer] medical insurance or health insurance such as dental or vision?

Yes
No

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

~~~~~

Item: F3JOBCHAR

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "Not at all an aspect of the job" and 5 means "Very much an aspect of the job", please indicate to what extent the following job characteristics [apply/applied] to your [job name].

Response options: 1=Not at all an aspect of the job / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5=Very much an aspect of the job

- Job security
- Opportunity to learn new things
- High earnings
- New challenges
- Enough time for leisure activities
- Chance of doing something useful for society
- Good chance to combine work with family tasks

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

~~~~~

Item: F3PAYPERIOD

Now we would like to ask you a few questions concerning your earnings at your [job name]. For your [job name], what is the easiest way for you to report your total earnings before taxes or other deductions?

(We use this information to compare the amount that people earn in different types of jobs.)

- 1=per hour
- 2=per day
- 3=per week
- 4=every 2 weeks
- 5=twice per month
- 6=per month
- 7=per year

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

~~~~~

Item: F3HOURATE

Even though you told me it is easier to report your earnings [F3PAYPERIOD], [are/were] you paid at an hourly rate on your [job name]?

- 1=Yes
- 0=No

Applies to: Respondents who have worked for pay since January 2006, except those who already indicated that the easiest way for them to report earnings at their current/most recent job was "per hour".

~~~~~

Item: F3EARN

For your [job name], about how much [do/did] you earn [per day/bi-weekly (every two weeks)/bi-monthly (twice a month)/per month/per year/per hour] before taxes and other deductions?

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

~~~~~

Item: F3JOBREQ

[Are/Were] any of the following required for your [job name]?

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- A graduate degree
- A 4-year college degree
- A 2-year college degree
- A post-high school certificate or diploma from a vocational, technical, or trade school

Applies to: Respondents who have ever worked for pay or served in the military since January 2006.

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBFIELD

How closely related [is/was] [job name] to the major or field of study you had when you were last enrolled in college?

- 1=Closely related
- 2=Somewhat related
- 3=Not related

Applies to: Respondents who (1) have worked for pay since January 2006, and (2) have postsecondary attendance.

~~~~~  
Item: F3EVERFIELD

Have you ever had a job that was **closely related** to the major or field of study you had when you were last enrolled in college?

- Yes
- No

Applies to: Respondents who (1) have worked for pay since January 2006; (2) have postsecondary attendance; and (3) have a current/most recent job which is not closely related to their college field of study.

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBDF

[Would it be/Was it] difficult for you to do your [job name] without the courses you took in college?

- 1=Yes
- 0=No

Applies to: Respondents who (1) have worked for pay since January 2006, and (2) have postsecondary attendance.

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBSTATE

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about your [job name]:

Response options: Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

- Most people at work are pretty supportive of you.
- There are people you can learn from at work.
- There are people you can turn to for help in solving a work problem.
- You feel fairly well satisfied with your present job.
- Most days you are enthusiastic about your work.
- You find real enjoyment in your work.
- You plan to remain in your current job over the next year.
- You don't usually think about leaving this job.
- You feel pretty strongly committed to keeping your current job.

Applies to: Respondents who are currently working or serving in the military.

~~~~~  
Item: F3JOBDESCRB

Which of the following best describes your [job name]?

- 1=It fulfills your long-term career goals
- 2=It is a step on the path to your long-term career goals
- 3=It is not related to your long-term career goals
- 4=You do not have long-term career goals

Applies to: Respondents who are currently working or serving in the military.

~~~~~  
Item: F3JTRAIN

Now we would like to ask you about any formal job training you have received from an employer. Think about the skills that are needed for doing your [job name].

In the last 12 months, have you participated in a formal training program offered by an employer or a union that helped you learn or improve the skills needed to do your job?

(Include training from past as well as current employers if received in the last 12 months.)

- 1=Yes
- 0=No

*Applies to: Respondents who have been employed or been in the military within the last 12 months.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3CINTRO

In this next section, we'd like to collect a short employment history, and ask about your future employment plans.

~~~~~  
Item: F3WK2010

Across all your jobs during the 2011 calendar year, [including any military or civilian employment,] how many weeks did you work for pay? Please include all paid time off such as vacations, sick leave, and family leave in your weeks spent working.

(Do not include time spent out of work, between jobs, or without pay.)

*Applies to: Respondents who indicated being employed (or serving in the military) during or after 2011.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3HR2010

How many hours did you work for pay at all jobs during a typical working week in 2011?

Applies to: Respondents who indicated being employed (or serving in the military) during or after 2011.

