

Health Statistics Portals/Gateways

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Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce

<<http://phpartners.org/>>

MedlinePlus

<<http://medlineplus.gov/>>

See Health Topic – Health Statistics

HSS Data Council Gateway to Data and Statistics – Federal Government

<<http://aspe.hhs.gov/statinfo/>>

Statistical Abstract of the United States – U.S. Census Bureau

<<http://www.census.gov/compendia/statab/>>

FedStats – Federal Government

<<http://www.fedstats.gov/>>

State & County QuickFacts – U.S. Census Bureau – Federal Government

<<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/>>

State Health Facts Online - Kaiser Family Foundation

<<http://www.statehealthfacts.kff.org/>>

Federal Government Health Statistics Agencies

There are several federal agencies that gather, analyze, and report statistical data useful for public health purposes. Among these are:

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>>

This is the principal health statistics agency in the U.S. It is part of the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC).

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

<<http://www.samhsa.gov/>>

SAMHSA's Office of Applied Studies (OAS) provides the latest national data on 1) alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and other drug abuse, 2) drug related emergency department episodes and medical examiner cases, and 3) the nation's substance abuse treatment system.

Data Sets: Federal

A variety of data sets are available from federal agencies. Some Web sites provide interactive interfaces that allow users to download data for manipulation offline. Others allow users to query a data set or collection of data sets with Web-based tools. Information can be extracted and used in custom-made tables.

National Library of Medicine

Health Data Tools and Statistics - Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce

<http://phpartners.org/health_stats.html>

This public health portal has categorized data tools and statistics into these subcategories: Health Statistics, National Public Health Data Sets, State and Local Public Health Data Sets, Public Health Infrastructure Data, Search for Other Tools, and Tools for Data Collection and Planning.

Health Services and Sciences Research Resources (HSRR) – National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology (NICHSR)

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/hsrr_search/>

This is a directory of research datasets and instruments used in health services research and public health. Entries have URLs for more information and most have pre-formulated PubMed/MEDLINE searches.

Toxicology and Environmental Health – Specialized Information Services

<<http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/Tox/ToxMain.html>>

Hazardous Substances Data Bank has chemical data valuable for environmental health concerns.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

<<http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>>

BRFSS is the world's largest telephone survey; it tracks health risks of adults in the United States. A federal and state partnership allows data collection at the national, state and local levels.

National Health Care Survey (NHCS)

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/dhcs.htm>>

The NHCS is a collection of health care provider surveys, obtaining information about the facilities that supply health care, the services rendered, and the characteristics of the patients served.

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm>>

NHIS is a continuing nationwide survey of the U.S. civilian non-institutionalized population conducted in households. Each week a probability sample of households is interviewed by trained personnel of the U.S. Bureau of the Census to obtain information about the health and other characteristics of each living member of the sample household.

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm>>

NHANES is a survey that collects information about the health and diet of people in the United States. It is unique in that it combines a home interview with health tests that are done in a mobile examination center.

National Immunization Survey

<<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/stats-surv/imz-coverage.htm#nis>>

A large on-going survey of immunization coverage among U.S. preschool children (19 - 35 months old).

National Vital Statistics System

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss.htm>>

Compiles information from states on vital events - **births, deaths, marriages, divorces, and fetal deaths.**

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbss/index.htm>>

The YRBSS includes national, state, and local school-based surveys of representative samples of 9th through 12th grade students. These surveys are conducted every two years, usually during the spring semester. The national survey, conducted by CDC, provides data representative of high school students in public and private schools in the United States. The state and local surveys, conducted by departments of health and education, provide data representative of the state or local school district.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)

<http://dawninfo.samhsa.gov/>

Relies on emergency department and medical examiner data.

Data Sets: State and Local

State and local data can be found through federal government and national organization Web sites.

Federal Government and National Organization Sources

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)

<http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>

Mentioned previously in this chapter as one of the data sets available from the CDC, BRFSS can be used to access state and local data. BRFSS is the world's largest telephone survey; it tracks health risks of adults (persons over 18) in the United States. States can add questions on a wide range of important health issues, such as diabetes, arthritis, tobacco use, folic acid consumption, health care coverage, and even terrorism. For example, following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut added questions to their Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys to measure the psychological effects of this traumatic event. BRFSS data can also be analyzed to examine smaller geographic areas within states. In 2003, CDC analyzed 2002 BRFSS state data for SMART BRFSS (Selected Metropolitan/Micropolitan Area Risk Trends from the BRFSS). This project produced data for 98 metropolitan and micropolitan statistical areas (MMSAs) and showed that the prevalence of high-risk health behaviors varied substantially among selected MMSAs.

Child Stats – Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics

<http://www.childstats.gov/>

This Web site provides federal and state statistics and reports on children and their families.

FEDSTATS – Federal government

<http://www.fedstats.gov/>

Provides access to official statistics collected and published by more than 100 federal agencies, much of it at the state level.

State & County QuickFacts – U.S. Census Bureau

<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/>

QuickFacts tables are summary profiles showing frequently requested data items from various Census Bureau programs. Profiles are available at the national, state, and county level

State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey - CDC

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slait.htm>

State Health Departments - CDC

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/international/relres.html>

State Health Facts Online - Kaiser Family Foundation

<http://www.statehealthfacts.kff.org/>

Federal Statistics

In addition to data sets, many federal agencies provide access to reports, tables and figures that present results of statistical analysis of health data.

