2017-2019 NSFG User's Guide
Appendix 2: Topic-Specific Notes for 2017-2019

This Appendix provides notes for analysts for specific topics or variables in the NSFG. In past NSFG file releases these notes where included as Part 2 of the User's Guide main text. In addition to these topic-specific notes, users can find information about:

- Questionnaire changes made between 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 in **Appendix 5**.
- Comparability of recodes by sex and across PUF releases since 2011-2013 in **Appendix 4.**
- Disclosure risk reduction actions taken in 2017-2019 in **Appendix 7.**

ABORTION UNDER-REPORTING AMONG FEMALES

Abortions have always been under-reported in the NSFG and virtually all other demographic surveys. This has been determined by comparing NSFG weighted estimates of abortions with external data from abortion providers. The User's Guides of prior NSFG public-use file releases show the percentages of under-reporting based on these comparisons for past file releases. For the 2017-2019 NSFG, comparing pregnancies ending in abortion reported in 2012-2016 with the number of abortions in the Guttmacher Abortion Provider Census (https://www.guttmacher.org/sites/default/files/report_pdf/abortion-incidence-service-availability-us-2017.pdf) shows that approximately 38% of pregnancies ending in abortion were reported in the NSFG. The publication referenced above provides information on the completeness of the data from the Guttmacher Abortion Provider Census used for this comparison, however it is clear that under-reporting of abortion continues to be a significant factor in the representativeness of the abortions that are reported in the NSFG. Therefore, as in previous surveys, the NSFG staff advises NSFG data users that, geerally speaking, NSFG data on abortion should **not** be used for substantive research focused on the determinants or consequences of abortion. The NSFG abortion data can be used for:

(1)   methodological studies of factors affecting abortion reporting.
(2)   studies of contraceptive efficacy, but only after the data are adjusted for the under-reporting of abortion.

BIRTH REPORTING AMONG FEMALES

This table shows a comparison of NSFG-based estimates of births occurring in 2012-2016, relative to births registered through the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) in the United States for those same calendar years. These figures are based on births in those calendar years as reported by all female respondents in the 2017-2019 NSFG. The NSFG-based estimates are constructed from all births reported over a period of five years to increase the statistical reliability of the NSFG estimates. *(The number of births or pregnancies reported in any single calendar year by NSFG respondents would yield sampling errors too high to produce reliable estimates. Users are advised to combine multiple years when analyzing these data.)* To make the NSFG estimates comparable to vital records, births are excluded if reported by non-U.S.-born NSFG respondents that occurred before they came to the U.S. to stay. Births reported in vital records are also limited to those occurring to women age 49 or younger, in order to be comparable to the NSFG age range.

Number of births estimated for 2012-2016, based on the 2017-2019 NSFG and Vital Records

	Number (in thousands) of births from NSFG	95% confidence interval	Number (in thousands) of births from Vital Records 1/	Ratio of NSFG/ Vital Records
Total, 2012-2016 2/	18,615	16,240-20,990	19,794	0.94
Year of delivery				
2016	3,564	2,915-4,214	3,952	0.90
2015	3,560	2,888-4,231	3,932	0.91
2014	3,832	3,306-4,358	3,987	0.96
2013	3,935	3,266-4,605	3,978	0.99
2012	3,724	2,902-4,546	3,945	0.94
Mother's Hispanic origin and race				
Hispanic or Latina	4,401	3,220-5,582	4,565	0.96
Not Hispanic or Latino				
White, single race	10,265	8,347-12,182	10,635	0.97
Black or African American, single race	2,754	2,104-3,404	2,928	0.94
Marital status at birth				
Married	10,867	9,209-12,525	11,813	0.92
Unmarried	7,748	6,720-8,776	7,981	0.97
Age at delivery				
15-19	1,103	782-1,425	1,267	0.87
20-24	3,813	3,077-4,550	4,351	0.88
25-49	13,630	11,835-15,425	14,162	0.96
25-29	5,713	4,928-6,497	5,692	1.00
30-39	7,277	6,050-8,503	7,878	0.92
40-49	641	395-887	593	1.08
Birth order				
1st	7,251	6,101-8,402	7,692	0.94
2nd	5,993	5,114-6,872	6,290	0.95
3rd or higher	5,371	4,322-6,421	5,717	0.94

1/ Vital Records data from CDC Wonder Database available here: https://wonder.cdc.gov/ Limited to births occuring to women ages 49 and younger.
2/ Includes births to persons of other race and origin groups, those of unknown or not stated birth order, and to women under 15 years of age, not shown separately.
NOTES: The NSFG Hispanic origin and race variable shown here (HISPRACE) is based on the 1977 Office of Management and Budget standards. Bridged race was used from Vital Records. For persons born outside the U.S. (50 states and D.C.), this table is limited to births occurring after they came to the United States to stay.

RELIGION DATA

All NSFG respondents were asked "In what religion were you raised, if any?" and "What is your current religion, if any?" For both of these questions, they were shown a card listing the 10 affiliations with the largest memberships in the United States, including "none" (RELNOW and RELRSD). If their religion was not among those listed, the respondents were shown a 2nd card with 17 more religions (RELNOW1 and RELRSD1). Prior to 2017, the NSFG's religion questions included an "Other-specify" option to collect verbatim responses, which were reviewed to determine if any could be "back-coded" into one of the existing detailed categories or if a new category should be created. In fieldwork for the 2017-2019 NSFG, the "other-specify" option was no longer offered for verbatim responses by those choosing "Other" for their religion. As a result, there were some modifications made to the definitions of some religion-related variables for the 2017-2019 NSFG.

