The Second National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, (NHANES II) 1976-80.

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) collects, analyzes, and disseminates data on the health status of U.S. residents. The results of surveys, analyses, and studies are made known through a number of data release mechanisms including publications, mainframe computer data files, CD-ROMs and the Internet.

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Table 1. Available NHES & NHANES Data

Dataset Name	Release Date	Size in Megabytes	Data Files / Description
NHANES III, 1988-94, Series 11, No. 8A, ASCII Version	January 2001	9.7	Data file and documentation for NHANES III children under 7 years. Basic demographic items and sample weights plus items from their birth certificates. Records can be matched with exam files from NHANES.
NHANES III, 1988-94, Series 11, No. 6A, ASCII Version	January 2000	2.7	Healthy Eating Index (HEI) Data File and documentation includes number of servings by Food Guide Pyramid food groups and HEI
NHANES III, 1988-94, Series 11, No. 5A, ASCII Version	October 2000	54	NHANES III Supplemental Nutrition Survey of Older Americans (SNS) dietary intake data and documentation for a special dietary follow-up study of NHANES III, phase 1 (1988-91) examinees
NHANES III, 1988-94, Series 11, No. 4A, ASCII Version (this release)	January 2000	0.5	Priority toxicant reference range study data file and documentation
NHANES III, 1988-94, Series 11, No. 3A, ASCII Version	July 1999	33	Second exam sample files for dietary recall, examination, laboratory, additional laboratory analytes and documentation
NHANES III, 1988-94, Series 11, No. 2A, ASCII Version	April 1998	407	Dietary recall (replacement), electrocardiography, laboratory (additional analytes), and vitamins/medicines data files and documentation

NHANES III, 1988-94, Series 11, No. 1A, ASCII Version	July 1997	454	Adult and youth household questionnaire, dietary recall, examination, and laboratory data files and documentation
NHANES III Reference Manuals and Reports October 1996	October 1996	152	Plan and operation, analytic and reporting guidelines, weighting and estimation methodology, field operations, non-response bias
NHANES II	---	343	Adult and youth household questionnaire, examination, laboratory, and dietary intake data files and documentation
NHANES I	---	463	Adult and youth household questionnaire, examination, laboratory and dietary intake data files and dcoumentaion
HHANES	---	366	Hispanic adult and youth household questionnaire, examination, laboratory, and dietary intake data files and documentation
NHES III	---	74	Youth ages 12-17 household questionnaire, examination and labratory data files and documentation.
NHES II	---	74	Children ages 6-11 household questionnaire, examination and labratory data files and documentation.
NHES I	---	74	Adult ages 18-59 household questionnaire, examination and labratory data files and documentation.

Survey description

The second National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, NHANES II, is a nationwide probability sample of 27,801 persons from 6 months 74 years of age. From this sample, 25,286 people were interviewed and 20,322 people were examined, resulting in an overall response rate of 73 percent. Because children and persons classified as living at or below the poverty level were assumed to be at special risk of having nutritional problems, they were sampled at rates substantially higher than their proportions in the general population. Adjusted sampling weights were computed within 76 age-sex income groups in order to inflate the sample to closely reflect the target population at the midpoint of the survey.

Data file description

Data tapes from NHANES II are organized by subject matter. The data files comprising the NHANES II include a number of demographic and socioeconomic variables on each tape including age, gender, race, ethnicity, income, education, and marital status.

Referencing or Citing NHANES II Data

o   In publications, please acknowledge NCHS as the original data source. For
        instance, the reference for the NHANES II is: U.S. Department of Health and Human
        Services (DHHS). National Center for Health Statistics. Second National Health and
        Nutrition Examination Survey, (NHANES II), 1976-1980, Hyattsville, MD: Centers for
        Disease Control and Prevention.

Using the files

Your analysis software should be able to read data files directly from your
hard drive. Please note that some files are very large. Check the file sizes
before copying.

The data files may be used in other analysis packages by using the field
positions found in the corresponding documentation.   Below are some tips for
using SAS.

        DATA Step Statements: INPUT Statement - Column Input
        INPUT, Column Reads input values from specified columns and assigns
        them to corresponding SAS variables.

        The following arguments are allowed:
        Variable   names a variable that is assigned input values.
        $ indicates to store the variable values as character values rather
                          than numeric values.
        start-column   specifies the first column of the input record that contains the
                          value to read.
        --end-column   specifies the last column of the input record that contains the value
                          to read.
        .decimalplaces   gives the number of digits to the right of the decimal if the input
                          value does not contain an explicit decimal point.
        @   holds the input record for the execution of the next INPUT statement
                          within the same iteration of the DATA step. This line-hold specifier is
                          called the trailing @.
        @@   holds the input record for the execution of the next INPUT statement
                          across iterations of the DATA step. This line-hold specifier is called
                          the double trailing @.

Problems Using the Data

NHANES II is a rich source of data and NCHS encourages you to use the data
for research and analysis. However, the dataset is large and complex and
familiarity with data file manipulation and analysis is required. NCHS
does not have the resources to perform analyses, check results, debug
programs or do literature review for your work. Thorough review of the
extensive documentation on the planning of the survey, analytic guidelines
and individual datasets should resolve most questions. If you still have
questions after careful review of the documentation, please contact the
Data Dissemination Branch at (301) 458-4636 or refer to the web page at
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm.