Secondary Data Resources for DrPH/DHA Students

Secondary data and resources can be found at the local, state, regional, federal and international levels. Walden University maintains information via the Research Center that includes access and information to specific secondary data resources as well as providing a tutorial on Secondary Data Analysis.

Examples of major secondary data sources can be found below at State/National and International Levels. In addition, individual public health departments, other state public health agencies, nonprofit organizations, registries, hospitals or other health care facilities may collect data that could be searched for and possibly used as a secondary data resource.

Tutorial on Secondary Data Analysis at


Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)
Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) maintains a data archive of more than 500,000 files of research in the social sciences. It hosts 16 specialized collections of data in education, aging, criminal justice, substance abuse, terrorism, and other fields. ICPSR also distributes data provided by the following partners:

- Child Care and Early Education Research Connections
- Data Sharing for Demographic Research (DSDR)
- Health and Medical Care Archive (HMCA)
- Measures of Effective Teaching Longitudinal Database
- National Archive of Computerized Data on Aging (NACDA)
- National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD)
- National Addiction & HIV Data Archive Program (NAHDAP)
- Resource Center for Minority Data (RCMD)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Data Archive (SAMHDA)

As part of Walden's membership in ICPSR you can access secondary databases, publications and training in quantitative literacy. To access the data you will need to create an account with your waldenu.edu address. Requests for data will be delivered same day or next day.

Access Information: http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/
Contact datasetaccess@waldenu.edu with any questions about accessing this data. Click here for a link to the orientation electronic presentation ICPSR: Orientation to ICPSR
**National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research**
The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research is a partnership between the CDC, NIH, RWJF, and USDA (the four largest funders in childhood obesity research). This fantastic collaborative has produced the following projects and tools:

- **Measure Registry**: a web-based online repository of over 1,000 articles on more than 100 discrete measures related to diet and physical activity.
- **Catalogue of surveillance systems**: an online tool providing one-stop access to over 100 publicly available datasets relevant to childhood obesity research.
- **Registry of studies**: a web-based database that houses descriptions of significant outcome studies, including detailed information on design of each study, measures, content areas, and populations studied.

For more information, please check out their website ([www.nccor.org](http://www.nccor.org)).

**Social Change Impact Report Datasets – Walden University**
The Social Change Impact Report (SCIR) Datasets is a Walden-owned database of research results generated from three online surveys about social change that were conducted by Harris Interactive on behalf of Walden University in 2011 and 2012. The surveys investigate US and International participants’ views on and experiences with positive social change and/or social action; more specifically, involvement in activities that make improvements in the lives of individuals and communities both locally and around the world.

Access information: [http://researchcenter.waldenu.edu/Research-Resources.htm](http://researchcenter.waldenu.edu/Research-Resources.htm)

**CDC Data Sets**
The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) offers downloadable public-use data files through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) FTP file server. Users of this service have access to data sets, documentation, and questionnaires from NCHS surveys and data collection systems. Examples of available data include:

- National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)
- National Health Care Surveys
- National Vital Statistics System (NVSS)
- National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG)
- National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)
- National Immunization Survey (NIS)
- Longitudinal Studies of Aging (LSOA)
- State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey (SLAITS)
- NCHS Data Linkage (including Medicare Feasibility Data)

Access: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/ftp_data.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/ftp_data.htm) and [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/surveys.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/surveys.htm)

- National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR)
- National Survey of Residential Care Facilities (NSRCF)
- National Asthma Survey

- Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
  Access: [http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm)
- National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS)

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) maintains interactive tables and databases including:

- Health Data Interactive
- VitalStats
- The Health Indicators Warehouse
- NCHS Survey Measures Catalog
- CDC WONDER
- Healthy People 2010
- WISQARS injury and mortality related data

Access: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/data_tools.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data_access/data_tools.htm)

**Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System**

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is the world's largest, on-going telephone health survey system and is the gold standard of behavioral surveillance

Tools: [http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/data_tools.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/data_tools.htm)

**Other Federal Databases**

**Data Resource Center (DRC) for Child & Adolescent Health**


Access: [http://www.childhealthdata.org/home](http://www.childhealthdata.org/home)
Also see: [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits/nsch.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits/nsch.htm)

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration - Child Health USA** – Collects data on the health status and service needs of America’s children. It provides graphical and textual summaries of secondary data on over 50 health-related indicators.


**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration – Women’s Health USA** – Collects data on the health status, behaviors, and indicators of women, families, and communities.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration - Bureau of Health Professions
Conducts a national sample survey of Registered Nurses (NSSRN) every four years.

Federal Website of Data
Provides data via 21 different topics including internationally collected data.
Access: http://www.data.gov/

Two examples:
**Global Development** - Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index
The index tracks change in women’s empowerment that occurs as a direct or indirect result of Feed the Future interventions in targeted geographic zones within the initiative’s 19 focus countries. Data for the WEAI is collected every two years in 19 countries.
Access: http://www.data.gov/development/

**Hospital Charge Data across the country and within communities** - These data include information comparing the charges for the 100 most common inpatient services and 30 common outpatient services.
Access: http://www.data.gov/health/
Also see The National Hospital Discharge Survey (NHDS): http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhds.htm

U.S. Federal Executive Branch – provides numerous list of raw datasets including Veterans Administration, National School Food Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Participation, SNAP electronic benefits program, Women Infants and Children Program

**Food and Drug Administration** - Total Diet Study (TDS), collects data to determine levels of various contaminants and nutrients in foods including pesticide residues and toxic elements
Access: http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodScienceResearch/TotalDietStudy/default.htm

**Nurses’ Health Study** – among the largest and longest running investigations collecting data on factors that influence women’s health
Access: http://www.channing.harvard.edu/nhs/?page_id=52

**Men’s Health Study** – nutrition and health and disease investigation collecting data on males
Access: https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/hpfs/hpfs_collaborators.htm

**Alcohol and other Drug Survey (AOD)** – largest national database on alcohol and other drug use on college campuses
Access: http://core.siu.edu/results/index.html

International and Global Health Databases
- **WHO Statistical Information System** (WHOSIS)

- **The WHO Global InfoBase Data Warehouse**
  Access: https://apps.who.int/infobase/report.aspx
WHO Communicable Disease Global Atlas is bringing together for analysis and comparison standardized data and statistics for infectious diseases at country, regional, and global levels. The analysis and interpretation of data are further supported through information on demography, socioeconomic conditions, and environmental factors. Access: http://apps.who.int/globalatlas/


International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research – lists 385 Database sources, including 185 from the US. Access: http://www.ispor.org/DigestOfIntDB/CountryList.aspx


Additional reading helpful for students:

- Health State Information Derived from Secondary Databases was Affected by Multiple Sources of Bias http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1952240/