RELCURR and RELRAISD: "Current religion" and "Religion raised"

RELCURR and RELRAISD are both variables computed in post-processing for inclusion on the public-use file, and do not have imputed values. RELCURR also serves as an intermediate variable in the construction of the RELIGION recode (see also **Appendix 3a (female)** and **3c (male) recode specifications**). RELNOW and RELNOW1 were used to create **RELCURR**, and RELRSD and RELRSD1 were used to create the variable **RELRAISD**. Both RELCURR and RELRAISD collapse the 18 available detailed response options from RELRSD/RELSRD1 and RELNOW/RELNOW1 into 8 groupings with the largest membership in the United States. Non-Christian religions such as Jewish and Muslim were included in "Other" due to the disclosure risk involved for the relatively small number of respondents choosing those affiliations. The full detail of RELNOW/RELNOW1 and RELRSD/RELRSD1 is available through the NCHS Research Data Center (RDC).

Details of the construction of RELCURR from raw variables RELNOW and RELNOW1 follow. RELRAISD was created in the same manner as RELCURR using raw variables RELRSD and RELRSD1.

-- RELCURR=1   if RELNOW = None (1)

-- RELCURR=2   if RELNOW = Catholic (2)

-- RELCURR=3   if RELNOW = Southern Baptist (4) or Baptist (5)

-- RELCURR=4   if RELNOW = Methodist or African Methodist (6), Lutheran (7), Presbyterian (8), or Episcopal or Anglican (9)

-- RELCURR=5   if RELNOW1 = Assemblies of God (12), Church of Nazarene (13), The Church of God (14), The Church of God (Cleveland, TN) (15), The Church of God in Christ (16), 7th Day Adventist (17), United Pentecostal Church (18), or Pentecostal Assemblies (19)

-- RELCURR=6   if RELNOW1 = Christian, another denomination not listed (21)

-- RELCURR=7   if RELNOW1 = Christian, no specific denomination (22)

-- RELCURR=8   if RELNOW = Jewish (3) or Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, (LDS/Mormon) (10), or

                    if RELNOW1 = Jehovah's Witness (20), Unitarian-Universalist (23), Greek Orthodox (24), Other Orthodox (25), Muslim (26), Buddhist (27), Hindu (28), or Other (29)

-- RELCURR=9   if RELNOW = Refused (98) or RELNOW1 = Refused (98)

-- RELCURR=10   if RELNOW = Don't know (99) or RELNOW1 = Don't know (99)

Code categories:
      1 = No religion
      2 = Catholic
      3 = Baptist/Southern Baptist
      4 = Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Episcopal
      5 = Fundamentalist Protestant
      6 = Other Protestant denomination
      7 = Protestant - No specific denomination
      8 = Other religion
      9 = Refused
      10 = Don't know

RELTRAD: "Current religious affiliation by Protestant denomination"

The variable RELTRAD categorizes Protestant respondents into three groups depending on the respondent's Protestant denomination (RELNOW and RELNOW1), his or her fundamentalist ideology (FUNDAM1), and race (recode RACE). RELTRAD was constructed in post-processing and missing values were not imputed. (In specifications below, "NE" means "not equal to.") RELTRAD has been included on the 2017-2019 NSFG public-use file because many scholars have found it a useful categorization of religious affiliation, "grounded in the historical development of American religious traditions" *(Steensland B, Park JZ, Regnerus MD, Robinson LD, Wilcox WB, Woodberry RD. The Measure of American Religion: Toward Improving the State of the Art. Social Forces 79(1):291-318. 2000)*.

-- RELTRAD=1   if RELNOW = (Southern Baptist (4) or Baptist (5)) **and** RACE NE black (1), or

                    if RELNOW1 = Assemblies of God (12), Church of Nazarene (13), The Church of God (14), The Church of God (Cleveland, TN) (15), 7th Day Adventist (17), United Pentecostal Church (18), Pentecostal Assemblies (19), or

                    if RELNOW1 = (Christian, another denomination not listed (21) or Christian, no specific denomination (22)), **and** RACE NE black (NE 1), **and** FUNDAM1 = a born again Christian, a charismatic, an evangelical,

or a fundamentalist (1, 2, 3, 4)

-- RELTRAD=2   if RELNOW = Methodist or African Methodist (6) **and** RACE NE black (ne 1), or

if RELNOW = Lutheran (7), Presbyterian (8), Episcopal or Anglican (9), or

RELNOW1 = (Christian, another denomination not listed (21) or Christian, no specific denomination (22)), **and** RACE NE black (NE 1), **and** FUNDAM1 = none of the above, dk, rf (5, 8, 9),

-- RELTRAD=3   if RELNOW = (Southern Baptist (4), Baptist (5), or Methodist or African Methodist (6)) **and** RACE = black (1), or

if RELNOW1 = The Church of God in Christ (16), or

RELNOW1 = (Christian, another denomination not listed (21) or Christian, no specific denomination (22)) **and** RACE = black (1),

-- RELTRAD=4   if RELNOW = Catholic (2)

-- RELTRAD=5   if RELNOW = Jewish (3) or Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, (LDS/Mormon) (10), or

if RELNOW1 = Jehovah's Witness (20); Unitarian-Universalist (23); Greek Orthodox (24); Other Orthodox (25); Muslim (26); Buddhist (27); Hindu (28); or Other (29)

-- RELTRAD=6   if RELNOW = None (1)