~~~~~  
Item: F3MONTH09

Now, I would like you to think back to the year before last. [Including any military or civilian employment during/During] the 2010 calendar year, were you...

- 1=employed for six months or more
- 2=employed, but for less than six months, or
- 3=not employed at all?

*Applies to: Respondents who indicated being employed (or serving in the military) during or after 2010.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3FTPT09

For your employment in 2010, were you primarily working...

1=35 hours or more per week, or

2=less than 35 hours per week?

Applies to: Respondents who indicated being employed (or serving in the military) during or after 2010.

~~~~~

Item: F3MONTH08

Now, I would like you to go back a year further to 2009. [Including any military or civilian employment during/During] the 2009 calendar year, were you...

1=employed for 6 months or more

2=employed, but for less than 6 months, or

3=not employed at all?

*Applies to: Respondents who indicated being employed (or serving in the military) during or after 2009.*

~~~~~

Item: F3FTPT08

For your employment in 2009, were you primarily working...

1=35 hours or more per week, or

2=less than 35 hours per week?

Applies to: Respondents who indicated being employed (or serving in the military) during or after 2009.

~~~~~

Item: F3UNEMPEVR

Since January 2009, have you ever been unemployed for a period of one month or more, that is, not employed but seeking employment?

1=Yes

0=No

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~

Item: F3UNEMPFREQ

Since January 2009, approximately how many times have you been unemployed for a period of one month or more (not employed but seeking employment)?

Applies to: Respondents who have been unemployed (not working but seeking employment) since January 2009.

Item: F3UNEMPTOT

Since January 2009, approximately how many months in total have you been unemployed (not employed but seeking employment)?

Applies to: Respondents who have been unemployed (not working but seeking employment) since January 2009.

Item: F3UNEMPDUR

Of the [X] times you mentioned being unemployed since January 2009, what was the longest period of time you were unemployed (not employed but seeking employment)?

(Please indicate your longest period of unemployment in terms of number of months.)

Applies to: Respondents who have been unemployed (not working but seeking employment) more than once since January 2008.

Item: F3UNEMPCOMP

Since January 2009, have you ever received unemployment compensation, applied for unemployment compensation, or been eligible to receive unemployment compensation?

Yes

No

Applies to: All respondents.

Item: F3EMPBAR

Since January 2009, have any of the following interfered with your career plans?

Response options: yes/no for each item below

- Grades not high enough
- You did not have the required degree, license, or credential
- You were considered "overqualified"
- Illness, accident, or disability
- Lack of openings in your field
- Inability to relocate
- Lack of affordable child care
- Discrimination against persons of your race or ethnic background
- Discrimination against persons of your gender
- Lack of social connections or contacts
- Difficulty getting to or from work; for example, an inability to afford transportation

Applies to: All respondents.

Item: F3OCC30

What job or occupation do you plan to have when you are age 30?

(Check here if you don't know what job you plan to have at age 30.)

(Check here if you don't plan on working for pay at age 30.)

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3OCC30ED

How much education do you think you need to get the job you expect or plan to have when you are 30 years old?

- 1=Less than high school completion
- 2=GED or other high school equivalency
- 3=High school diploma
- 4=Undergraduate certificate or diploma (usually less than 2 years), including those leading to a license (for example, cosmetology)
- 5=Associate's Degree (usually a 2-year degree)
- 6=Bachelor's Degree (usually a 4-year degree)
- 7=Post-baccalaureate certificate
- 8=Master's Degree
- 9=Post-master's certificate
- 10=Doctoral Degree - research/scholarship (for example, PhD., EdD., etc.)
- 11=Doctoral Degree - professional practice (including: chiropractic, dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine)
- 12=Doctoral Degree -- other
- 13=Don't know

*Applies to: All respondents except those who (1) don't know what job they plan to have at age 30, or (2) don't plan to work for pay at age 30.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3DINTRO

Now we'd like to ask you some questions about your family life, your income and assets, and your community.

