2003 NATIONAL HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY (NHIS)   August 1, 2008
             PUBLIC USE DATA RELEASE

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INTRODUCTION

The National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) is conducted
annually by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS),
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The NHIS
administers face-to-face interviews in a nationally
representative sample of households. Each week a probability
sample of the civilian noninstitutionalized population of the
United States is interviewed by personnel of the U.S. Bureau of
the Census. Information is obtained about the health and other
characteristics of each member of the household.

SURVEY DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT

Please see the Survey Description Document for even more
documentation about the 2003 NHIS. For the location of the
Survey Description Document, please see the section below
entitled "2003 NHIS DOCUMENTATION FILES".

2003 NHIS STRUCTURE

The NHIS contains many similar questions every year. The
repeated items are called "core questions". Beginning with a
new NHIS design in 1997, these core questions were divided into
three components -- Family, Sample Adult, and Sample Child. In
some years, the NHIS also has supplemental questions/modules.
The 2003 NHIS contains the core questions along with questions
for the Healthy People 2010 Objectives module. All of these
additional 2003 questions were asked of Sample Adults or
Sample Children. The responses to these questions are stored
in the Sample Adult and Sample Child data files.

The 2003 NHIS files consist of six questionnaires and eight data
files. See the Survey Description document for more details.
The following chart shows the output data files for the 2003
NHIS components:

```
    Component          Questionnaire          Output Data File
 -----------------     -------------       ----------------------
 Family Core           Household           Household
     "                 Family              Family
     "                   "                 Person
     "                   "                 Injury/Poison Episode
     "                   "                 Injury/Poison Verbatim
 Sample Adult Core     Sample Adult        Sample Adult
 Healthy People 2010     "                     "
 Sample Child Core     Sample Child        Sample Child
 Healthy People 2010     "                     "
     "                 Immunization        Immunization
     --                Recontact               --
```

2003 NHIS FILES AND DOCUMENTATION

The various files listed below comprise the 2003 National Health
Interview Survey (NHIS) public use data release. A copy of this
file (README.TXT), in ASCII format, is located with each of the
following file groups (survey questionnaires, data files, SAS/
SPSS/STATA input statements, and documentation).

2003 NHIS SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES, ETC.

The 2003 NHIS consists of six questionnaires - Household,
Family, Sample Adult, Sample Child, Immunization, and
Recontact. The questionnaires that are provided with the
release of the 2003 NHIS are not identical to the versions that
were utilized in the field. The questionnaires provided here
reflect the minor changes in data presentation that occurred
during the editing process.

Flashcards were handed to the respondents to facilitate their
ability to answer certain questions - these are referenced in
the questionnaires. The Field Representative Manual contains
the guidelines and instructions on the survey process and topic
areas covered by the NHIS and was provided to the Field
Representatives (also known as interviewers).   Also included is

a flowchart that shows how a respondent would move through the
various questionnaires.

The survey questionnaires, flashcards, and Field Representative
Manual are in PDF format and can be viewed with Adobe Acrobat
software. The Adobe Acrobat Reader software can be downloaded
from the Adobe Acrobat Web site at:

http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep2.html

		File	--File Size--	
File Name	Description	Format	(KB)	(Pages)
QHOUSHLD.PDF	Household Questionnaire	PDF	103	17
QFAMILYX.PDF	Family Core Questionnaire	PDF	509	87
QSAMADLT.PDF	Sample Adult Core Questionnaire	PDF	340	61
QSAMCHLD.PDF	Sample Child Core Questionnaire	PDF	132	23
QIMMUNIZ.PDF	Immunization Questionnaire	PDF	138	17
QRECONCT.PDF	Recontact Questionnaire	PDF	46	6
FLASHCRD.PDF	Flashcards (English)	PDF	647	174
FRMANUAL.PDF	FR Manual	PDF	1,540	329
NHISFLOW.PDF	NHIS System Flow Chart	PDF	11	1

The survey questionnaires, flashcards, flow chart, and Field
Representative Manual are located at:

ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Survey_Questionnaire
s/NHIS/2003