-- RELTRAD=8   if RELNOW = Refused (98) or RELNOW1 = Refused (98)

-- RELTRAD=9   if RELNOW = Don't know (99) or RELNOW1 = Don't know (99)

Code categories:
      1 = Evangelical Protestant
      2 = Mainline Protestant
      3 = Black Protestant
      4 = Catholic
      5 = Other religion
      6 = No religious affiliation
      8 = Refused
      9 = Don't know

FEMALE RESPONDENT FILE NOTES

Sections A&C: Marriage variables

There were 6 cases where raw information related to computing Section C recodes DD1REMAR and MARENDnn was inconsistent with Section A recode values for FMARITAL and RMARITAL. Review of comments from interviewers for all 6 cases indicated an interviewer keying error was made in Section A as it relates to marital status. Appropriate edits were made to FMARITAL, RMARITAL, DD1REMAR, and MARENDnn recodes to reflect the consistent responses given by the respondents.

Section B: Non-chronological pregnancies

Despite efforts to sort and correct pregnancies reported out of chronological order as described in the section of this document **"Female Pregnancy (Interval) File Notes",** there are some respondents with at least one pregnancy reported out of chronological order based on DATEND01-14 values. Data users whose analyses involve examining intervals between pregnancies or otherwise depend on chronology should conduct their own check and adjustments for chronology before embarking on their research.

Section C: Computed variables P1YRELP, P1YRELP2, P1YREPL3

The purpose of these Blaise-computed variables is to capture the type of relationship with up to 3 sexual partners in the past 12 months previously mentioned in the interview: a current or former spouse, a current or former cohabiting partner, or a first sexual partner. Response category "20" for "None of the above" did not include all respondents who had a sexual partner in the past 12 months, but only those respondents who had ever married or cohabited with a partner but the sexual partner in the past 12 months was not previously mentioned. For cases who were missing on P1YRELP, P1YRELP2 or P1YRELP3 because they had more than 1 sexual partner in their lifetime, they had never married or cohabited, but had at least 1 sexual partner in the past 12 months who was not a previously mentioned partner: users can reassign these cases from missing to code 20 to create variables applicable for all female respondents who had sexual intercourse in the past 12 months. The number of cases matching the criteria for being reassigned are: P1YRELP – 564; P1YRELP2 – 202; P1YRELP3 – 82.

Section D: Computed variable ANYMSTER

The purpose of the Flow Check D-7 is to compute whether R's current husband or cohabiting partner has had a sterilizing operation regardless of later reversal. This flow check specifies that cases with WHATOPSM=2 should be set to ANYMSTER=1 (yes). In the 2017-2019 file there were 4 cases with WHATOPSM=2 but ANYMSTER was set to no. It was decided to make no edits to these four cases. Data users should be aware that there will be some discrepancies in subsequent variables or questions.

Section E: Other-specify responses to EA-14 OTHRMETH (EA-15 SP_OTHRMETH)

EA_15 SP_OTHRMETH captures open-ended responses from respondents who chose "other method" ever used on EA-14 OTHRMETH. If the response was not among the methods already asked about in the EA series, it can be found in a new variable or variables (since EA-14 is 'Enter all that apply') created for this purpose: "NEWMETH." If the response was a method that was already asked about, it was coded onto the earlier question for that specific method in the EA series. Responses that appeared too infrequently to code separately are coded "4" on NEWMETH: "Other method, not shown separately."

Section E: Open-ended questions for reasons for discontinuing specific contraceptives

The following variables in the EA series are a result of coding responses to open-ended questions (3 questions for each of 4 methods):

STOPPILL1-STOPPILL6
STOPCOND1-STOPCOND2
STOPIUD1-STOPIUD5

The open-ended follow-up questions were triggered based on certain responses to the following variables: EA-18 REASPILL, EA-19 REASCOND, EA-21a REASIUD. In cases where the verbatim response matched an already-existing category on one of these closed-ended questions, they were coded as that category on that variable. Verbatim responses that did not appear in sufficient numbers were collapsed into "Other side effects" and "Other – (Too few cases, not classifiable elsewhere)."

Section E: ED Series, monthly contraceptive method history variables, METHX1-METHX192

Similar to past cycles, the ED series captures contraceptive method(s) the respondent used each month, for the time period from January, three years prior to the interview date, through interview date. For example, for interviews conducted in September 2017, the series collects method use information from January 2014 through September 2017. Variables for up to 4 methods for each month are saved on the data file. Therefore, variables containing these contraceptive methods range from "METHX1 through METHX192" (4 variables/methods per month, for up to 4 years, or 48 months.). With continuous interviewing, the number of calendar years spanned by the method calendar continues to increase. The output from this series was designed to remain the same number of month/year "cells," despite this accumulation of actual calendar years. Each respondent's particular window of 3+ years depends on the date they were interviewed. The following table displays the correspondence between calendar month and year and the ED contraceptive variable names and how this depends on date of interview, or cmintvw.

For convenience, two sets of frequently-used computed variables based on the method calendar are included in the female respondent data file. A copy of the Life History Calendar used in the female interview (as used in interviews conducted in 2017) is available on the NSFG Webpage

in the Questionnaires section and in the main text of the User's Guide.

currmeth1 - currmeth4: the method(s) the respondent used in the month of interview.
lstmonmeth1 - lstmonmeth4: the method(s) the respondent used in the month before interview.