~~~~~  
Item: F3MARSTAT

What is your current marital status?

- 1=Single, never married
- 2=Married
- 3=Divorced
- 4=Separated
- 5=Widowed

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3PARTNER

Are you living with a significant other in a marriage-like relationship?

- Yes
- No

Applies to: Respondents who indicate their current marital status is something other than "married".

~~~~~  
Item: F3SPOUSEED

What is the highest level of education your [spouse/partner] has completed?

- 1=Less than high school completion
- 2=GED or other high school equivalency
- 3=High school diploma

- 4=Undergraduate certificate or diploma (usually less than 2 years), including those leading to a license (for example, cosmetology)
- 5=Associate's Degree (usually a 2-year degree)
- 6=Bachelor's Degree (usually a 4-year degree)
- 7=Post-baccalaureate certificate
- 8=Master's Degree
- 9=Post-master's certificate
- 10=Doctoral Degree – research/scholarship (for example, PhD., EdD., etc.)
- 11=Doctoral Degree – professional practice (including: chiropractic, dentistry, law, medicine, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, or veterinary medicine)
- 12=Doctoral Degree -- other

*Applies to: Respondents who are currently married or currently living with a significant other in a marriage-like relationship.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3MARFREQ

[Including your current marriage, how/How] many times have you been married?

Applies to: Respondents whose current marital status is "married", "divorced", "separated", "widowed", or "living with a significant other in marriage-like relationship".

~~~~~  
Item: F3MARDATE

Question wording:

[In what month and year were you married? / In what month and year did your [first/second/third/fourth/etc.] marriage begin?]

*Applies to: Respondents who are (or have been) married.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3BIOCHILD

Have you had any biological children, that is, children [for whom you are the natural father/for whom you are the natural mother/born to you]?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3BIOCHNUM

How many biological children have you had?

*Applies to: Respondents who have ever had a child.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3BIOCHDATE

In what month and year was your [first/second/third/fourth/etc.] biological child born?

Applies to: Respondents who have ever had a child.

~~~~~  
Item: F3BIOCHPART

At the time of your [first/second/third/etc.] biological child's birth, were you married to your child's [father/mother/other parent]?

1=Yes

0=No

*Applies to: Respondents who have ever been married and who have ever had a child.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3EVERADOPT

Have you ever adopted a child?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3ADOPTNUM

How many children have you adopted?

*Applies to: Respondents who have ever adopted a child.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3ADOPTDATE

In what month and year did you [first/next] adopt a child?

Applies to: Respondents who have ever adopted a child.

~~~~~  
Item: F3RESZIP

Now we'd like to collect some information about your current living arrangements.

What is the 5-digit ZIP code for your current residence?

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3HHOTHERS

Do you live...

1=with others, or

2=by yourself?

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3HHROSTER

How many of each of the following people live with you?

(Please enter '0' where appropriate.)

Your spouse

Your partner in a marriage-like relationship

Your mother or female guardian

Your father or male guardian

Friends or roommates

Brothers or sisters (including adoptive, step, and foster siblings)

Children (yours or otherwise)

Others not already listed

*Applies to: All respondents except those who indicated they live by themselves.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3PARHOME

Do you...

- 1=live in your parent or guardian's home, or
- 2=[does she/does he/do they] live in your home?

Applies to: Respondents who indicate living with their mother/female guardian and/or father/male guardian.

~~~~~

Item: F3CONTRIBUTE

Do you contribute to the cost of your room and board by paying money to your [parent(s)/guardian(s)], paying certain household bills, or buying things such as groceries for the household?

- Yes
- No

*Applies to: Respondents who indicate they live in their parent/guardian's home.*

~~~~~

Item: F3DPNDNT

Now we would like to get some information about current dependents. Excluding [you/you and your spouse/you and your partner], do you currently support any dependents?

(A dependent is a person for whom you pay at least half their expenses, such as food, shelter, clothing, health care, and schooling. This may include your children, parents, or others. Note that a dependent does not have to live with you.)

- Yes
- No

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~

Item: F3DEPENDENT

Excluding [yourself/you and your spouse/you and your partner], how many of each of the following types of dependents do you currently support?

