APPENDIX A: DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF COHABITATION MEASURES AND CODING IN EACH DATA SET

CURRENT COHABITATION
ADD HEALTH: National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health

Relationship File:

A. Respondent’s gender: (response categories: Male, Female)
B. If respondent has never been married, he/she is asked “How many romantic or sexual partners have you ever lived with for one month or more? By ‘lived with’ we mean that neither of you kept a separate residence while you were living together.” If respondent has been married, he/she is asked “Not counting the (partner/partners) you married, how many other romantic or sexual partners have you ever lived with for one month or more? By ‘lived with’ we mean that neither of you kept a separate residence while you were living together.” Respondents are asked this question before questions C-E, providing them with a definition of cohabitation.
(response categories: 0-20, Refused, Don’t know)
C. Respondent lists all partners with whom they have married, cohabited, or had a “romantic relationship or sexual encounter that resulted in a pregnancy.” Respondent is also asked to list any additional partners with whom he/she has had a “romantic or sexual relationship” since 2001. Add Health assigns a label to each partner to indicate relationship type. If respondent married the partner, the relationship is designated as a marriage. If he/she cohabited with the partner but did not marry him/her, the relationship is labeled a cohabitation. If respondent had a pregnancy with the partner but did not cohabit or marry him/her, the relationship is labeled a pregnancy. All other partners are classified as currently dating or most recently dating based on whether they are current or not. (response categories: Marriage, Cohabitation, Pregnancy, Currently dating, Most recently dating)
D. For each partner, respondents asked “Is {initials} male or female?” (response categories: Male, Female, Refused, Don’t know)
E. If answer to (C) is cohabitation, respondent asked “Are you currently cohabiting with {initials}?”
(response categories: No, Yes, Refused, Don’t know)
If answer to (B) is yes, and answers to (A) and (D) are either (female and male) or (male and female), respectively, then currently cohabiting=1; if answer to (B) is yes, but answer to (A) is missing or answer to (D) is refused, don’t know, or missing, then currently cohabiting= missing; otherwise currently cohabiting=0

Household Roster:

A. Respondent’s gender (response categories: Male, Female)
B. Respondent is told, “I'd like to record the initials of all persons living in your household. Not counting yourself, please list the initials of all persons living in your household.”
C. For each household member respondent is asked, “Is {INITIALS} male or female?”
(response categories: Male, Female, Refused, Don’t know)
D. For each household member respondent is asked, “What is {INITIALS} relationship to you?”
(response categories: husband/wife, partner/boyfriend/girlfriend, son/daughter,
brother/sister, brother's male partner/sister's female partner, sister's husband/brother's wife, sister's male partner/brother's female partner, father/mother, male partner/mother's female partner, mother's husband/father’s wife, mother's male partner/mother’s female partner, father-in-law/mother-in-law, grandfather/grandmother, great-grandfather/great-grandmother, uncle/aunt, cousin, nephew/niece, other relative, non-relative, refused, don’t know)

If answer to (D) is partner/boyfriend/girlfriend, and answers to (A) and (C) are either (female and male) or (male and female), respectively, then currently cohabiting=1; if answer to (D) is partner/boyfriend/girlfriend, but answer to (A) is missing or answer to (C) is refused, don’t know, or missing, then currently cohabiting= missing; otherwise currently cohabiting = 0.

**NSFG 2006-2010: National Survey of Family Growth**

**Female Questionnaire:**
A. Year 1: “Now I'd like to ask about your marital status. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital status?”
Starting in Year 2: “Now I'd like to ask about marital status and living together. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital or cohabiting status?”
(response categories: Married, Not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex, Widowed, Divorced, Separated because you and your spouse are not getting along, Never been married)
If answer to (A) is “Not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex,” then currently cohabiting = 1; otherwise = 0.

**Male Questionnaire:**
A. Asked in Year 1: “Now I'd like to ask about your marital status. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital status?”
Asked Starting in Year 2: “Now I'd like to ask about marital status and living together. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital or cohabiting status?”
(response categories: Married, Not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex, Widowed, Divorced, Separated because you and your spouse are not getting along, Never been married, Refused, Don’t know)
If answer to (A) is “Not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex,” then currently cohabiting = 1; otherwise currently cohabitation = 0.

