

How can we understand the lives of the more than 300 million people in the U.S.? Well, we could try to interview everyone, but that would be expensive and time consuming. Instead, we focus on a smaller sample of a generation of U.S. citizens that altogether represent the different points of view of people in your age group. From your and from others' responses together, we can see the "big picture".

# Getting Perspective

As a member of the NLSY79 and by calling our **Early Bird** hotline number and completing the survey, you'll help researchers and policymakers better understand the economy, employment, health, family life, and education of people in your generation.

When you call our **Early Bird** hotline number, you save us the time and effort of contacting you. We want to share the savings with you! To get your extra cash and participate in the **Early Bird** program you must contact us within 4 weeks of receiving this letter.



See the directions below to participate in the **Early Bird** program. If you choose not to participate in the **Early Bird** program, we are still happy for you to take part in the NLSY79 as you have in the past, and you will receive the standard payment in thanks for your time.

We know that you are sharing a big part of your lives with us and we take your confidentiality very seriously. We follow the federal laws that govern the confidentiality of survey respondents, as well as additional policies and procedures that ensure your answers are safeguarded. Please see the back

of this letter for more information about privacy and confidentiality. The average interview lasts about 60 minutes. As a small thank you, we have included (gift).

If you have any questions about the study or the **Early Bird** program, please call us toll free at 1-877-853-5908 or send us an e-mail at [nls79@norc.org](mailto:nls79@norc.org). You can update your contact information, schedule your next interview, and learn more about the NLSY79 online at [nlsy79.norc.org](http://nlsy79.norc.org). We look forward to talking with you soon. And again, thank you!

## *All it takes is 3 easy steps!*



1. Call our **Early Bird** toll free number at 1-877-853-5908.
2. Leave us a message with your:
  - Name
  - **Early Bird** Number <<EBID>>
  - Phone Number
  - A good time to call you back
3. An interviewer will return your call within 48 hours, ready to do your survey or to schedule an appointment time that's convenient for you. You will be mailed \$<<RFEEFORR23>> in thanks for your prompt participation.



**WHY IS THIS STUDY IMPORTANT?** Thanks to your help, researchers and policymakers will have a better understanding of the work experiences, family characteristics, health, financial status, and other important information about the lives of people in your generation. This is a voluntary study, and there are no penalties for not answering questions. However, because your answers represent the experiences of hundreds of other people your age, missing responses make it more difficult to understand the issues that concern people in your community and across the country. We thank you for your past participation, and hope we can count on you again this year.

**WHO AUTHORIZES THIS STUDY?** The sponsor of the study is the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The study is authorized under Title 29, Section 2, of the United States Code. The Center for Human Resource Research at The Ohio State University and NORC at the University of Chicago conduct this study under a contract with the Department of Labor. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved the questionnaire and has assigned 1220-0157 as the study's control number. This control number expires on May 31, 2015. Without OMB approval and this number, we would not be able to conduct this study.

**WHO SEES MY ANSWERS?** We want to reassure you that your confidentiality is protected by law. In accordance with the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA), the Privacy Act, and other applicable Federal laws, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, its employees and agents, will, to the full extent permitted by law, use the information you provide for statistical purposes only, will hold your responses in confidence, and will not disclose them in identifiable form without your informed consent. CIPSEA strictly limits who may have access to protected data, sets strict fines and penalties for knowing and willful disclosures of confidential information to unauthorized persons, and explicitly exempts protected statistical information from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act. All the employees who work on the survey at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its contractors must sign a document pledging to protect the confidentiality of your data.

Some of your answers will be made available to researchers at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and other government agencies, universities, and private research organizations through publicly available data files. These publicly available files contain no personal identifiers, such as names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and places of work, and exclude any information about the States, counties, metropolitan areas, and other, more detailed geographic locations in which survey participants live, making it much more difficult to figure out the identities of participants. Some researchers are granted special access to data files that include geographic information, but only after those researchers go through a thorough application process at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Those authorized researchers must sign a written agreement making them official agents of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and requiring them to protect the confidentiality of survey participants. Those researchers are never provided with the personal identities of participants. The National Archives and Records Administration and the General Services Administration may receive copies of survey data and materials because those agencies are responsible for storing the Nation's historical documents.

**HOW MUCH TIME WILL THE INTERVIEW TAKE?** Based on preliminary tests, we expect the average interview to take about 60 minutes. Your interview may be somewhat shorter or longer depending on your circumstances. If you have any comments regarding this study or recommendations for reducing its length, send them to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Longitudinal Surveys, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Washington, DC 20212.

**WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?** To learn more about the survey, visit [www.nlsinfo.org](http://www.nlsinfo.org). To search for articles, reports, and other research based on the National Longitudinal Surveys, visit [www.nlsbibliography.org](http://www.nlsbibliography.org).



Visit [nlsy79.norc.org](http://nlsy79.norc.org) to update your contact information and learn about the survey. Or just use your phone to scan the code above to contact us online!