(Enter '0' where appropriate. A dependent is a person for whom you pay at least half their expenses, such as food, shelter, clothing, health care, and schooling. This may include your children, parents, or others. Note that a dependent does not have to live with you.)

- Number of dependents less than age 18
- Number of dependents age 18 or older

*Applies to: Respondents who indicate they currently support a dependent.*

~~~~~

Item: F3EARN2011

About how much did you earn from employment in 2011 before taxes and all other deductions? Please include all wages, salaries, income from a business or farm, commissions, and tips you earned in 2011. [Please include your earnings only; we will ask about your [spouse's/partner's] earnings in a separate question.]

Applies to: Respondents who indicate being employed (or serving in the military) during or after 2011.

~~~~~

Item: F3EARN2011CAT

We understand that you may not be able to provide an exact number for your job earnings. However, it would be extremely helpful if you would indicate which of the following ranges best estimates how much you earned from employment prior to taxes and deductions in calendar year 2011. Please include all wages, salaries, net income from a business or farm, commissions, and tips you earned in 2011.

- 1=Less than \$1,000
- 2=\$1,000-\$2,499
- 3=\$2,500-\$4,999

- 4=\$5,000-\$9,999
- 5=\$10,000-\$14,999
- 6=\$15,000-\$19,999
- 7=\$20,000-\$24,999
- 8=\$25,000-\$29,999
- 9=\$30,000-\$34,999
- 10=\$35,000-\$44,999
- 11=\$45,000-\$54,999
- 12=\$55,000-\$64,999
- 13=\$65,000 and above

*Applies to: Respondents who are administered the previous question but do not provide a response.*

~~~~~

Item: F3SPEARNS

Next, about how much did your [spouse/partner] earn from employment before taxes and all other deductions in 2011? Please include all wages, salaries, net income from a business or farm, commissions, and tips your [spouse/partner] earned in 2011.

(Check here if they had no earnings from employment in 2011.)

Applies to: Respondents who are currently married or currently living with a significant other in a marriage-like relationship.

~~~~~

Item: F3SPEARNCAT

We understand that you may not be able to provide an exact number for your [spouse's/partner's] job earnings. However, it would be extremely helpful if you would indicate which of the following ranges best estimates how much your [spouse/partner] earned from employment prior to taxes and deductions in calendar year 2011.

Please include all wages, salaries, net income from a business or farm, commissions, and tips they earned in 2011.

- 1=Less than \$1,000
- 2=\$1,000-\$2,499
- 3=\$2,500-\$4,999
- 4=\$5,000-\$9,999
- 5=\$10,000-\$14,999
- 6=\$15,000-\$19,999
- 7=\$20,000-\$24,999
- 8=\$25,000-\$29,999
- 9=\$30,000-\$34,999
- 10=\$35,000-\$44,999
- 11=\$45,000-\$54,999
- 12=\$55,000-\$64,999
- 13=\$65,000 and above

*Applies to: Respondents who are administered the previous question but do not provide a response.*

~~~~~

Item: F3PUBASSIST

During 2011, did you [or anyone in your household] receive any of the following benefits: Social Security, SNAP (the Food Stamp Program), TANF (the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program), The Free and Reduced Price School Lunch Program, or WIC (the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children)?

- Yes
- No

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3PARASSIST

Have your parent(s) or guardian(s) given you any money or paid for anything significant for you during the last 12 months? Do not include regular birthday or holiday gifts.

Yes

No

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3OTHRSRC

Without considering any 2011 earnings from employment, approximately how much did [you / you and your spouse / you and your partner] receive from sources of income other than employment in 2011? (If none, please enter '0'. Sources of income other than employment might include investments, unemployment compensation, alimony or child support, family members, or disability payments.)

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3RPLANSIN

Now I would like to ask you some questions about any pension or retirement savings. Many employers and unions sponsor pensions or retirement plans, some provide tax-deferred plans such as 401 K's, profit sharing or stock ownership plans. Other examples include thrift savings plans, 403B plans, 457 plans, IRA-SEP plans, IRA-SIMPLE plans, and other IRA plans. Do you have any savings in these types of plans?

Yes

No

*Applies to: All respondents except those who are currently married or are currently living with a significant other in a marriage-like relationship.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3RPLANMAR

Now I would like to ask you some questions about any pension or retirement savings. Many employers and unions sponsor pensions or retirement plans, some provide tax-deferred plans such as 401 K's, profit sharing or stock ownership plans. Other examples include thrift savings plans, 403B plans, 457 plans, IRA-SEP plans, IRA-SIMPLE plans, and other IRA plans.

Response options: yes/no for each item below

Do you and your [spouse/partner] have any of these plans jointly?

Do you have any of these plans on your own separate from your [spouse/partner]?

Does your [spouse/partner] have any of these plans separate from you?

Applies to: Respondents who are currently married or are currently living with a significant other in a marriage-like relationship.

