

National Center for Health Statistics

Data to Help Our Schools, Students, and Families Thrive

The [National Center for Health Statistics \(NCHS\)](#) is the nation's principal health statistics agency. Housed within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it provides critical data on all aspects of public health and the health care system, including chronic disease prevalence, health disparities, emergency room use, teen pregnancy, infant mortality, causes of death, and rates of insurance. NCHS is also responsible for collecting and disseminating the nation's vital statistics. NCHS health data are an essential part of the nation's statistical and public health infrastructure.

Key NCHS Products

- National Vital Statistics Reports
- National Health Interview Survey
- National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey
- National Death Index
- National Survey of Family Growth
- National Health Statistics Reports
- NCHS Data Briefs

Who uses NCHS products?

Policymakers	Policymakers in the private and public sectors use NCHS data to monitor and analyze changes in the health and well-being of the U.S. population. NCHS data are used to make informed decisions about service delivery and to design public health messages.
Health Care providers	Health care providers use NCHS data to develop measures, such as pediatric growth charts and immunization schedules, and to identify emerging public health threats and trends, such as causes of death and injury, across diverse populations.
Researchers	Researchers use NCHS surveys, such as the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) and National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), to understand the population's health, influences on health, and health outcomes. Scientists used NCHS data, for example, to identify the scope of the nation's opioid crisis and its effect on mortality.

The Future of NCHS

Modernization	Years of flat funding, rising survey costs, and declining response rates have precluded NCHS from enacting innovations to enhance data quality and timeliness and to reduce survey participant burden. Modernizing data collection and assessment methods for current surveys will provide more comprehensive, detailed, and timely data for all NCHS data users. NCHS is expanding the use of administrative data for statistical purposes and realizing the potential of electronic health records to provide more comprehensive and objective data.
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Invest in data to secure a better future.

#InvestInData #DataInfrastructure #CountOnStats

Improving the lives of Americans through data.