

1. Health and Retirement Study Memorandum to Institutional Review Boards/Human Subjects Review Committees: The University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research HRS has announced the following, to All Institutional Review Boards/Human Subjects Review Committees:

From: David R. Weir, Principal Investigator, Health and Retirement Study

Re: Health and Retirement Study Public Use Datasets

The Health and Retirement Study (HRS) is an ongoing longitudinal survey of Americans over the age of 50, sponsored by the National Institute on Aging (U01 AG009740) with support from the Social Security Administration. HRS makes available to researchers both unrestricted datasets, available to all researchers, and restricted datasets, available only under agreement to researchers who meet rigorous conditions.

No individual identifiers or links to individual identifiers are provided to researchers under any conditions. Moreover, unrestricted datasets from the HRS have been sufficiently purged of secondary identifying information that they pose no significant threat to respondent anonymity. These files are public-use and are distributed via download from our website. We assert that in most cases the HRS public use files qualify as anonymized datasets and that secondary data analysis using these files may qualify for exempt IRB status, under 45 CFR 46.101(b).

The entire Health and Retirement Study is under current IRB approval by the relevant committees at the University of Michigan and the National Institute on Aging, the primary sponsor of HRS.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact:

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The announcement is also available at:

<http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/data/200709IRBMemoPUfiles.htm>

2. US CENSUS BUREAU: American Factfinder Update: American Factfinder has recently been updated with "Social, economic and housing characteristics, demographic and housing estimates, and Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS) data" from the 2006 American Community Survey:

[http://factfinder.census.gov/jsp/saff/SAFFInfo.jsp?\\_content=su2\\_new\\_features\\_10\\_6.html](http://factfinder.census.gov/jsp/saff/SAFFInfo.jsp?_content=su2_new_features_10_6.html)

[http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?\\_program=ACS&\\_submenuId=&\\_lang=en&\\_tS=](http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/DatasetMainPageServlet?_program=ACS&_submenuId=&_lang=en&_tS=)

American Factfinder: <http://factfinder.census.gov/>

Related Census Bureau News Release: "New Census Bureau Data Reveal More Older Workers, Homeowners, Non-English Speakers" (CB07-CN.10, Sep. 12, 2007).

<http://www.census.gov/Press->

[Release/www/releases/archives/american\\_community\\_survey\\_acs/010601.html](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/american_community_survey_acs/010601.html)

3. National Center for Health Statistics: "Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III) Linked Mortality Data," (September 2007, .pdf (documentation) and ASCII (data) format, SAS and Stata programming statements). "NCHS has conducted a mortality linkage of the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III) to death certificate data found in the National Death Index (NDI). Linkage of the NHANES III survey participants with the NDI provides the opportunity to conduct a vast array of outcome studies designed to investigate the association of a wide variety of health factors with mortality." A public-use and restricted version of the file is available:

Public Use:

[http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/r&d/nchs\\_data linkage/nhanes3\\_data linkage mortality public-use.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/r&d/nchs_data linkage/nhanes3_data linkage mortality public-use.htm)

Restricted Use File:

[http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/r&d/nchs\\_data linkage/nhanes3\\_data linkage mortality restricted-use.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/r&d/nchs_data linkage/nhanes3_data linkage mortality restricted-use.htm)

4. HUMAN MORTALITY DATABASE: Note: HMD requires free registration before providing data. The following updates have been added to the database. Sep. 19, 2007--Data for Russia updated through 2006

Data availability: <http://www.mortality.org/Public/DataAvailability.html>

Data access: <http://www.mortality.org/>

II. Reports and articles:

5. US CENSUS BUREAU REPORTS:

A. "Health and Health Care of the Older Population in Urban and Rural China: 2000," by Manisha Sengupta, Kaiti Zhang, and Ping Guo (International Population Reports P95/07-2, September 2007, .pdf format, 71p.).

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2007pubs/p95-07-2.pdf>

Detailed tables (Microsoft Excel and comma separated value [.csv] format:

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/age/china-2000.html>

B. "The Geographic Distribution and Characteristics of Older Workers in Vermont: 2004," by Cynthia Taeuber and Matthew R. Graham (Local Employment Dynamics LED-OW2007-VT, September 2007, .pdf format, 12p.).

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2007pubs/ledow07vt.pdf>

6. US CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT:

"Medicare Short-Stay Hospitals: 2007" (tables 5.1-5.12, May 2007, .zip compressed .pdf and Microsoft Excel format).

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareMedicaidStatSupp/downloads/07SSH.zip>

7. US NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH STATISTICS REPORT: "Fall Injury Episodes Among Noninstitutionalized Older Adults: United States, 2001-2003," by Jeannine S. Schiller, Ellen A. Kramarow, and Achintya N. Dey (Advance Data From Vital and Health Statistics No. 392, September 2007, .pdf format, 16p.). <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/ad/ad392.pdf>