

Data from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) are released in printed reports and on the NCHS website at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs>.

For more information on NHANES, visit the NHANES website at <https://www.cdc.gov/nhanes>.

For any questions regarding NCHS or NHANES, contact:

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Information Dissemination Staff
3311 Toledo Road, Room 4551, MS P08
Hyattsville, MD 20782-2064

Telephone:
1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)
TTY:
1-888-232-6348
Online request form:
<https://www.cdc.gov/info>
Internet:
<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs>

For specific questions about how NCHS protects the information you provide, contact:

Confidentiality Office, NCHS
Telephone:
1-888-642-4159
E-mail:
NCHSconfidentiality@cdc.gov

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS



How the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey Keeps Your Information

CONFIDENTIAL



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Health Statistics

Protecting the public's privacy

NCHS and NHANES

Our promise

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) carried out the first National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) in 1960. Today, more than 50 years later, the promise to protect the privacy of everyone remains our top priority. We believe this record is an important reason why so many people are willing to take part in the survey.

There's safety in numbers, especially our numbers!

The law...

Assurance of Confidentiality: We take your privacy very seriously. All information that relates to or describes identifiable characteristics of individuals, a practice, or an establishment will be used only for statistical purposes.

NCHS staff, contractors, and agents will not disclose or release responses in identifiable form without the consent of the individual or establishment in accordance with section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242m(d)) and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA, Title 5 of Public Law 107-347). In accordance with CIPSEA, every NCHS employee, contractor, and agent has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to five years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you.

The pledge...

Anyone working on the NHANES must sign a pledge. As specified in this written pledge, disclosing your private information is punishable by law.

The penalties...

People who break these laws can be fined up to \$250,000, lose their job, or go to jail.

Other ways we protect your privacy

Those working for NCHS must also follow special rules for handling private information. These rules are meant to ensure that the privacy of the people taking part in NHANES is fully respected.

- Anything that could reveal who you are is removed. This includes, but is not limited to, your or your families' names, addresses, phone numbers, and places of work.
- Data are not released if they are for a geographical location so small that the numbers might identify someone.
- All computers are password protected. Data are encrypted for transmission using secure data networks and housed on secure servers with access restricted to authorized users.

NCHS and NHANES have a strong record for maintaining privacy during data collection processing.