If interview year is **2017** (cmintvw=**1413 (September)** through **1416**), the variable names correspond to months/years as below:

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2014	METHX1-4	METHX5-8	METHX9-12	METHX13-16	METHX17-20	METHX21-24	METHX25-28	METHX29-32	METHX33-36	METHX37-40	METHX41-44	METHX45-48
2015	METHX49-52	METHX53-56	METHX57-60	METHX61-64	METHX65-68	METHX69-72	METHX73-76	METHX77-80	METHX81-84	METHX85-88	METHX89-92	METHX93-96
2016	METHX97-100	METHX101-104	METHX105-108	METHX109-112	METHX113-116	METHX117-120	METHX121-124	METHX125-128	METHX129-132	METHX133-136	METHX137-140	METHX141-144
2017	METHX145-148	METHX149-152	METHX153-156	METHX157-160	METHX161-164	METHX165-168	METHX169-172	METHX173-176	METHX177-180	METHX181-184	METHX185-188	METHX189-192

If interview year is **2018** (cmintvw=**1417** through **1428**), the variable names correspond to months/years as below:

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2015	METHX1-4	METHX5-8	METHX9-12	METHX13-16	METHX17-20	METHX21-24	METHX25-28	METHX29-32	METHX33-36	METHX37-40	METHX41-44	METHX45-48
2016	METHX49-52	METHX53-56	METHX57-60	METHX61-64	METHX65-68	METHX69-72	METHX73-76	METHX77-80	METHX81-84	METHX85-88	METHX89-92	METHX93-96
2017	METHX97-100	METHX101-104	METHX105-108	METHX109-112	METHX113-116	METHX117-120	METHX121-124	METHX125-128	METHX129-132	METHX133-136	METHX137-140	METHX141-144
2018	METHX145-148	METHX149-152	METHX153-156	METHX157-160	METHX161-164	METHX165-168	METHX169-172	METHX173-176	METHX177-180	METHX181-184	METHX185-188	METHX189-192

If interview year is **2019** (cmintvw=**1429** through **1437 (September)**), the variable names correspond to months/years as below:

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
2016	METHX1-4	METHX5-8	METHX9-12	METHX13-16	METHX17-20	METHX21-24	METHX25-28	METHX29-32	METHX33-36	METHX37-40	METHX41-44	METHX45-48
2017	METHX49-52	METHX53-56	METHX57-60	METHX61-64	METHX65-68	METHX69-72	METHX73-76	METHX77-80	METHX81-84	METHX85-88	METHX89-92	METHX93-96
2018	METHX97-100	METHX101-104	METHX105-108	METHX109-112	METHX113-116	METHX117-120	METHX121-124	METHX125-128	METHX129-132	METHX133-136	METHX137-140	METHX141-144
2019	METHX145-148	METHX149-152	METHX153-156	METHX157-160	METHX161-164	METHX165-168	METHX169-172	METHX173-176	METHX177-180	METHX181-184	METHX185-188	METHX189-192

Section F: Mapping of family planning variables

In female Section F, women are asked about a set of 14 different possible family planning services they could have received in the past 12 months. For each service received, the following information is collected: type of provider, whether that provider is the regular source of care, source of payment, etc. This table shows how the different variables are mapped by the type of service received.

Service received in last 12 months	Question number	Service variable name	Recodes	Provider	Regular source of care	Source of payment
Mapping of family planning service variables in 2017-2019 NSFG data release						
Method Birth Control/Prescription	FA-1b	BTHCON12	FPTITBC	BC12PLCX2	REGCAR12_F_02	BC12PAYX7-12
Checkup for Birth Control	FA-1c	MEDTST12	FPTITCHK	BC12PLCX 3	REGCAR12_F_03	BC12PAYX13-18
Counseling About Birth Control	FA-1d	BCCNS12	FPTITCBC	BC12PLCX 4	REGCAR12_F_04	BC12PAYX19-24
Sterilizing operation	FA-1e	STEROP12	FPTITSTE	BC12PLCX 5	REGCAR2_F_05	BC12PAYX25-30
Counseling re Getting Sterilized	FA-1f	STCNS12	FPTITCST	BC12PLCX 6	REGCAR12_F_06	BC12PAYX31-36
Emergency Contraception/Prescription	FA-1g	EMCON12	FPTITEC	BC12PLCX 7	REGCAR12_F_07	BC12PAYX37-42
Counseling re Emergency Contraception	FA-1h	ECCNS12	FPTITCEC	BC12PLCX 8	REGCAR12_F_08	BC12PAYX43-48
Pregnancy Test	FA-3a	PRGTST12	FPTITPRE	BC12PLCX 9	REGCAR12_F_09	BC12PAYX49-54
Abortion	FA-3b	ABORT12	FPTITABO	BC12PLCX 10	REGCAR12_F_10	BC12PAYX55-60
Pap Smear	FA-3c	PAP12	FPTITPAP	BC12PLCX 11	REGCAR22_F_11	BC12PAYX61-66
Pelvic Exam	FA-3d	PELVIC12	FPTITPEL	BC12PLCX 12	REGCAR2_F_12	BC12PAYX67-72
Prenatal Care	FA-3e	PRENAT12	FPTITPRN	BC12PLCX 13	REGCAR2_F_13	BC12PAYX73-78
Post-Pregnancy Care	FA-3f	PARTUM12	FPTITPPR	BC12PLCX 14	REGCAR2_F_14	BC12PAYX79-84
Counsel/test/treatment for STD	FA-3g	STDSVC12	FPTITSTD	BC12PLCX 15	REGCAR2_F_15	BC12PAYX85-90
All services in one visit:	FA-4	NUMBCVIS=1 all in one visit	-	BC12PLCX	REGCAR12_F_01	BC12PAYX-BC12PAYX 6

Section J: JI-3d/e FMINCDK4/FMINCDK5

Due to a routing error, 451 cases who reported "Don't know" or "Refused" on FMINCDK1 also reported information on FMINCDK4-5. These cases were set to missing/inapplicable on FMINCDK4-5 for 2017-2019. Note that there was no data loss due to this routing error, but an inapplicable question getting asked for those 451 cases.