National Library of Medicine

MedlinePlus - Health Statistics

<<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthstatistics.html>>

This site provides access to Web sites that contain compiled health statistics, often on a topic or by an audience.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC Wonder

<<http://wonder.cdc.gov/>>

Allows users to query dozens of numeric data sets on CDC's mainframe and other computers, via "fill-in-the blank" request screens. Public-use data sets about mortality, cancer incidence, hospital discharges, AIDS, behavioral risk factors, diabetes, and many other topics are available for query. The requested data can be readily summarized and analyzed.

<<http://wonder.cdc.gov/wonder/data/DataSets.html>> This site lists the more than 30 data sets that can be queried by CDC Wonder.

Data 2010 – The Healthy People 2010 Database

<<http://wonder.cdc.gov/DATA2010/>>

Interactive database system contains the most recent monitoring data for tracking Healthy People 2010. Has national and state level data. Users can construct tables for specific objectives, or objectives identified by focus areas, data source, or by select population.

Data and Statistics

<<http://www.cdc.gov/scientific.htm>>

This parent agency of NCHS has a Web site with a listing of scientific data and statistics.

NCHS Health E-Stats

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/pubs/pubd/hestats/hestats.htm>>

NCHS gathers compiled statistics from its printed publications at this Web site.

Prevalence Data from the BRFSS (Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System)

<<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/brfss/>>

Users can query the BRFSS data sets for statistical information.

Youth Online

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/2001/youth01online.htm>>

Youth Online provides interactive access to Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) results. You can display detailed results by location(s), question, demographic variables, and survey year. The survey provides a representative sample of 9th to 12th grade students.

Quick Statistics - - State Profiles <<http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/webt/NewMapv1.htm>>

Get state level data from TEDS which provides information on the demographic and substance abuse characteristics of the 1.9 million annual admissions to treatment for abuse of alcohol and drugs in facilities that report to individual state administrative data systems. Also get statistics from N-SSATS an annual survey designed to collect data on the location, characteristics, and use of alcohol and drug abuse treatment facilities and services throughout the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and other U.S. jurisdictions These resources are good examples of systems that uses state level administrative data.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Data Archive (SAMHDA)

<<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/SAMHDA/>>

Data files, documentation, and reports are downloadable from the Web site and in public use format. The Web site features an online data analysis system (DAS) that allows users to conduct analyses on selected datasets within the archive. SAMHDA also provides user support through e-mail and a toll-free helpline.

Statistical Information by Subject

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

GIS data sets can be useful for many purposes. They are used primarily to display data geographically. In public health, applications for GIS are becoming more accessible as geo-coded health data and environmental exposure data increasingly become available, and new and easier-to-use GIS software is developed. The U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR) uses GIS to monitor the health of persons living near hazardous waste sites, and to identify areas of potential concern resulting from accidental release of chemicals in the environment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) uses GIS for disease surveillance, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) uses it to support risk assessment, environmental justice analysis, and ecological assessments.

Injury Maps - National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC

< <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/>>

Injury Maps, CDC Injury Center's interactive mapping system, provides access to the geographic distribution of injury-related mortality rates in the United States. Injury Maps allows you to create county-level and state-level maps of age-adjusted mortality rates for the entire United States and for individual states.

Geographic Analysis Tool for Health & Environmental Research (GATHER) - Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

<<http://gis.cdc.gov/>>

GATHER is an online spatial data access system that provides members of the public health community access to spatial data that is pertinent to the analysis and exploration of public health issues.

Mortality and Morbidity Data

Mortality Data from the National Vital Statistics System

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/mortdata.htm>>

Includes mortality, cause of death, data based on death certificates. CDC assumed responsibility for collecting and publishing national data on notifiable diseases in 1961. As of 1998, 52 infectious diseases were notifiable at the nation level. Currently, there are about 56. (see <<http://www.cdc.gov/epo/dphsi/phs/infdis2004.htm>>) The statistical summary of notifiable diseases in the United States is published to accompany each volume of the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. These surveillance data are presented by the week they were reported to CDC by public health officials in state and territorial health departments. HTML versions are available from:

MMWR Search

<<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsrch.htm>>

Public Health Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness and Response – Centers for Disease Control and Preparedness

<<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/>>

Includes links to additional information on agents, diseases and other threats.

Preparation and Planning

<<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/planning/index.asp>>

Chemical Warfare Agents – National Library of Medicine

<<http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/Tox/ChemWar.html>>

Includes links to government and non-governmental Web sites, information about specific chemical agents with health effects and pre-formulated searches of Toxline

MedlinePlus Biodefense and Bioterrorism - National Library of Medicine

<<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/biodefenseandbioterrorism.html>>

MedlinePlus Chemical Weapons - National Library of Medicine

<<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/chemicalweapons.html>>

Toxicology and Environmental Health

TOXNET – Specialized Information Services, National Library of Medicine

<<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/>>

A variety of databanks and databases on toxicology, hazardous chemicals, and related areas including TRI, Toxics Release Inventory, and HSDB, Hazardous Substances Data Bank.

IRIS (Integrated Risk Information System) – Environmental Protection Agency

<<http://www.epa.gov/iris/>>

A collection of computer files covering individual chemicals with human health effects that may result from exposure to various chemicals in the environment.

Browse EPA Topics

<<http://www.epa.gov/eftpages/alphabet.html>>

Provides access to EPA data by “key topics,” including Air, Food Safety, Forests, Pesticides, Wastes, Public Drinking Water Systems and Water Quality Monitoring.

Another Resource

FactFinder - U. S. Census Bureau

<<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet>>

Selected US Government Publications

Health, United States, National Center for Health Statistics. Annual. Hyattsville, Maryland.

<<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm> >

The full-text of this annual report on national trends in health statistics is available on the Internet.

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

<<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/index.html>>

The data in the weekly *MMWR* are provisional, based on weekly reports to CDC by state health departments.