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| **About the Measure** | |
| **Protocol Id** | 10902 |
| **Domain:** | Demographics |
| **Measure:** | Current marital status |
| **Definition:** | Question asking the respondent for his or her current marital status. |
| **Purpose:** | Marital status has been linked to health and mortality. |
| **Essential PhenX Protocols:** |  |
| **Related PhenX Protocols:** | Household Roster-Relationships [11401] Household Roster-Relationships [11402] Sex Assigned at Birth [11601] Sexual Orientation [11701] Gender Identity [11801] |
| **Measure Release Date:** | February 06, 2009 |

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| **About the Protocol** | |
| **Protocol Release Date:** | May 11, 2016 |
| **Protocol Review Date:** | May 11, 2016 |
| **PhenX Protocol Name:** | Current Marital Status |
| **Keywords:** | current marital status; Demographics; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; CDC; cohabiting; marriage; spouse; partner; married; National Survey of Family Growth; NSFG |
| **Description:** | The interviewer asks the respondent about his or her current marital status by presenting a numbered card that lists answer choices. The respondent may select one category. |
| **Specific Instructions:** | None |
| **Protocol:** | For many questions on this survey, I’ll ask you to look at numbered cards that list answer choices. After you’ve read the choices on the card, you can tell me your answer or, if you prefer, you can just tell me the number next to the answer you choose.  1. 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?  *ENTER [2] if R is living together with a partner of the opposite sex to whom she/he is not married, even if she/he is also widowed, divorced, separated, or never married.*  *IF R volunteers living in a same-sex marriage or with a same-sex partner, then enter this information in a comment.*  Card 1 Responses:  Married to a person of the opposite sex ................1  Not married but living together with a partner  of the opposite sex .............................2  Widowed ..............................................3  Divorced or annulled ..................................4  Separated, because you and your spouse are  not getting along ...................................5  Never been married ....................................6  {ASKED IF COHABITING (#1 = 2)}  2. What is your formal marital status? That is, are you widowed,  divorced, separated, or have you never been married?  Widowed ..............................................3  Divorced or annulled ................................4  Separated, because you and your spouse are  not getting along ..................................5  Never been married ...................................6 |
| **Selection Rationale:** | Marital status relates to health and well-being. For example, when considering the relationship between exposures and stage of disease as the outcome for melanoma, we should consider marital status because married men are more likely than unmarried men to have their melanomas discovered at an early stage (by their spouses). Vetted against several other current marital status questions. The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG) was selected because it captures both marital and cohabiting status. |
| **Source:** | National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG), 2011–2013, Section A: Marital/Cohabiting Status, Question number: AB-0, AB-1, AB-2, corresponding to the introduction, 1, and 2 of this protocol.  National Center for Health Statistics. (N.d.). National Survey of Family Growth, 2011–2013. Hyattsville, MD: Author. |
| **Language** | English Other languages available at source |
| **Participant:** | Individuals aged 18 and older. |
| **Personnel and Training Required:** | The interviewer must be trained to conduct personal interviews with individuals from the general population. The interviewer must be trained and found to be competent (i.e., tested by an expert) at the completion of personal interviews.\* The interviewer should be trained to prompt respondents further if a "don’t know" response is provided.  \* There are multiple modes to administer this question (e.g., paper-and-pencil and computer-assisted interviews). |
| **Equipment Needs:** | While the source instrument was developed to be administered by computer, the PhenX Working Group acknowledges these questions can be administered in a noncomputerized format (i.e., paper-and-pencil instrument). Computer software is necessary to develop computer-assisted instruments. The interviewer will require a laptop computer/handheld computer to administer a computer-assisted questionnaire. |
| **Standards** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Standard** | **Name** | **ID** | **Source** | | Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC) | Current marital status proto | 63054-1 | [LOINC](http://s.details.loinc.org/LOINC/<INSERT_ID>.html?sections=Web) | |
| **General References:** | Public Population Project in Genomics (P3G) Data Shaper. |
| **Mode of Administration:** | Interviewer-administered questionnaire |
| **Derived Variables:** | None |
| **Requirements:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Requirement Category** | **Required (Yes/No)** | | **Major equipment** | No | | **Specialized training** | No | | **Specialized requirements for biospecimen collection** | No | | **Average time of greater than 15 minutes in an unaffected individual** | No | |
| **Annotations for Specific Conditions:** | None |
| **Process and Review:** | The [link[phenxtoolkit.org/about/teams#erp2-members|Expert Review Panel #2]] (ERP 2) reviewed the measures in the Demographics, Social Environments, and Environmental Exposures domains.  Guidance from ERP 2 includes:  • Replaced protocol  • New Data Dictionary  Back-compatible: there are changes to the Data Dictionary, previous version of the Data Dictionary and Variable mapping in Toolkit archive ([link[www.phenxtoolkit.org/domains/view/10000#tab5content|link]]) |