

# Survey Item Bank

## FedCASIC Presentation

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# NCS-Study Background

- The National Children's Study (NCS) represented one of the most comprehensive research efforts, and the largest and most detailed study in history focused on children's health and development in the United States.
- Examined the relationship between child development and a wide range of environmental factors.
- NCS planned to collect longitudinal data of 100,000 U.S. children who will be followed from their mothers' pregnancies until they are 21 years old.
- Nationally representative probability sample.

# Vanguard Pilot Study

- Focused on testing recruitment and enrollment strategies.
- Reviewed issues of administration time, costs, maintenance of supplies, equipment, etc.
- Collected preliminary data on child health and environmental factors
- Different types of data collection tools tested:
  - biospecimen (e.g., blood, urine, saliva)
  - environmental samples (e.g., dust, soil, air)
  - observations (e.g., residences, neighborhoods)
  - physical evaluations
  - questionnaires

# Vanguard Questionnaire

- Questionnaires administered to pregnant mothers, fathers, caregivers, and children across many study visits.
- Core questionnaire included standardized sets of items asked of all NCS participants.
- Specific modules developed appropriate for the age and specific type of data collection.

# Avar's Role/Task

- Support NICHD in developing questionnaires from pregnancy through 60 months to ensure that:
  - Questionnaires cover most important topics/measures in child development (coverage).
  - Items are comparable with major federal/national studies (comparability).
  - Items/questions are consistent across all the NCS data collection instruments (consistency).

# Coverage

- Identified topics (and survey items) covered by selected international birth cohort studies, but not in previous NCS questionnaires, to make sure that all relevant topics will be covered in future studies.
- Initially, four international birth cohort studies were reviewed, including ALSPAC, BIB, ECS, and MoBa.\*
- NCS program staff made decisions to include or exclude domains/sub-domains that did not appear on Vanguard questionnaires.

\*ALSPAC–Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents & Children/Children of the 90s, England;  
BIB–Born in Bradford, England;  
ECS–Ecology- Children Study, Japan; and  
MoBa–Norske morog bar-undersøkelsen (Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study, Norway).

# Comparability

- Compared selected NCS survey items with similar ones used in selected national studies.
- Question wording, response categories, question order, and skip patterns were examined to ensure comparability between NCS and other major federal and national studies.
- NCS program staff reviewed the comparisons and either chose the “best” item set (or survey item) or requested that the SIB include multiple item sets.
- National and regional studies reviewed, including:
  - American Community Survey (ACS)
  - National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)
  - National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)
  - American Healthy Homes Survey (AHHS)
  - Other databases, such as NIH toolbox



# Consistency

- Review and verify that the same question wording and response categories are used across different study visits and different survey modes.
- Avar examined items appearing on the Pregnancy, Birth, Core, 3-, 6-, 9-, 12, 18-, and 24-month questionnaires.

# SIB Development-Purpose

- Create an online tool to document all the survey items in one database to enable researchers to examine survey item coverage, comparability, and consistency through the following functions:
  - Classify related survey items into topic oriented “item sets”
  - Search items/item sets by study, topics, and target population
  - Compare survey questions and topics across studies (online crosswalk)
  - Create questionnaires by selecting item sets
  - Document detailed metadata of each item set

# SIB Characteristics

- Online (web-based) application
- Based on 7 measurement categories developed by NCS, including:
  - Demographics, Health Behaviors, Neurodevelopment, Psychosocial, Physical Environment, Physical Health, and Social Environment
- 9,000 individual survey items
- 100 different sources
- Metadata information
- Integrate with databases developed by other contractors
- Very user-friendly!

# Item Sets

- Each item set consists of a single question or of a series of closely related questions that covers a single subject or topic.
- Item sets are the building blocks for creating a questionnaire for any form of administration.
- Each item set also contains metadata—information about the question(s) in the set, including sources, use in NCS develop-mental surveys, intended respondent, intended subject (“target”), and characteristics, such as whether the question is proprietary or an element of a tested set that constitutes a “scale.”

# Documentation Provided to NICHD

- 28-page document describing the system architecture of the SIB website and step by step instructions how to install the system and configure it.
- A 23-page User's Guide describing the steps to log into the SIB, instructions to display information, steps to conduct keyword searches, instructions to download an item to create questionnaires.
- A 19-page document describing how to add questions to the SIB database.

# Application of SIB Tool

The SIB represents an innovative tool to help organizations develop questionnaires (either cross-sectional or longitudinal) of any subject matter.

