

2017-2019 NSFG User’s Guide

Appendix 5: Summary of NSFG Questionnaire Changes since 2015-2017

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Overview

This document summarizes changes to the NSFG questionnaires for the 2017-2019 survey. The reference point for these changes is the 2015-2017 NSFG.

For more detail on the precise wording or routing associated with these questionnaire changes made for 2017-2019, please see either the “Webdoc” interactive, online codebooks or the PDF questionnaires accessible on the [NSFG webpage](#).

- In the Webdoc codebooks, for which there is a direct link on the NSFG webpage for the 2017-2019 files, there is a separate entry for each variable included on the public use files. For more information on the specific elements in these codebook entries, see “**Description of Codebooks**” in the User’s Guide, Part 1.
- The questionnaires are provided in either a “CAPI-lite” or “CRQ” format on the NSFG webpage. CAPI stands for “computer-assisted personal interview,” and CRQ stands for “CAPI Reference Questionnaire.” The CRQ is the most fully specified version of the questionnaires as programmed using the Blaise survey software (see <http://www.blaise.com/>), including all question wording variants and routing details, as well as the definitions for internally computed (“Blaise-computed”) variables. The “CAPI-lite” is an abridged version of the CRQ that still conveys the basic questionnaire content, wording, and routing. For more information on these questionnaire formats, see “**Description of Questionnaires**” in the User’s Guide, Part 1.

While the majority of the 2017-2019 questionnaires remains the same as the 2015-2017 questionnaires, changes were made to respond to emerging data needs and to reduce respondent burden related to question complexity. At the same time, attention was paid to maintaining a consistent time series on core NSFG items, staying within the average interview lengths approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) (of 80 minutes for females and 60 minutes for males), and controlling fieldwork and instrument testing costs associated with questionnaire revisions.

Changes affecting both male & female questionnaires

- Revised foster care series in section A:
 - Revised R_FOSTER (female AG-13/male AF-13) to ask of all respondents and renamed this question FOSTEREV.
 - Added AGEFSTER question on age the respondent last left foster care (female AG-16/male AF-16).
- Added questions in the female CD series and the male BA series for location(s) where respondent received sex education:
 - Female: CF-2a SEDNOLC, CF-8a SEDWHLC, CF-11a SEDCONLC, CF-14a SEDSTDLC, CF-17a SEDHIVLC
 - Male: BA-5a SEDNOLC, BA-11a SEDWHLC, BA-14a SEDCONLC, BA-17a SEDSTDLC, BA-20a SEDHIVLC
- Deleted WHOSUGG question about who suggested HIV testing (female HE-5b/male IF-5b).
- Added PREPHIV question on whether respondent has heard about pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) medications (female HE-5c/male IF-5c).
- Deleted the “other-specify” questions OTHLRSD (female IC-2/male JB-3) and OTHRLNOW (female IC-7/male JB-7) asking respondents to specify what “other” religion they were raised in and what “other” religion they currently are.
- Revised the response category for STI prevention in the questionnaire items about reasons why a condom was used at last sex (female JD-5 WHYCONDL and male KE-4 WHYCONDL and KK-3 WHYCOND). Chlamydia and herpes were added to the response category, which previously included only syphilis, gonorrhea or AIDS.
- Added DATEAPP question asking whether respondents met any of their sexual partners in the last 12 months via dating apps (female JH-1a/male KK3a).
- Expanded the applicable universe for CONFCOINC (female JH-3a/male KK-6a) to include respondents aged 15-25, regardless of insurance status. It was previously asked only of respondents aged 15-17 or those aged 18-25 who are currently covered by their parents’ health insurance.

Changes affecting only the female questionnaire

Section B

- Revised routing into selected questions previously asked only for respondents who had not reached menarche to ask them for all respondents. These questions include:

- BA-2 PREGNOWQ - whether the respondent is currently pregnant
- BA-3 MAYBPREG - the “ don’t know” response follow-up about being currently pregnant
- BB-1 NUMPREGS - number of pregnancies in her lifetime
- Added questions about whether the respondent’s child’s doctor or medical provider talked with them about when to start solid foods and nutrition information (BH-5a MDSOLID, BH-5b WHNSOLID, BH-5c MDNUTRIT) These questions were asked for children ages 6 months to 5 years who live with the respondent.
- Added a follow-up “enter all that apply” question (BL-7 SRCEMBRYO) asking where respondent heard about embryo adoption or donation.

Section D

- Added question (DF-6 LASTPER) on how long ago her last menstrual period started.
- Added question (DF-7 TRYPREG12) on whether in the past 12 months the respondent was trying to get pregnant.