~~~~~  
Item: F3SAVINGS

What is the total value of all the savings [you have/you have in your own and you have jointly with your spouse/you have in your own and you have jointly with your partner/you have jointly with your spouse/you have jointly with your partner] in these types of plans?

*Applies to: Respondents with their own retirement plans, and/or those who hold joint retirement plans with their spouse/partner.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3DOMICILE

Do you...

1=pay mortgage towards or own your home

2=pay rent where you live, or

3=have some other arrangement?

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3RESVALUE

What is the present value of your home? That is, about how much would it bring if it were sold today?

*Applies to: Respondents who pay mortgage towards or own their own home.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3MORTOWE

About how much do [you/you and your spouse/you and your partner] owe on the mortgage for your residence? (If none, please enter '0'.)

Applies to: Respondents who pay mortgage towards or own their own home.

~~~~~  
Item: F3ALLDEBT

Now, think about your debts[, besides any mortgage on your home]. How much do you[ and your spouse/partner] owe altogether? [Do not include mortgage loans, but include all other debts,/Include all debts] such as credit card debt, unpaid student loans, unpaid car loans, and all other unpaid loans. (Please enter '0' if you [and your spouse/partner ]have no debt.)

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3DEBT

Suppose you [and others in your household]were to sell all of your major possessions[including your home], turn all of your investments and other assets into cash, and pay off all your debts[including your mortgage]. Would you have something left over, break even, or be in debt?

1=Have something left over

2=Break even

3=Be in debt

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3DEBT2

How much would you [have left over / be in debt]?

*Applies to: All respondents except those who indicate they would "break even" if they sold all their major possessions and paid off all their debts.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3FINSTRESS

Many young adults experience financial problems. How much stress have you felt in meeting your financial obligations during the past year?

1=Not at all stressful

2

3=Moderately stressful

4

5=Extremely stressful

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~

Item: F3VOTE

Now we have some questions on voting. Are you currently registered to vote?

1=Yes

2=No

3=You are not eligible to vote

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~

Item: F3VOTEPRES

[Even though you are not currently registered to vote, did/Even though you are not currently eligible to vote, did/Did] you vote in the 2008 presidential election?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~

Item: F3VOTELOCAL

Did you vote in any local, state, or national election during 2009, 2010, or 2011?

1=Yes

0=No

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~

Item: F3VOLUNTEER

During the past 2 years, have you performed any unpaid volunteer or community service work through such organizations as youth groups, service clubs, church clubs, school groups, or social action groups?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~

Item: F3VOLORG

Which of the following types of organizations have you been involved with in your unpaid volunteer or community service work during the past two years?

*Response options: yes/no for each item below*

- Youth organizations, such as coaching Little League or helping with the scouts?
- Service organizations, such as Big Brother/Big Sister or the Red Cross?
- Political clubs or organizations?
- Religious or spiritual organizations, including churches, synagogues, and mosques (but not including attending worship services)?
- Community centers, neighborhood improvement, or civic associations or groups?
- Volunteering in a hospital, nursing home, or retirement community or in a program making home visits to people in need?
- Educational organizations, including schools and libraries?
- A conservation, recycling, or environmental group such as the Sierra Club or the Nature Conservancy?

- A group providing international aid or promoting world peace?
- A group that helps people in need of food, shelter, or other basic necessities?
- Activities related to arts or culture?
- Any other kind of group or organization?

*Applies to: Respondents who indicated they have performed volunteer work/community service in the last 2 years.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3VOLFREQ

During the past two years, how often did you spend time volunteering or performing community service?

- 1=Less than once a month
- 2=At least once a month, but not weekly
- 3=At least once a week

Applies to: Respondents who indicated they have performed volunteer work/community service in the last 2 years.