FEMALE PREGNANCY (INTERVAL) FILE NOTES

Section B (Pregnancy History) verification of key pregnancy data

In the 2017-2019 NSFG, as in past NSFG surveys since the transition to continuous fieldwork in 2006, all female respondents were asked questions about each of the pregnancies they have had, whether current or completed (i.e., they have ended in live birth, induced abortion, or spontaneous pregnancy loss). They were asked to report these pregnancies in chronological order, starting with the first pregnancy, as this ordering is critical for later questions in the interview. However, in every survey period, some women did not report them in chronological order.

As in prior NSFG data collection from women, the 2017-2019 NSFG took the following approach for sorting and correcting the pregnancy-specific information that women reported *before moving beyond Section B*, and it was used to improve both the accuracy and completeness of the pregnancy data.

- After *each completed pregnancy loop*, women were asked to confirm key data about the pregnancy in the BH-6 CNFMPREG question – specifically, the pregnancy outcome, end date, and gestational length. The question wording for CNFMPREG was tailored to the type of outcome. For example, if the pregnancy ended in a single live birth, women were asked:

    "This pregnancy ended in the birth of 1 baby named *[first name or initials of baby]*. This pregnancy lasted *[X]* months and *[Y]* weeks and ended in *[baby's month/year of birth]*. Is this correct?

    If the woman said "yes," then the interviewer moved on the next pregnancy. If she said "no," she was given a chance to correct any information on outcome, end date, and gestational length.

- After all pregnancies were looped through the pregnancy-specific questions, women were asked to verify the chronological order of all of their pregnancies (BI-2 CHKORDER). Any current pregnancy was assumed to be the most recent pregnancy. All of the information for a woman's pregnancies was presented in a summary screen (see CAPI Reference Questionnaire for details), and she was shown a summary statement about each pregnancy, similar to BH-6 CNFMPREG above. At this point, the respondent was given the following choices:
    - Yes, pregnancies in order/everything is correct

▪ No, pregnancies out of order

She could also volunteer at this point that something else was incorrect; for example, she may decide to add or delete a pregnancy. If she reported that her pregnancies were out of order, she was asked BI-8 FIXORDER to place them all in the correct order. If any other key information about her pregnancies was incorrect, she was guided through specific questions to correct the information on outcome, end date, and gestational length.

In any case, whether the respondent corrects any information or simply confirms that all is correct, **new variables** are created to hold the "**corrected and chronologically sorted**" pregnancy history **data**, or "**CCSD**" as the variable labels will indicate. These CCSD variables are passed forward to all later sections of the interview and are used in subsequent routing and consistency checks. The pregnancy order variable (PREGORDR) and recode for birth order (BIRTHORD) on the public-use file are both based on CCSD data.

The original variables as initially reported by the respondent *and* the CCSD computed variables, which generally end in "_s," are included on the public-use file. **For the vast majority of pregnancies reported by NSFG respondents, the CCSD variables are identical to the originally reported variables because no correction was needed.**

The table below provides a crosswalk of the original variables, the CCSD variables, and the corresponding recodes on the pregnancy or respondent file. (Those variables included on the public-use files for 2017-2019 are shown in bold font; all other variables have been suppressed in 2017-2019 due to disclosure risk concerns and can only be accessed through the NCHS RDC.) All of the CCSD variables listed are defined in Flow Check B-42d (see CAPI Reference Questionnaire, Female Section B for details). The Flow Checks (FC) where the other computed variables are defined are listed in the table. As indicated throughout this User's Guide, it is best to use the official recodes when available, as they have had missing values imputed in a well-documented and consistent manner and will allow you to match your figures to published statistics. See **Appendix 3a (female respondent)** or **3b (pregnancy) recode specifications** for further details. Also, the original century month dates for pregnancy conception and ending are available only through the NCHS RDC.

File	Short Description	Originally Reported Variable	Corrected and Chronologically Sorted Data (CCSD)	Recode
Resp	Number of pregnancies	BB-1 NUMPREGS	npregs_s	**PREGNUM**
Resp	Number of liveborn babies	numbabes (FC B-1)	nbabes_s	**PARITY**
Preg	Outcome of pregnancy	prgoutcome (FC B-42a)	outcom_s	**OUTCOME**
Preg	End date (year) of pregnancy	cmprgend (FC B-42a)	cmendp_s	**DATEND**
Preg	Start date (year) of pregnancy	cmprgbeg (FC B-42a)	cmpbeg_s	**DATECON**
Preg	Number of babies born alive from this pregnancy	bornaliv (FC B-10)	**nbrnlv_s**	n/a
Preg	Gestational length in weeks	wksgest (FC B-13)	n/a	PRGLNGTH**

*** See **Appendix 7** of the User's Guide for information on gest_lb and gest_othr, the 2 categorical variables defined for public use, based on the full-detail PRGLNGTH recode.*

MALE FILE NOTES

<u>Biological children men have fathered (as reported in CG, DH, ED, and FA Series and chronologically ordered in FC series):</u>