**NLSY-97: National Longitudinal Survey of Youth - 1997 Survey:**
A. Since the date of our last interview, have you been, married to someone, or lived with a partner of the opposite sex in a marriage-like relationship where you established one household and lived together? (response categories: Yes, No)
B. Can you tell me the names (initials) of these different partners who aren't already on the [household roster]? Please begin with the first partner you lived with and continue to the (most recent/current) partner. (response categories: Enter all name or initials on empty line in the roster below)
C. Identify the current (spouse/partner). Highlight the line which contains R’s current spouse or partner.
D. Have you lived with [this partner] continuously since our last interview? (response
E. Have you lived with [this partner] continuously since [(date)/the time you first started living together]? (response categories: Yes, No)
F. In what month and year did you start living with [this partner] for the first time? (respondent enters date)
G. In what month and year did you first stop living with [this partner]? Respondent enters date
H. Here is a list of people who usually live in the household at your current residence at this time. What is [this person]’s relationship to you? (response categories: Wife, Husband, Mother, Father, Sister (Full/Half/Step/Adoptive), Brother (Full/Half/Step/Adoptive), Lover/Romantic Partner, etc.)
I. Is [this person] male or female? (response categories: Male, Female)
J. Respondent’s gender (response categories: Male, Female)

The NLSY-97 created an indicator of marital and cohabitation status on the date of interview for each survey round using responses to questions (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), and (G). Possible responses include Never Married and Cohabiting, Never Married and not Cohabiting, Married with Spouse Present, Married with Spouse Absent, Separated and Cohabiting, Separated and Not Cohabiting, etc. If respondents are recorded as cohabiting with any other marital status (Never Married/Separated/Divorced/Widowed), they are considered to be currently cohabiting. Prior to round 8, the NLSY-97 only asked respondents about cohabitation with partners of the “opposite sex.” To capture different-gender cohabitation in the 11th and 12th rounds (2007 and 2008 respectively), we compare the gender of any household member, within these years, recorded as a “Lover/Romantic Partner” (attained from questions (H) and (I)) to the respondent’s gender (question J attained during screening process).

Household Roster:
A. Here is a list of people who usually live in the household at your current residence at this time. What is [this person]’s relationship to you? (response categories: Wife, Husband, Mother, Father, Sister (Full/Half/Step/Adoptive), Brother (Full/Half/Step/Adoptive), Lover/Romantic Partner, etc.)
B. Is [this person] male or female? (response categories: Male, Female)
C. Respondent’s gender (response categories: Male, Female)

If the respondent reports that a household member’s relationship to them is a “Lover/Romantic Partner,” from question (A), and if this household member’s gender, from question (B), is different than the respondent’s gender (C), currently cohabitation = 1; otherwise currently cohabitation = 0.

CPS: Current Population Survey
The roster is established based on a series of questions about who counts this household as their usual residence. Respondents answer, “What are the names of all persons living or staying here?” They are then asked, “What is the name of the next person. Is this (name of person talking about)’s usual place of residence?”

A. How in this person related to Person 1? (response categories: husband or wife, biological son or daughter, adopted son or daughter, stepson or stepdaughter, brother or sister, father or mother, grandchild, parent-in-law, son-in-law or daughter-in-law, other relative, roomer or border, housemate or roommate, unmarried partner, foster child, other
nonrelative)
B. Do you have a boyfriend, girlfriend or partner in this household? (response categories: Yes, No)
   This question is asked of all unmarried adults in the household except persons identified as the unmarried partner of the household head. This question provides the line number of the cohabiters on the household roster.
C. What is Person X’s sex? (response categories: Male, Female)
   If a household member is related to the household head through an unmarried partnership, identified through question (A), both the household head and this individual are considered to be cohabiters. Furthermore, if the household head reports having a boyfriend, girlfriend or partner in the household, identified through question (B), both the household head and their boyfriend, girlfriend or partner are coded as cohabiters. Finally, cohabiting relationships that do not involve the household head are identified using question (B), as this question is posed about all unmarried adults in the household except persons identified as the unmarried partner of the household head. The genders of both respondents involved in a cohabiting union are compared to ensure that only different-gender cohabiters are included in our analyses (question (C)).

