



NHANES Update

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Director, Division of Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys

Board of Scientific Counselors

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The Division has a new Director!

- Worked for a few years before deciding to go to Medical School
- Trained as a pediatrician at Children's National Medical Center
- Spent 2 years at Johns Hopkins as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar
- Came to NCHS in 2006 and stayed until 2016
 - Division of Health Care Statistics
 - Office of Analysis and Epidemiology --- Infant, Children, and Women's Health Statistics Branch
- OASH, Office on Women's Health from 2016-2018
- Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO) IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network (ISPCTN) until now

Challenges

- People are looking towards other types of data collections
 - EHR, insurance data, large convenience cohorts
- Devaluation of random sample national representativeness
 - If I have enough....it probably works out
 - Quota sampling
- Speed—Can we get the data out fast enough to be useful?
 - Public Health Crises: Opioids, COVID
- Is it actionable data? Are national estimates enough to make changes?

Vision

- The Division of Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (DHANES) should provide and analyze data that will be used to substantially improve the health of people in the US by assessing the health and nutritional status of US adults and children
- ***focusing on content that either requires in-person data collection or relies on associated in-person data collection.***

Opportunities

- Improved data collection techniques:
- Response rates
- Analysis of data
- Health Equity (collection/analysis)

New Contract Presents New Opportunities

- Current cycle of NHANES is scheduled to end August 2023
- Will start a new cycle with a new contract thereafter
- We do not yet know when a new contract will be finalized
 - Protest of contract award
 - The work is delayed

Content Solicitation for New Cycle of NHANES

- New content solicitation process started in February 2022
 - 41 new content submissions received
 - 35 proposals were invited for further evaluation (15 questionnaire, 13 examination, and 7 laboratory) and are currently under review
 - Decisions will be made in late 2022

More from NHANES: Modified Growth Charts!

- We are extending the percentiles on the BMI-for-age growth charts for children and adolescents aged 2 to 19 years.
- Additional percentiles will allow clinicians and researchers to better characterize children and adolescents with extreme BMIs.
- BMI percentiles below the 95th percentile remain unchanged.
- With these additional percentiles, the BMI-for-age growth charts can be used for routine growth screening for all children and adolescents.
- The report is being released on Dec 15th

More from NHANES

- Digitizing X-rays from NHANES III and before (up through 1994)
- National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine is hosting *Workshop on Considerations for Returning Individual Genomic Results from Population-Based Surveys: Focus on the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey*
 - Will help us develop return of results policies for NHANES genetics results

Questions

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