In the male questionnaire, respondents were asked about their biological children within the context of questions about their relationship with the mothers of these children. Based on consultation with experts in surveys of men, this approach was considered to yield the most accurate reporting of men's sexual, fertility, and contraception experiences. However, with this approach, raw questionnaire information on a biological child is located on the data files in the section where a man reported the child:
– In Section C if the child's mother is his current wife or cohabiting partner
– In Section D if the child's mother was his last sexual partner ever, or one of his 3 most recent partners in the last 12 months
– In Section E if the child's mother was a former wife or his 1st cohabiting partner (and not a recent sexual partner)
– In Section F if the child's mother was any other sexual partner not discussed in Sections C-E

In each of the "woman-specific" loops in Sections C-E and in Section F, space was allowed for up to 10 biological children to be reported – for example, up to 10 children could be reported with the current wife or cohabiting partner in Section C, up to 10 with *each* former wife reported in Section E. See exact numbers below for the reporting of biological children fathered across Section C-F among male respondents in the 2017-2019 NSFG:

- **Section C** – no respondent reported more than 8 children with his current wife or cohabiting partner
- **Section D** –
  - No more than 5 children reported with "P1" most recent partner
  - No more than 4 children reported with "P2" 2nd-most-recent partner in past year
  - No more than 5 children reported with "P3" 3rd-most-recent partner in past year
- **Section E** –no respondent reported more than 4 former wives in the 2017-2019 NSFG and:
  - No more than 4 children reported with "W1" 1st former wife
  - No more than 5 children reported with "W2" 2nd former wife
  - No more than 2 children reported with "W3" 3rd former wife
  - No more than 2 children reported with "W4" 4th former wife
  - No more than 4 children reported with "1st Cohab Partner"
- **Section F** – no respondent reported more than 10 biological children in this section

To assist users who wish to analyze information on men's biological children based on <u>chronological order</u> of birth, the male data file also includes selected variables derived from the section-specific biological child variables in Sections C-F. These chronologically ordered variables are located on the male file at the end of Section F questionnaire items. Each of the characteristics listed below, with the exception of BIOLIVNGnn, are arranged as arrays of 10 variables each in the 2017-2019 NSFG, as no male respondent reported more than 10 biological children.

The chronologically-based BIO child variables included on male file are:

- BIODOBn: Year of nth child's birth
- BIOSEXn: Sex of nth child
- BIOAGEn: Age of nth child
- BIOAGEGPn: Age group of nth child
- BIOHHn: Whether nth child lives in same household with R
- BIOMOMn: R's relationship to biological mother of this nth child *(this array is defined based on what section of the questionnaire the child was reported in)*
- BIOMARn: Whether R was married to nth child's mother at time of child's birth
- BIOCOHBn: Whether R was living with nth child's mother at time of child's birth (includes cohabiting or married)
- BIOLRNPGn: When R learned of the pregnancy (before or after child was born)
- BIOLIVNGnn: Where child is living now (4 mentions for nth child, eg., biolivng11 indicates the 1st mention for R's 1st biological child; biolvng24 indicates the 4th mention for R's 2nd biological child)
- BIOCHSIGn: If nth child born outside marriage: Whether R signed application for birth certificate or other paternity document
- BIOCHCRTn: If nth child born outside marriage: Whether R went to court to establish paternity
- BIOCHGENn: If nth child born outside marriage: Whether R established paternity by blood or genetic test
- BIOLVEVRn: Whether R ever lived with nth child (if not living with child now)
- BIOHWFARn: How far away nth child lives (in miles) from respondent
- BIOWANTn: For nth child: Wantedness of the pregnancy by R right before it began
- BIOHSOONn: For nth child: Timing of the pregnancy right before it began
- BIOHOWSNn: For nth child: How much too soon did pregnancy occur.
- BIOHPYPGn: For nth child: R's happiness about the pregnancy when he learned about it

     The table on the next page illustrates how these chronologically arranged variables are derived from questionnaire items in Sections C-F. Please consult the codebook to see further details on universe statements and response categories for these variables or the male questionnaire CRQs for the precise wording and routing for each item in Sections C-F.

In summary:
These chronologically ordered variables are essentially identical in content to the source variables in Sections C-F. They are provided for the user's convenience and hold no different values than the originally collected data in Sections C-F; they only arrange the information in a different (chronological) manner. Users whose primary goal is to examine data on men's biological children in order of their birth may prefer to use these chronologically arranged variables. If, however, their primary goal is to examine men's fertility in the context of their relationships with their children's mothers and they wish to incorporate other variables describing those relationships, it may be easier or more appropriate to use the source variables in Sections C-F.