# SIB Screen Snapshots

# Login Screen



**The National Children's Study** is a multi-year research study that will examine the effects of environmental influences on the health and development of more than 100,000 children across the United States, following them from before birth until age 21 years. The goal of the Study is to improve the health and well-being of children and contribute to understanding the role various factors have on health and disease. See <http://www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov> for additional information.

## Survey Item Bank

**This repository** provides a user-friendly tool to view and work with NCS questionnaire item sets. Each item set consists of one or more questions on a common, narrowly-defined topic and is accompanied by associated metadata, such as source(s) of items, previous administration in NCS pilot studies, and number of items in the item set. Users can perform keyword searches, search by study visit (pregnancy, birth, 6 months, Core, etc.), target (child, adult caregiver, biological mother, biological father, or household), or respondent (child, adult caregiver, biological mother, or biological father). Users can also view the content of item sets and create questionnaires by placing a series of item sets in a "shopping cart," and downloading the contents to an MS Word file. There are currently over 600 item sets and more than 6,000 survey questions.

## Login Here

Username:

Password:

Login



# Main Screen



Search Here:

## Survey Item Bank Directory:

Start your search by clicking a record or selecting multiple records below.

Category:	Study Visits:	Target:	Respondent:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demographic <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Health Behaviors <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Neurodevelopmental <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Psychosocial <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Physical Environment <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Physical Health <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Social Environment <input type="checkbox"/></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pregnancy 1 <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Pregnancy 2 <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Birth <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 3 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 6 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 9 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 18 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 24 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 30 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 36 Months (3 years old) <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 42 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 48 Months (4 years old) <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 54 Months <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• 60 Months (5 years old) <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Core Questionnaire <input type="checkbox"/></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Adult Caregiver <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Biological Mother <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Biological Father <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Household <input type="checkbox"/></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Child <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Adult Caregiver <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Biological Mother <input type="checkbox"/></li><li>• Biological Father <input type="checkbox"/></li></ul>

**Measurement categories**

The NCS Survey Item Bank  
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# Domain-Health Behaviors

The screenshot shows a web application interface for 'The National Children's Study'. At the top, there is a banner with the text 'IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN' and 'THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY HEALTH GROWTH ENVIRONMENT'. Below the banner is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search Here: Search keyword here' and buttons for 'Search', 'Back', 'Home', and 'Logout'. On the left side, there is a folder icon labeled 'Health Behaviors'. To the right of the folder icon is a list of categories, each with a small orange square icon and a right-pointing arrow:

- Activity
- Diet
- Health Care Use/Access
- Healthcare Use/Access
- Other Health Promoting Behaviors
- Sexual Behavior
- Sleep
- Substance Use
- Sun Exposures

On the right side of the interface, there is a 'My Lists' section. It contains a list item 'Unsaved List' with a plus sign icon. Below this, there is a section labeled 'Unsaved List:' with a 'SAVE' button. At the bottom of this section, it says 'Total Items: 0' with a 'Download' button.

# Subdomain-Health Insurance

Search Here:

 Health Behaviors

- Activity
- Diet
- Health Care Use/Access
  - ER Visits/Urgent Care Visits
  - Health Care Access
  - Health Care Usage/Doctor Visits
  - Health Care Usage/Doctor Visits
  - Health Insurance
    - Health Insurance (Core 2013)  
    - Health Insurance  
    - Health Insurance (Retrospective)  
    - Family Health Insurance (NHIS, 2012)  
    - Medical Bills and Health Insurance (NHIS, 2012)  
    - Adult Health Insurance Purchase (NHIS, 2012)  
    - Health Insurance (NHANES, 2013)  
    - Health Insurance (PRAMS)  

**My Lists**  
• Unsaved List 

Unsaved List:

Total Items: 0

# Item Set-Medical Bills and Health Insurance and Metadata

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY  
HEALTH GROWTH ENVIRONMENT

Export Close Home Logout

Measurement Category: Health Behaviors  
Domain: Health Care Use/Access  
Sub-Domain: Health Insurance  
Item Set: Medical Bills and Health Insurance (NHIS, 2012)  
Proprietary: No  
Scale: No  
Core: No  
Vanguard: No  
Study Visits: None  
Target: Adult Caregiver; Biological Mother; Biological Father  
Respondent: Adult Caregiver; Biological Mother; Biological Father  
Comments: None  
Number of Items: 2  
Source: National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), 2012

Medical Bills and Health Insurance (NHIS, 2012)

MBNH01. If you get sick or have an accident, how worried are you that you will be able to pay your medical bills? Are you very worried, somewhat worried, or not at all worried?