**COHABITATION EXPERIENCE**

**ADD HEALTH: National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health**
A. Respondent’s gender (response categories: Male, Female)
B. If respondent has never been married, he/she is asked “How many romantic or sexual partners have you ever lived with for one month or more? By ’lived with’ we mean that neither of you kept a separate residence while you were living together.” If respondent has been married, he/she is asked “Not counting the (partner/partners) you married, how many other romantic or sexual partners have you ever lived with for one month or more? By ’lived with’ we mean that neither of you kept a separate residence while you were living together.” Respondents are asked this question before questions C-F, providing them with a definition of cohabitation. (response categories: 0-20, Refused, Don’t know)
C. Respondent lists all partners with whom they have married, cohabited, or had a “romantic relationship or sexual encounter that resulted in a pregnancy.” Respondent is also asked to list any additional partners with whom he/she has had a “romantic or sexual relationship” since 2001. Add Health assigns a label to each partner to indicate relationship type. If respondent married the partner, the relationship is designated as a marriage. If he/she cohabited with the partner but did not marry him/her, the relationship is labeled a cohabitation. If respondent had a pregnancy with the partner but did not cohabit or marry him/her, the relationship is labeled a pregnancy. All other partners are classified as currently dating or most recently dating based on whether they are current or not. (response categories: Marriage, Cohabitation, Pregnancy, Currently dating, Most recently dating)
D. For each partner, respondents asked “Is {initials} male or female?” (response categories: Male, Female, Refused, Don’t know)
E. If answer to (C) is marriage, respondent asked “Did you and {initials} ever live together for a month or more in the same residence as romantic or sexual partners when you were not married?” (response categories: No, Yes, Refused)
F. If answer to (C) is cohabitation, respondent asked “How many times did you live with
{initials]? By ‘times’ we mean periods of living together separated by times when you were not living together.” If answer to (C) is marriage and answer to (E) is yes, respondent asked “How many times did you live with {initials} when you were not married? By ‘times’ we mean periods of living together separated by times when you were not living together.” (response categories: 1-70, Refused, Don’t know)

If answer to (F) is 1-70 and answers to (A) and (D) are either (female and male) or (male and female), respectively, then cohabiting experience = 1; if answer to (F) is 1-70, but answer to (A) is missing or answer to (D) is refused, don’t know, or missing, then cohabiting experience = missing; otherwise cohabiting experience = 0.

NSFG 2006-2010: National Survey of Family Growth

Female Questionnaire:
A. “Some couples live together without being married. By living together, we mean having a sexual relationship while sharing the same usual address. Have you ever lived together with a man? Do not count "dating" or "sleeping over" as living together. Living together means having a sexual relationship while sharing the same usual address.” (response categories: Yes, No)
B. “Some couples live together without being married. By living together, we mean having a sexual relationship while sharing the same usual address. Not counting anyone we've already talked about, have you ever lived together with any other man? Do not count "dating" or "sleeping over" as living together. Living together means having a sexual relationship while sharing the same usual address.” (response categories: Yes, No)
C. “Have/Not counting anyone we've already talked about, have/Besides [NAMES OF CURRENT HUSBAND/PARTNER AND FORMER HUSBANDS] have you ever lived together with (a/any other) man?” (response categories: Yes, No, Refused, Don’t know)
D. Whether the man in the HH is R's husband or cohabiting partner (determined through household roster) (response categories: Inapplicable, Husband, Male cohabiting partner)
E. Year 1: “Now I'd like to ask about your marital status. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital status?”
   Starting in Year 2: “Now I'd like to ask about marital status and living together. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital or cohabiting status?”
   (response categories: Married, Not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex, Widowed, Divorced, Separated because you and your spouse are not getting along, Never been married)
If answer to (A) is “yes”, or answer to (B) is “yes”, or answer to (C) is “yes”, or answer to (D) is “male cohabiting partner”, or answer to (E) is “not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex”, then cohabiting experience = 1; otherwise cohabiting experience = 0.