~~~~~  
Item: F3DONATE

On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'never' and 5 means 'always', please indicate how often you contribute financially to causes you believe in; for example, making financial donations to charities, organizations, and causes.

- 1=1=Never
- 2=2
- 3=3
- 4=4
- 5=5=Always

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3LIFEEVENT

Since January 2006, have any of the following happened to you?

Response options: No, has not happened / Yes, has happened once / Yes, has happened more than once

- Your parents or guardians got divorced or separated
- One of your parents or guardians lost his or her job
- You lost your job
- One of your parents or guardians died
- A close relative or friend died
- You became seriously ill or disabled
- A family member became seriously ill or disabled
- You were the victim of a violent crime

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3PARDIVORCE

[When did your parents or guardians get divorced or separated? / When was the first time that your parents or guardians got divorced or separated?]

(Please only include divorces/separations that have occurred since January 2006.)

[When was the last time that your parents or guardians got divorced or separated?]

*Applies to: Respondents whose parents/guardians were divorced or separated since January 2006.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3PARJOB

[When did one of your parents or guardians lose his or her job? / When was the first time that one of your parents or guardians lost his or her job?]

(Please only include times they have lost a job since January 2006.)

[When was the last time that one of your parents or guardians lost his or her job?]

Applies to: Respondents whose parent(s)/guardian(s) lost a job since January 2006.

~~~~~  
Item: F3LOSTJOB

[When did you lose your job? / When was the first time that you lost your job?]

(Please only include times you lost a job since January 2006.)

[When was the last time that you lost your job?]

*Applies to: Respondents who lost a job since January 2006.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3PARDIED

[When did one of your parents or guardians die? / When was the first time that one of your parents or guardians died?]

(Please only include events that have occurred since January 2006.)

[When was the last time that one of your parents or guardians died?]

Applies to: Respondents whose parent(s)/guardian(s) died since January 2006.

~~~~~  
Item: F3OTHERDIED

[When did your close friend or relative die? / When was the first time that one of your close friends or relatives died?]

(Please only include events that have occurred since January 2006.)

[When was the last time that one of your close friends or relatives died?]

*Applies to: Respondents whose close friend or relative died since January 2006.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3ILL

[When did you become seriously ill or disabled? / When was the first time that you became seriously ill or disabled?]

(Please only include events that have occurred since January 2006.)

[When was the last time that you became seriously ill or disabled?]

Applies to: Respondents who became seriously ill or disabled since January 2006.

~~~~~  
Item: F3FAMILL

[When was the first time that/When did] your family member become seriously ill or disabled?

(Please only include events that have occurred since January 2006.)

[When was the last time that your family member became seriously ill or disabled?]

*Applies to: Respondents with a family member who became seriously ill or disabled since January 2006.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3VICTIM

[When was the first time you were/When were you] the victim of a violent crime?

(Please only include events that have occurred since January 2006.)

[When was the last time you were the victim of a violent crime?]

Applies to: Respondents who were victim of a violent crime since January 2006.

~~~~~  
Item: F3VALUES

How important is each of the following to you in your life?

Response options: *Not important / Somewhat important / Very important for each item below*

- Finding the right person to marry or partner with and having a happy family life
- Having lots of money
- Having strong friendships
- Helping other people in your community
- Being able to give your children better opportunities than you've had
- Living close to parents and relatives
- Working to correct social and economic inequalities
- Having children
- Having leisure time to enjoy your own interests
- Being an expert in your field of work
- Having a good education

*Applies to: All respondents.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3CHECK

Before completing the interview, we would like to collect some information to help in processing your \$XX check. (Please update/verify your name below; please also provide a phone number and an address to which you would like your check mailed.)

(Check here if you prefer not to be paid for your participation.)

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: F3SSN

What is your Social Security number?