<1-3,R,D>[goto AMICOMP]

Very worried.....	1
Somewhat worried.....	2
Not at all worried.....	3
Refused.....	7
Don't know.....	9

MBNH02. In regard to your health insurance or health care coverage, how does it compare to a year ago? Is it better, worse, or about the same?

<1,2,3,R,D>[goto ARXPR\_1]

Better.....	1
Worse.....	2
About the same.....	3
Refused.....	7
don't know.....	9

Export Close

Metadata

# Search Feature

Search area

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY  
HEALTH GROWTH ENVIRONMENT

Search Here:

Search Reset Home Logout

User guide: [G--Core Questionnaire](#) [♥--Add to basket](#) [↓--Download item set file](#)

**Category:** [Reset](#)

- Demographics
- Health Behaviors
- Neurodevelopmental
- Psychosocial
- Physical Environment
- Physical Health
- Social Environment

**Study Visits:** [Reset](#)

- Pregnancy 1
- Pregnancy 2
- Birth
- 3 Months
- 6 Months
- 9 Months
- 12 Months
- 18 Months
- 24 Months
- 30 Months
- 36 Months(3 years old)
- 42 Months
- 48 Months (4 years old)
- 54 Months
- 60 Months (5 years old)
- Core Questionnaire

Search Conditions:  
Keyword: **occupation** ✕

**Search In Item Sets:** ( 10 item sets found )

- Occupation (Core 2013) [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupational/Hobby Exposures (Retrospective) [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupation NHIS [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupation ACS [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupational Exposure (NHEXAS, 1995) [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupational Exposure - Second Job (NHEXAS, 1995) [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupation/Occupational History Protocol (Phenx) [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupational/Hobby Exposure (36-Month) [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupation/Hobby Exposures (ALSPAC) [↓](#) [♥](#)
- Occupation (ALSPAC) [↓](#) [♥](#)

**Search In Questions:** ( 21 questions found )

**Search In Sources:** ( 5 sources found )

# Basket Feature

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF AMERICA'S CHILDREN

THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S STUDY  
HEALTH GROWTH ENVIRONMENT

Search Here:  Search Back Home Logout

**Demographics**

- Age
- Household Composition
- Language
- Marriage/Cohabitation
- Mobility
- Other Demographics
  - Other Demographics
    - Mother's Responses about Biological Father's Demographics
    - Basic Demographic Information
    - Child Identification (NHIS, 2012)
    - Adult Identification (NHIS, 2012)
    - Family Identification (NHIS, 2012)
    - SSN Information (NHANES, 2013)
- Racial/Ethnic Identity
- Religious Affiliation
- Sex/Gender
- Socioeconomic Status
  - Education
    - Respondent's Education-18 Levels
    - Education (Core 2013)
    - Respondent's Education-8 Levels
    - Education (ACS, 2013)
    - Education (NHIS, 2012)
    - Education (NHANES, 2011)
    - Education (NHANES, 2013)

**My Lists**

- Unsaved List

Unsaved List:

- Education (ACS, 2013)
- Medical Bills and Health Insurance (NHIS, 2012)

Total Items: 2

Basket to Save Item Sets

# Final Questionnaire

## Content:

1. Family Income-Long Version
2. Names of Family Members (NHANES, 2013)
3. Education (ACS, 2013)
4. Medical Bills and Health Insurance (NHIS, 2012)

4 Item sets merged

## Family Income-Long Version

Measurement Category: Demographics

Domain: Socioeconomic Status

Sub-Domain: Income

Item Set: Family Income-Long Version

FILV01. What was the total combined income of all members of this family over the past year, including salaries, or other earnings interest, retirement, and so on for all household members? This includes money from jobs, net income from business, farm, or rent, pensions, dividends, interest, social security payments and any other money income received by members of your FAMILY who are 15 years or older.

### INTERVIEW INSTRUCTIONS:

Remember, a family is a group of two or more people who live together and who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption.

Source: NCS, T1 Survey

Less than \$5,000.....	1 (FILV03)
\$5,000 to \$7,499.....	2 (FILV03)
\$7,500 to \$9,999.....	3 (FILV03)
\$10,000 to \$12,499.....	4 (FILV03)
\$12,500 to \$14,999.....	5 (FILV03)
\$15,000 to \$19,999.....	6 (FILV03)
\$20,000 - \$24,999.....	7 (FILV03)
\$25,000 - \$29,999.....	8 (FILV03)

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