Chronologically arranged BIO variable	Brief Description	Section C source	Section D source	Section E source	Section F source
BIODOB[x]	Year of birth	CG-6 CWPCHDOB_M/Y yields cmchdob[x]	DH-6 PXCXBORN_M/Y yields cmchdob[x]	ED-6 FWPCHDOB_M/Y yields cmchdob[x]	FA-9m/y OBCDOB_M/Y yields cmchdob[x]
BIOSEX[x]	Sex of child	CG-5 CWPCHSEX	DH-5 PXCXSEX	ED-5 FWPCHSEX	FA-8 OBCSEXX
BIOAGE[x]	Age of child in years	based on cmchdob[x]	based on cmchdob[x]	based on cmchdob[x]	based on cmchdob[x]
BIOAGEGP[x]	Age group of child	CG-12 CWPCHAGE	DH-12 PXCXAGE	ED-12 FWPCHAGE	FA-15 OBCAGE
BIOHH[x]	Is child in R's household	based on CG-11 CWPCHLIV	based on DH-11 PXCXLIV	based on ED-11 FWPCHLIV	based on FA-14 OBCLIV
BIOMOM[x]	Relationship of child's mother to R (coded based on which section child was reported in)	set to 1 if current wife; set to 2 if current cohab	set to 3 if recent or last partner & also a former wife/cohab partner; set to 4 if any other recent or last partner	set to 5 if former wife; set to 6 if 1st cohab (but not a former wife)	set to 7 if child was reported in this section or not otherwise coded
BIOMAR[x]	Was R married to mother at time of child's birth	CG-8 CWPCHMAR	DH-8 PXCXMARB	ED-8 FWCHMARB	Inapp (all nonmar)
BIOCOHB[x]	Was R living with mother at time of child's birth (married or cohabiting)	CG-8 CWPCHMAR & CG-9 CWPCHRES	DH-8 PXCXMARB & DH-9 PXCXRES	ED-8 FWCHMARB & ED-9 FWPCHRES	FA-12 OBCMLIV
BIOLRNPG[x]	When R learned of the pregnancy	CG-10 CWPCHLRN	DH-10 PXCXKNOW	ED-10 FWPCHLRN	FA-13 OBCKNOWX
BIOLIVNG[x]	Where child living now (up to 4 mentions for each child)	CG-11 CWPCHLIV	DH-11 PXCXLIV	ED-11 FWPCHLIV	FA-14 OBCLIV
BIOCHSIG[x]	Whether established paternity by signing birth certificate application	CG-13a CWPCHSIG	DH-13a PXCXSIG	ED-13a FWPCHSIG	FA-16A OBCCHSIG
BIOCHCRT[x]	Whether established paternity by going to court	CG-13b CWPCHCRT	DH-13b PXCXCRT	ED-13b FWPCHCRT	FA-16b OBCCHCRT
BIOCHGEN[x]	Whether established paternity by blood or genetic test	CG-14 CWPCHGEN	DH-14 PXCXGEN	ED-14 FWPCHGEN	FA-17 OBCCHGEN
BIOLVEVR[x]	Has R ever lived with child (if not living with child now)	CG-15 CWPCHEVR	DH-15 PXCXEVER	ED-15 FWPCHEVR	FA-18 OBCEVER
BIOHWFAR[x]	How far away does child live (miles)	CG-16 CWPCHFAR	DH-16 PXCXFAR	ED-16 FWPCHFAR	FA-19 OBCFAR
BIOWANT[x]	Wantedness of this pregnancy	CG-17 CWPCHWNT	DH-17 PXWANT	ED-17 FWPRWANT	FA-20 OBCRWANX
BIOHSOON[x]	Timing of this pregnancy	CG-18 CWPCHSON	DH-18 PXSOON	ED-18 FWPSOON	FA-21 OBCSOONX
BIOHOWSN[x]	How much too soon did pregnancy occur	CG-18a CWPSOONN CG-18b CWPSOONMY	DH-18a PXSOONN DH-18b PXSOONMY	ED-18a FWPSOONN ED-18b FWPSOONMY	FA-21a OBCSOONN FA-21b OBCSOONMY
BIOHPYPG[x]	R's happiness about this pregnancy	CG-19 CWPCHHPY	DH-19 PXHPYPG	ED-19 FWPHPYPG	FA-22 OBCHPYX

Non-biological children (Series CI, CJ, DJ, DK, EE, EF, FB):

Male respondents were also asked about any non-biological children they may have cared for within the context of their relationships with wives or cohabiting partners (CI, CJ, DJ, DK, EE, EF series), as well as any they may have raised on their own or in other relationships (FB series). Questionnaire information on these non-biological children reported in the male interview is located on the public-use data files in the section and series where the child was reported. The section further above on men's biological children described the women to whom each section refers, and in each of these sections, there are 2 series to ask about different groups of non-biological children. The first non-biological child series in sections C-E (CI, DJ, EE) asks about children he raised who were the children of that particular wife or cohabiting partner – that is, a biological or other child she already had at the start of her relationship with the respondent. The second non-biological child series in Sections C-E (CJ, DK, EF) asks about other children they cared for together. Finally, in the FB series, adult respondents were asked any other non-biological children they ever raised, either alone or in the context of relationships not covered in Sections C-E.

In each of these 7 non-biological child series in Sections C-F, male respondents could report up to 10 non-biological children, however in most series, fewer than 10 were reported. See below for the maximum numbers of non-biological children reported across these series in Section C-F among male respondents in the 2017-2019 NSFG:

- **Section C** –
  - Series CI: No more than 4 non-biological children who were children of his current wife or cohabiting partner
  - Series CJ: No more than 6 other non-biological children raised with his current wife
- **Section D** –
  - Series DJ:
    - No more than 5 non-biological children reported who were children of his "P1" most recent former partner
    - No more than 3 non-biological children reported who were children of his "P2" 2nd-to-last partner in past year
    - No more than 2 non-biological children reported who were children of his "P3" 3rd-to-last partner in past year
  - Series DK: No respondent reported more than 3 non-biological children in the 2017-2019 NSFG and:
    - No more than 3 non-biological children raised with "P1" most recent partner
    - No more than 2 non-biological children raised with "P2" 2nd-to-last partner in past year
    - No more than 3 non-biological children raised with "P3" 3rd-to-last partner in past year
- **Section E** –
  - Series EE: No respondent reported more than 5 non-biological children in the 2017-2019 NSFG and:
    - No more than 5 non-biological children reported who were children of his "W1" 1st former wife
    - No more than 4 non-biological children reported who were children of his "W2" 2nd former wife
    - No more than 5 non-biological children reported who were children of his "W3" 3rd former wife
    - No more than 3 non-biological children reported who were children of his "W4" 4th former wife
    - No more than 5 non-biological children reported who were children of his "1st Cohab Partner"
  - Series EF: No respondent reported more than 4 non-biological children in the 2017-2019 NSFG and:
    - No more than 3 non-biological children raised with "W1" 1st former wife
    - No more than 2 non-biological children raised with "W2" 2nd former wife
    - No more than 1 non-biological children raised with "W3" 3rd former wife
    - No more than 1 non-biological children raised with "W4" 4th former wife
    - No more than 4 non-biological children raised with "1st Cohab Partner
- **Section F**
  - Series FB: No more than 9 non-biological children