(Under Title 20 of the General Education Provisions Act, we may collect your Social Security number for the purpose of confirming information abstracted from postsecondary educational records. Giving us your Social Security number is completely voluntary and there is no penalty for not disclosing it.)

*Applies to: Respondents for whom we do not already have a valid Social Security number.*

~~~~~  
Item: F3CONTACT

Last, we want to let you know that some survey participants may be invited to participate in future follow-up studies to learn more about their education and employment experiences. These future follow-up studies will be led by external researchers not affiliated with the Department of Education. We would like to seek your permission to allow RTI to re-contact you on behalf of one of the external researchers. Your participation in any future study is completely voluntary, but there is no substitute for your response.

Are you willing to be contacted about these future studies?

1=Yes

0=No

Applies to: All respondents.

~~~~~  
Item: END

Congratulations, you have completed the ELS questionnaire!

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Education, thank you for your time and cooperation. We greatly appreciate your participation in this study.

~~~~~

**Amendment to Appendix 2
ELS 2002 3rd-Follow-up 2012
Communication Materials**

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Abbreviated Interview Contact Materials

Abbreviated Interview Announcement Letter

<date>

<fname> <mname> <lname> <suffix>
<addr1>
<addr2>
<city>, <state> <zip> <zip4>

Study ID: <caseid>
<panelinfo>

Dear <fname> <lname>:

You may be wondering why we have been trying to contact you in recent weeks. We would like you to complete a follow-up interview for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences. We are now offering an abbreviated survey for the Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 that will take only about **10 minutes** to complete.

You will receive a \$<inc_amt> check as a token of our appreciation after you finish the survey. Please act quickly because the study ends February 3rd.

Complete the approx. 10 minute
survey online:

<https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/els/>

Study ID = <caseid>

Password = <password>

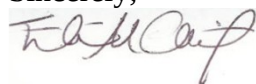
The Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS:2002) collects information on the experiences of young adults during and after high school including work experiences, college experiences, and family life. It is vitally important we obtain updated information on all sample members each time that data are collected for the data to be accurate and remain nationally representative of all high school sophomores and seniors in the original study sample. Also, your response to our survey is extremely valuable because you will be acting on behalf of all those young adults like you who were not chosen to participate.

To complete the interview by telephone with a professional interviewer, call the Help Desk toll-free at 1-866-860-5229.

Your responses may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law (20 U.S.C. § 9573).

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important study. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and needed to make this study a success.

Sincerely,



Elise Christopher
NCES Project Officer
National Center for Education Statistics
U.S. Department of Education

Abbreviated Interview Announcement Email

Subject: ELS:2002 survey can now be completed in 10 minutes!

Dear <<NAME>>,

The Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 (ELS:2002) is coming to an end very soon, and time is running out for you to contribute to this important study. We are now offering an **abbreviated survey** that will take **only about 10 minutes to complete**. You will still **receive a \$<inc_amt> check** as a token of our appreciation after you finish the survey.

Please access your ELS:2002 survey by [clicking here](#), or by logging in to our secure website below.

<https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/els/>

Study ID = <<caseID>>

Password = <<password>>

If you have questions, problems completing your survey online, or prefer to complete the survey over the telephone, simply call the Help Desk at **1-866-860-5229**.

Your participation in ELS:2002 is voluntary, but sharing your experiences will help ensure the study's success. Thank you, in advance, for your participation.

Dan Pratt
ELS:2002 Project Director

Postcard With Abbreviated Interview Time Included

Education Longitudinal Study of 2002 Third Follow-up

Time is running out!

«fname»,
our data collection ends **February 3rd**
and we still need YOU.



We know you are busy.
Please complete this short
approximately 10-minute
ELS survey and we'll send
you \$<inc> as a token of our
appreciation.

GO TO: <https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/els/>

Study ID: «caseid»

Password: «password»Q

Or call 1-866-860-5229 to complete the survey by phone.

The Education Longitudinal Study (ELS) is a survey about the education and employment experiences of young adults during and after high school. RTI International is conducting this study for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) in the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences. For questions regarding the survey, please call the Help Desk at 1-866-860-5229, or you can email us at els@rti.org.

 **ies** NATIONAL CENTER FOR
EDUCATION STATISTICS
Institute of Education Sciences

«casoid»/«panelinfo»