Male Questionnaire:
A. “Not including the woman you married, have you ever lived together with any other female sexual partner? By living together, I mean having a sexual relationship while sharing the same usual residence. Do not count 'dating' or 'sleeping over' as living together.” (response categories: Yes, No)
B. “Have you ever lived together with a female sexual partner? By living together, I mean having a sexual relationship while sharing the same usual residence.” (response categories: Yes, No)
C. Asked in Year 1: “Now I’d like to ask about your marital status. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital status?”

Asked Starting in Year 2: “Now I’d like to ask about marital status and living together. Please look at Card 1. What is your current marital or cohabiting status?”

(response categories: Married, Not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex, Widowed, Divorced, Separated because you and your spouse are not getting along, Never been married, Refused, Don’t know)

If answer to (A) is “yes”, or answer to (B) is “yes”, or answer to (C) is “not married but living together with a partner of the opposite sex”, then cohabiting experience = 1; otherwise cohabiting experience = 0.

**NLSY-97: National Longitudinal Survey of Youth - 1997**

A. Since the date of our last interview, have you been, married to someone, or lived with a partner of the opposite sex in a marriage-like relationship where you established one household and lived together? (response categories: Yes, No)

B. Can you tell me the names (initials) of these different partners who aren't already on the [Household Roster]? Please begin with the first partner you lived with and continue to the (most recent/current) partner. (response categories: Enter all name or initials on empty line in the roster below)

C. Identify the current (spouse/partner). Highlight the line which contains R’s current spouse or partner.

D. Have you lived with [this partner] continuously since our last interview? (response categories: Yes, No)

E. Have you lived with [this partner] continuously since [(date)/the time you first started living together]? (response categories: Yes, No)

F. In what month and year did you start living with [this partner] for the first time? (response categories: Respondent enters date)

G. In what month and year did you first stop living with [this partner]? (response categories: Respondent enters date)

H. Here is a list of people who usually live in the household at your current residence at this time. What is [this person]’s relationship to you? (response categories: Wife, Husband, Mother, Father, Sister (Full/Half/Step/Adoptive), Brother (Full/Half/Step/Adoptive), Lover/Romantic Partner, etc.)

I. Is [this person] male or female? (response categories: Male, Female)

J. Respondent’s gender (response categories: Male, Female)

The NLSY-97 created an indicator of monthly cohabitation status for each survey round using responses to questions (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), and (G). Possible responses include Cohabiting with Partner 1, Cohabiting with Partner 2 .... Cohabiting with Partner N, and Cohabiting with Spouse 1, Cohabiting with Spouse 2 .... Cohabiting with Spouse N. If respondents are recorded as cohabiting with a partner during any given month of any interview round, they are considered as having cohabited in their lifetime. Prior to round 8, the NLSY-97 only asked respondents about cohabitation with partners of the “opposite sex.” To capture different-gender cohabitation during and after the 8th round, we compare the gender of any household member recorded as a “Lover/Romantic Partner” (attained from questions (H) and (I)) to the respondent’s gender (item J attained during screening process).
## APPENDIX B: CONFIDENCE INTERVALS OF CURRENT AND EVER COHABITATION ESTIMATES

### Appendix Table B1: Confidence Interval Boundaries of Percentage Currently Cohabiting by Demographic Characteristics

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<th>CI Boundaries</th>
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<th>Add Health Survey</th>
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Notes: Sample is limited to respondents aged 26-28 in 2007 and 2008. Percentages are weighted.

Sources: National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health); National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY-97); National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG).
## Appendix Table B2: Confidence Interval Boundaries of Percentage Ever Cohabit by Demographic Characteristic

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**Notes:** Sample is limited to respondents aged 26-28 in 2007 and 2008. Percentages are weighted.

**Sources:** National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health); National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY-97); National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG).