**Commonly Used Datasets in Nursing and Medicine**

**Description:**

Here are suggested statistical dataset resources with links and descriptions for nursing and health-related fields of study.

**Health People 2020:** Link at <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/data-search/Search-the-Data>

“DATA2020, the Healthy People 2020 interactive data tool, allows users to explore data and technical information related to the Healthy People 2020 objectives.” (retrieved May 18, 2016 from https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/How-to-Use-DATA2020)

This site also contains links to 469 various Evidence-Based Resources that provides vital statistics and data but also some evidence-based guidelines to improve health.

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:**  Access data and statistics at <http://www.cdc.gov/DataStatistics/>

This site offers data and statistics by topic, such as birth defects, cancer, deaths & mortality, environmental health, STDs, healthy aging, etc. Additionally, there are links to several other tools and resources that provide additional statistical databases, such as *Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Open Data, National Program of Cancer Registries, State and Territorial Data, Environmental Public Health Tracking Network, Community Health Indicators* and many others.

**US National Library of Medicine:**  Access at <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/services/statistics.html>

On this page, there are links to the following statistical sources:

*US Health and Medical Statistics Sources*:

* Agency for Health Research and Quality (AHRQ) for [Health Care Utilization (HCUP)](http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/databases.jsp) and [Medical Expenditures (MEPS)](http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/)
* CDC [National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/) for US health statistics, including community health status indicators.
* [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)](http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems.html) for spending, enrollment and claims data.
* [FedStats](http://fedstats.sites.usa.gov/) links to statistical information from over 100 federal agencies and programs, including the US Census bureau for population-related statistics.
* NIH [Institutes and Offices](http://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih) for disease specific statistical information starting points.
* NLM [MedlinePlus® Health Statistics](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthstatistics.html) topic page for links to selected health statistics sources; [MedlinePlus Health topic pages](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/healthtopics.html) for links to disease-specific statistics sources.
* NLM National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology (NICHSR):
  + [Finding and Using Health Statistics](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/nichsr/usestats/index.htm) for a self-study course on the subject.
  + For links to [Data, Tools and Statistics](https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hsrinfo/datasites.html), Health Services and Sciences Research Resources (HSRR), and more.
* [Partners in Information Access for the Public Health Workforce](http://phpartners.org/health_stats.html) for links to individual state statistics, county and local health data.

*International Health Statistics Sources:*

* World Health Organization (WHO) [Global Health Observatory (GHO)](http://www.who.int/gho/en/) for data, tools, analysis and reports by country or health topic.
* United Nations [UNdata](http://data.un.org/DataMartInfo.aspx) and [Statistical Databases](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/databases.htm) for links to [Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Indicators](http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/Default.aspx) and other international sources of data.
* Pan American Health Organization for [Regional Core Data](http://new.paho.org/usa/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=25&Itemid=135) and other international statistical information.
* [EU Health Statistical Reports](http://ec.europa.eu/health/reports/european/statistics/index_en.htm) for reports from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.
* [UK National Statistics](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements) for data from United Kingdom by topic or department for statistical release announcements.

**Institute of Medicine Report on Medical Errors:**

<http://www.commonwealthfund.org/usr_doc/830_Bleich_errors.pdf>

This report provides a follow up five years after the IOM report in 1999 called *To Err Is Human.* There is an interesting data related to the estimated deaths associated with medical errors compared to the leading causes of death in the US. The IOM reports have continued to shape and guide changes in healthcare for nursing and medicine. A familiarity with these reports is important for all going into healthcare related fields.

**Montana Population-Specific Data:**

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/StatisticalInformation> : This is the link to the Health Data and Statistical Reports for Montana provided by the Department of Public Health and Human Services. This site including information such as Birth and Death Records, Statistical Tables of Vital Statistics, Behavioral Health Risk Tracking, Chronic Disease (Cancer Data, Cardiovascular Disease Reports, Diabetes Data and Reports, EMS Reports), Communicable Disease statistics and surveillance reports, Epidemiology information, etc.

<http://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/napa/datasurveillanceeval> This is a link to the Data, Surveillance and Evaluation report for the Montana Nutrition and Physical Activity Program. “The purpose of this study was to assess the overall knowledge of and compliance with The Dylan Steigers Protection of Youth Athletes Act (DSPYA Act). The DSPYA Act was created to protect and promote the health of youth athletes in Montana. This legislation requires each school district to adopt a policy addressing concussion awareness and safety protocols for participants in organized youth athletic activities.” (retrieved on May 30, 2016 from: <http://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/publichealth/documents/NutritionAndPhysicalActivity/ConcussionEvaluationSummaryReport2014.pdf>)

<http://ceic.mt.gov/> : This is a link to the Census and Economic Information Center and provides access to economic and demographic data and maps, etc. This site can be helpful when performing population or community health assessments.

<http://opi.mt.gov/Reports&Data/YRBS.html> This site provides data and statistics from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey as gathered by the Office of Public Instruction of Montana. This survey and data provides information for educators and health professionals to determine the prevalence of health-risk behaviors. The data is provided by a self-report survey. It was started in 1988 by the CDC to identify causes of mortality, morbidity and social problems among youth.

**World Health Organization:** Link: <http://www.who.int/gho/publications/world_health_statistics/en/>

The World Health Organization provides statistical reports annually on current situation and trends for priority health issues. Statistics are available as a compiled report as well as per country statistics. By accessing the Global Health Observatory data repository, the user may download data directly as an CSV Table for Excel statistical analysis.

Description: “The GHO issues analytical reports on the current situation and trends for priority health issues. A key output of the GHO is the annual publication World Health Statistics, which compiles statistics for key health indicators on an annual basis. The World Health Statistics also include a brief report on annual progress towards the health-related MDGs. In addition, the GHO provides analytical reports on cross-cutting topics such as the report on women and health and burden of disease. Lastly, the GHO provides the link to specific disease or programme reports with a strong analytical component.” (retrieved May 24, 2016 from <http://www.who.int/gho/publications/en/>)

**WHO Mortality Database**: <http://www.who.int/healthinfo/mortality_data/en/>

“The WHO Mortality Database is a compilation of mortality data by age, sex and cause of death, as reported annually by Member States from their civil registration systems.” (retrieved May 23, 2016

**Indian Health Services Division of Program Statistics:**  Link at <https://www.ihs.gov/dps/> The Indian Health Service (IHS) Division of Program Statistics is a source of American Indian and Alaska Native demographic and patient care information (retrieved on May 31, 2016 from <https://www.ihs.gov/dps/aboutus/>). This site will provide information related to trends in Indian health, regional differences in Indian Health, population estimates and projections related to social and economics, and valuable Indian Health Service information on hospital admissions and discharges from HIS facilities.

**United Nations Statistics: (UNSD Statistical Database):**  access at: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/databases.htm>

When researching and assessing global health issues, this site contains links for several databases that may provide helpful statistics. Examples/information from these databases are as follows: population and vital statistics; populations of capital cities; social indicators that include information related to health, housing, water and education; statistics and indicators on women and men.

**US Census Data:** Link access at <http://www.census.gov/2010census/data/> This data base may be helpful when assessing demographic profiles and correlating these profiles with health assessment data or when performing a community or population assessment.

About: “The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States. It is mandated by Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution and takes place every 10 years. The data collected by the decennial census determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and is also used to distribute billions in federal funds to local communities.

“The 2010 Census represented the most massive participation movement ever witnessed in our country. Approximately 74 percent of the households returned their census forms by mail; the remaining households were counted by census workers walking neighborhoods throughout the United States. [National and state population totals](http://www.census.gov/2010census/data/) from the 2010 Census were released on December 21, 2010. [Redistricting data](http://www.census.gov/2010census/data/redistricting-data.php), which include additional state, county and local counts, will be released starting in February 2011.” (retrieved on May 21, 2016 from: http://www.census.gov/2010census/about/ )

**Statista:** <http://www.statista.com/>

Description: “Statista is one of the world’s largest statistics portals. Providing you with access to relevant data from over 18,000 sources, our focus is firmly based on professional, clear, quick and consistent results. Our customized search query form provides you with a list of statistics, studies and reports relating to your search request within a matter of seconds –kick-starting your research.” (retrieved May 20, 2016 : <http://www.statista.com/> )

For example, this site can provide statistical data related to the number of US Americans with health insurance, the US National Health expenditure per capita, Mental health issues in the US, etc.