Non-Biological children				
Brief Description of Variable	**Section CI**	**Section DJ**	**Section EE**	**Section F**
Her children who were not Respondent's biological children	Variable Name			
Any such non-biological child(ren)?	CI-1 CWPOTKID	DJ-1 PXOTKID [x]	EE-1 FWPOTKID [x]	
How many such non-biological child(ren)?	CI-2 CWPOKNUM	DJ-2 PXOKNUM[x]	EE-2 FWPOKNUM [x]	
Did non-biological child(ren) ever live with R?	CI-3 CWPOKWTH	DJ-3 PXOKWTH[x]	EE-3 FWPOKWTH [x]	
Number of non-biological child(ren) lived with R	CI-4 CWPOKWTHN	DJ-4 PXOKWTHN [x]	EE-4 FWPOKWTHN [x]	
Sex of non-biological child(ren)	CI-6 CWPOKSEX [x]	DJ-6 PXOKSEX [x]	EE-6 FWPOKSEX [x]	
Did R legally adopt or become legal guardian?	CI-7 CWPOKAD [x]	DJ-7 PXOKAD [x]	EE-7 FWPOKAD [x]	
Is R in the process of trying to legally adopt this child? (If child's legal guardian)	CI-8 CWPOKTRY [x]	n/a	n/a	
Is R in the process of trying to legally adopt this child? (If neither adopted/became child's legal guardian)	CI-9 CWPOKTHR [x]	n/a	n/a	
Where does child live now?	CI-10 CWPOKLIV [x]	DJ-8 PXOKLIV [x]	EE-8 FWPOKLIV [x]	
How many miles away does this child live?	CI-11 CWPOKFAR [x]	DJ-9 PXOKFAR [x]	EE-9 FWPOKFAR [x]	
How old is child now?**	CI-12 CWPOKAGE [x]	DJ-10 PXOKAGE [x]	EE-10 FWPOKAGE [x]	
Number of non-biological child(ren) R adopted	C_OKAKIDS	D_OKAKIDS [x]	E_OKAKIDS [x]	
Other non-biological children Respondent raised (with this woman)	**Section CJ**	**Section DK**	**Section EF**	**Section FB**
Any such non-biological child(ren)?	CJ-1 CWPNBEVR	DK-1 PXNBEVR [x]	EF-1 FWPNBEVR [x]	FB-1 OTACHIL [x]
How many such non-biological child(ren)?	CJ-2 CWPNBNUM	DK-2 PXNBNUM[x]	EF-2 FWPNBNUM[x]	FB-2 OTACHILN[x]
Other non-biological child was blood/marriage relation	CJ-4 CWPNBREL [x]	DK-4 PXNBREL[x]	EF-4 FWPNBREL [x]	FB-4 OTNBREL [x]
Was child a foster or related child placed in the home?	CJ-5 CWPNBFOS [x]	DK-5 PXNBFOS[x]	EF-5 FWPNBFOS [x]	FB-5 OTNBFOS [x]
Sex of non-biological child	CJ-6 CWPNBSEX [x]	DK-6 PXNBSEX [x]	EF-6 FWPNBSEX [x]	FB-6 OTNBSEX [x]
Did R legally adopt or become legal guardian?	CJ-7 CWPNBAD [x]	DK-7 PXNBAD [x]	EF-7 FWPNBAD [x]	FB-7 OTNBAD [x]
Is R in the process of trying to legally adopt this child? (If child's legal guardian)	CJ-8 CWPNBTRY [x]	n/a	n/a	n/a
Is R in the process of trying to legally adopt this child? (If neither adopted/became child's legal guardian)	CJ-9 CWPNBTHR [x]	n/a	n/a	n/a
Where does child live now?	CJ-10 CWPNBLIV [x]	DK-8 PXNBLIV [x]	EF-8 FWPNBLIV [x]	FB-8 OTNBLIV [x]
How many miles away does this child live? (if child is not dead and not in R's household)	CJ-11 CWPNBFAR [x]	DK-9 PXNBFAR [x]	EF-9 FWPNBFAR [x]	FB-9 OTNBFAR [x]
How old is child now? (If child is not deceased)**	CJ-12 CWPNBAGE [x]	DK-10 PXNBAGE [x]	EF-10 FWPNBAGE [x]	FB-10 OTNBAGE [x]
# of non-biological child(ren) R adopted	C_NBAKIDS	D_NBAKIDS [x]	E_NBAKIDS [x]	F_AKIDS

** The age variables for nonbiological children were redefined as categorical variables for public use in 2017-2019. Age in single years is available in the restricted-use analytic variables available through the RDC.