2003 NHIS DATA FILES

The 2003 NHIS has been divided into eight data files. For ease
of transmission, each of the 2003 NHIS data files has been
converted into a self-extracting compressed format. To load and
expand a compressed file into an ASCII file, perform the
following steps:

Download a compressed file onto your hard drive into an
appropriate directory (folder). For example: Copy the data
file HOUSEHLD.EXE into a directory called NHIS2003. To do this,
create a directory on your C: drive called NHIS2003. Then,
using your browser, go to the FTP site containing the 2003 NHIS
data files (see address at end of this section). Right click on
the HOUSEHLD.EXE file. Depending on your browser, select
Save Link As... or Save Target As...
Type c:\nhis2003\HOUSEHLD.EXE in the box labeled File Name
and hit Enter. To then convert HOUSEHLD.EXE into the ASCII file
HOUSEHLD.DAT, go to the directory NHIS2003 and do the following:

- From DOS   - in the c:\nhis2003 directory, type HOUSEHLD
                  and hit Enter

- From Windows - Double-click on HOUSEHLD.EXE
                  or
                  Click the Start Button, Click Run, enter
                  c:\nhis2003\HOUSEHLD.EXE and hit Enter.

The ASCII file HOUSEHLD.DAT will be generated which can then be
used for processing by PC statistical software packages which
utilize ASCII formatted input, or transferred to another
computer for processing.

NOTE: The 2003 NHIS files are large in size. Please use caution
and check your disk drive capacity before extracting.

NOTE: Users have encountered difficulties when downloading the
data files onto their 'Desktop'. When downloading the data
files, please use a separate folder (directory).

			------ File Size -----	
		File	Compressed	Original
File Name	Description	Format	(KB)	(KB)
FAMILYXX.EXE	Family Data	ASCII	1,142	7,179
HOUSEHLD.EXE	Household Data	ASCII	409	2,360
IMMUNIZE.EXE	Immunization Data	ASCII	504	7,644
INJPOIEP.EXE	Injury/Poison Episode	ASCII	45	272
INJVERBT.EXE	Injury/Poison Verbatim	ASCII	89	1,217
PERSONSX.EXE	Person Data	ASCII	4,357	68,392
SAMADULT.EXE	Sample Adult Data	ASCII	3,417	27,749
SAMCHILD.EXE	Sample Child Data	ASCII	549	3,099

The 2003 NHIS data files are located at:

ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Datasets/NHIS/2003

2003 SUPPLEMENTAL FILES FOR SINGLETON PSU

NCHS has created one supplemental file (2003samchild.dat) with dummy records
to fill in the missing sample design information for the 2003 Sample Child file.
The layout of the 2003samchild.dat is the same as the 2003 Sample Child file.
The weight variables for the supplemental records, WTIA_SC and WTFA_SC,
have been set equal to 1. For more details, please visit page:

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/nhis/singleton_PSU.htm

2003 NHIS SAS, SPSS AND STATA INPUT STATEMENTS

Sample SAS, SPSS, and STATA input statement programs have been
provided for each data file. By using the ASCII data files
(.DAT files) as input to these programs, SAS, SPSS, or STATA
data files can be created. The SAS, SPSS, and STATA input
statement programs are stored in ASCII format. STATA programs
were not provided prior to the 2002 data year.

		File	File Size
File Name	Description	Format	(KB)
FAMILYXX.SAS	Family SAS program	ASCII	23
HOUSEHLD.SAS	Household SAS program	ASCII	9
IMMUNIZE.SAS	Immunization SAS program	ASCII	50
INJPOIEP.SAS	Injury/Poison Episode SAS program	ASCII	25

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INJVERBT.SAS   Injury/Poison Verbatim SAS program   ASCII      4
PERSONSX.SAS   Person SAS program                   ASCII     99
SAMADULT.SAS   Sample Adult SAS program             ASCII    128
CANCRECO.SAS   Sample Adult Cancer SAS program      ASCII     11
               (time since cancer screening test
                recode)
SAMCHILD.SAS   Sample Child SAS program             ASCII     45

