



NATIONAL DATA ARCHIVE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Constructs Measured in NSCAW I & II

This document contains summary information about the constructs assessed in the National Survey on Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW) datasets and is designed to help researchers learn more about the NSCAW datasets in order to better assess the suitability of the data for their own research purposes.

The document is an excerpt of information captured in Exhibit 3-1 in the NSCAW-I Data File User’s Manual (DFUM) and Exhibit 3-2 in the NSCAW-II DFUM. To learn more about the exact names and versions of the instruments/measures used to evaluate a construct, the wave(s) of administration, qualifying respondents, and exact question text (for measures/instruments where permission to share was granted), researchers can submit a request to receive the documentation files for the NSCAW datasets to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu.

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Child Areas

Social Competence, Relationships

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Relationships with parents and other significant adults	< 11	Observation
	≥ 11	Child
Peer relationships	≥ 5	Child
	≥ 5	Teacher
Global social competence	≥ 3	Caregiver
	≥ 5	Teacher

Health, Cognitive Status

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Developmental/cognitive status	All	Child
Communication skills	< 6	Child
Health and disabilities	All ages	Caregiver

Adaptive Behavior, Functional Status

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Adaptive skills	NSCAW I: ≤ 10 NSCAW II: ≤ 18	Caregiver
Academic achievement (including attendance, grade progression)	≥ 6	Child
	> 5	Teacher
Special education status and educational, developmental and support services received	All Ages	Teacher, Caregivers, Caseworkers
School Socialization	≥ 5	Teacher
School Engagement	≥ 5	Child/Teacher
Future Expectations	≥ 10	Child

Behavior Regulation, Emotional and Mental Health

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Temperament	≤ 3	Caregiver
Behavior Problems	≥ 2	Caregiver
	≥ 5	Teacher
	≥ 11	Child
Mental Health	≥ 2	Caregiver
	≥ 5	Teacher
	≥ 8	Child
Criminality/delinquency	≥ 11	Child
Substance abuse and risky sexual behaviors	≥ 11	Child

Life Experiences

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Child Maltreatment	All Ages	Caregiver
	≥ 11	Child
	All Ages	Caseworker
Family/placement disruptions	All Ages	Caregiver
Loss, violence and other stressors in and out of the home	NSCAW I: ≥ 5 NSCAW II: ≥ 8	Child

Service Experiences

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Service Experiences	All Ages	Caregiver
	≥ 11	Child
	All Ages	Caseworker

Parent/Caregiver Areas

Health Status

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Mental health and substance abuse	All Ages	Caregiver
Physical health	All Ages	Caregiver
Services received by caregiver	All Ages	Caregiver

Caregiver Attributes/Behaviors

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Parent/caregiver behaviors Emotional nurturing and Cognitive/verbal responsiveness and stimulation	< 11	Caregiver/Observation
Behavioral monitoring and discipline	All Ages	Caregiver
	< 11	Caregiver/Observation
	≥ 10	Child

Contextual Factors

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source
Neighborhood factors	All Ages	Caregiver
Family demographics	All Ages	Caregiver
Social support and other family resources, including assistance with child-rearing	All Ages	Caregiver
Domestic violence in the home	All Ages	Female Caregivers
Criminal involvement of parents	All Ages	Caregiver
Risk assessment	All Ages	Caseworker

Caseworker Areas

Construct	Ages (of child when administered)	Data Source (Only once of each caseworker)
Job role	All Ages	Caseworker
Work unit	All Ages	Caseworker
Caseload	All Ages	Caseworker
Work environment and job satisfaction	All Ages	Caseworker
Demographics	All Ages	Caseworker

Bibliography

NSCAW I Data File User's Manual

Dowd, K., Kinsey, S., Wheelless, S., Thissen, R., Richardson, J., Suresh, R., Mierzwa, F., Biemer, P., Johnson, I., Lytle, T., Dolan, M., Hendershott, A., & Smith, K. (2008). *National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-being (NSCAW) – Data File User's Manual*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.

NSCAW II Data File User's Manual

Dowd, K., Dolan, M., Smith, K., Day, O., Keeney, J., Wheelless, S., & Biemer, P. (2014). *Second National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-being II (NSCAW-II)- Data File User's Manual*. Research Triangle Park, NC: RTI International.