Section E

- Updated contraceptive method use questions throughout section E for:
 - brand names listed for the contraceptive patch
 - brand names listed for the IUD
 - deletion of “coil, loop” from the response category for IUD
- Added questions about long-acting reversible contraceptive (LARC) removal in the past 10 years (EA-22a LARC10, EA-22b LARCREMV, EA-22c REMOVWHY, EA-22d REMOVDIF, EA-22e REMVDIFY).
- Added questions on how much later the respondent’s pregnancy occurred, asked for each pregnancy (regardless of outcome) that occurred later than the respondent wanted (EG-11c LATERNUM, EG-11d LATERMY).

Section F

- Added question (FA-5a TALKPROV) on whether in respondent’s visit in the past 12 months a doctor talked to her about birth control methods, condom for STD prevention, HPV vaccine, or none of the above . Deleted similar questions that were visit-specific (FA-5a PGTSTBC2, FA-5b PAPPLBC2, FA-5c PAPPELEC, FA-5d STDTSCON).
- Added question (FA-5e1 WHYNOSTD) about the main reason respondent had not been tested for a sexually transmitted disease.
- Added question (FG-5 TALKDM) on whether in the past 12 months a doctor talked to them about using a condom at the same time as a female method of contraception. This question is similar to the male question ID-8 TALKDM.
- Added 4 questions asking respondent to rate their most recent experience with a provider in terms of:
 - respecting them as a person (FH-1 PROVRESP)

- letting them say what mattered most to them about birth control methods (FH-2 PROVSAYBC)
- taking their preference about birth control seriously (FH-3 PROVPREBC)
- giving them enough information to make the best decision about their birth control method (FH-4 PROINFOBC)

Section H

- Added question (HA-5a2 OVUL12M) for respondents who reported any use of ovulation drugs whether they used these drugs within the past year.
- Added question (HA-5b2 INSEM12M) for respondents who reported any use of artificial insemination whether they used artificial insemination within the past year.
- Added 5 follow-up questions for women reporting uterine fibroids:
 - whether fibroids diagnosis was confirmed by ultrasound (HD-8a UFSONO)
 - whether respondent currently has fibroids (HD-8b UFCURR)
 - how long ago respondent was diagnosed with fibroids (HD-8c UFDIAGNOS)
 - whether respondent has limitations due to fibroids (HD-8d UFLIMIT)
 - types of treatment (“enter all that apply”) received for fibroids (HD-8e UFTREAT).
- Added 4 follow-up questions for women reporting endometriosis:
 - whether respondent currently has endometriosis (HD-9a ENDOCURR)
 - how long ago respondent was diagnosed with endometriosis (HD-9b ENDODIAG)
 - whether respondent has limitations due to endometriosis (HD-9c ENDOLIM)
 - types of treatment (“enter all that apply) received for endometriosis (HD-9d ENDOTREAT)
- Added 2 questions on polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS):
 - whether respondent has ever been told she has polycystic ovarian syndrome (HD-10b PCOS)
 - basis of respondent’s PCOS diagnosis (HD-10c PCOSSYMP)
- Added “enter all that apply” question (HG-4 NUTRINFO) about sources of nutrition information for women living with any child(ren) 5 years or younger.

Changes affecting only the male questionnaire

Section C

- Added new questions (similar to those asked of female respondents) about how much later than wanted did the pregnancy with their current wife or cohabiting partner (CWP) occur (asked for each biological child fathered with their CWP or for any current pregnancy with her) (CG-18c CWPLATEN, CG-18d CWPLATEMY, CH-5c CWPCPLATEN, CH-5d CWPCPLATEMY, CH-5c CWPCPLATEN, and CH-5d CWPCPLATEMY).

Section D

- Added questions about how much later than wanted did pregnancy occur (asked for each biological child or current pregnancy with each of their (up to 3) recent partners in the last year (or last partner ever) (DH-18c PXLATEN, DH-18d PXLATEMY, DI-5a PXRLATEN, PXRLATEN, and DI-5d PXRLATEMY).

Section E

- Added questions about how much later than wanted did pregnancy occur, asked for all biological children they fathered with each of their former wives or with their first former cohabiting partner (ED-18c FWPLATEN and ED-18d FWPLATEMY).

Section F

- Added questions about how much later than wanted did pregnancy occur, asked for each other biological child they fathered with a partner not already discussed in Sections C, D, or E (FA-21c OBCLATEN and FA-21d OBCLATEMY).

Section I

- Revised response categories of IB-3 YOUFPSVC and ID-2 SVC12MO to separate pregnancy prevention from STD prevention.
- Added question (IB-8b WHYNOSTD) about the main reason the respondent had not been tested for a sexually transmitted disease. This question is similar to female FA-5e1 WHYNOSTD.

Section K

- Deleted question (KJ-9 MSMWEB12) that asked whether the respondent met any of his male sex partners in the last 12 months using the internet. The new DATEAPP question (added in both the male and female questionnaire) replaced this question for male respondents.