FAMILYXX.SPS   Family SPSS program                  ASCII     19
HOUSEHLD.SPS   Household SPSS program               ASCII      6
IMMUNIZE.SPS   Immunization SPSS program            ASCII     84
INJPOIEP.SPS   Injury/Poison Episode SPSS program   ASCII     24
INJVERBT.SPS   Injury/Poison Verbatim SPSS pgm      ASCII      3
PERSONSX.SPS   Person SPSS program                  ASCII    145
SAMADULT.SPS   Sample Adult SPSS program            ASCII    169
SAMCHILD.SPS   Sample Child SPSS program            ASCII     49

FAMILYXX.DO    Family STATA program                 ASCII     20
HOUSEHLD.DO    Household STATA program              ASCII      7
IMMUNIZE.DO    Immunization STATA program           ASCII     41
INJPOIEP.DO    Injury/Poison Episode STATA program  ASCII     23
INJVERBT.DO    Injury/Poison Verbatim STATA pgm     ASCII      4
PERSONSX.DO    Person STATA program                 ASCII     96
SAMADULT.DO    Sample Adult STATA program           ASCII    121
SAMCHILD.DO    Sample Child STATA program           ASCII     42
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The 2003 NHIS sample SAS, SPSS, and STATA input statement
programs are located at:

ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Program_Code/NHIS/20
03

2003 NHIS DOCUMENTATION FILES

There is a data file layout (also called data dictionary)
associated with each data file. There is also a Survey
Description document which contains general information about
the 2003 NHIS.

The documentation files are in PDF format and can be viewed with
Adobe Acrobat software. The Adobe Acrobat Reader software can
be downloaded from the Adobe Acrobat Web site at:

http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html

File Name	Description	File Format	File Size (KB)	(Pages)
FAMILYXX.PDF	Family File Layout	PDF	275	105
HOUSEHLD.PDF	Household File Layout	PDF	57	15
IMMUNIZE.PDF	Immunization File Layout	PDF	481	109
INJPOIEP.PDF	Inj/Poi Episode File Layout	PDF	442	82
INJVERBT.PDF	Inj/Poi Verbatim File Layout	PDF	45	9
PERSONSX.PDF	Person File Layout	PDF	1,214	459
SAMADULT.PDF	Sample Adult File Layout	PDF	1,557	520
SAMCHILD.PDF	Sample Child File Layout	PDF	520	163

SRVYDESC.PDF   Survey Description Document   PDF   1,057   108

The 2003 NHIS documentation files are located at:

ftp://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Dataset_Documentatio
n/NHIS/2003

2003 NHIS DATA FILES' RECORD SEQUENCE

All records in the NHIS data files have first been sorted by the
Household Serial Number (HHX). The Family file has been sorted
by the Family Serial Number (FMX) within the Household Serial
Number (HHX). The person-level files (Person, Sample Adult,
Sample Child, and Immunization) have been sorted by the Person
Number (PX) within the Household Serial Number (HHX). The
injury files (Injury/Poison Episode and Injury/Poison Verbatim)
have been sorted by Person Number (PX) and Injury/Poison Episode
Number (IPEPNO) within the Household Serial Number (HHX).

MERGING 2003 NHIS DATA FILES

To merge data from the Household file into the Family file, or
into any of the person-level files (Person, Sample Adult, Sample
Child or Immunization) or into any of the episode-level files
(Injury/Poison Episode and Injury/Poison Verbatim), merge by
variable HHX. To merge any person-level file with another
person-level file or with an episode-level file, merge by
variables HHX and PX. To merge one Injury file with the other
Injury file, merge by variables HHX, PX, and IPEPNO. To merge
the Family file information into a person-level or episode-level
file, re-sort the person-level or episode-level file by
variables HHX and FMX and then merge by HHX and FMX.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Updates about new data releases, publications, or errors will be
sent to members of the NHIS Listserv. To join, visit the
website at:

http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/nhis/nhislist.htm

For additional information on NHIS data products:

    Phone   : 301-458-4901
    FAX   : 301-458-4035
    E-mail   : nhislist@cdc.gov.
    Internet: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm

For additional information on other NCHS data products:

    Phone   : 301-458-INFO [301-458-4636]
    E-mail   : nchsquery@cdc.gov
    Internet: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs

STATEMENT OF AUTHENTICITY

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