

More than 60 years of protecting your privacy

The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) protects your privacy and has effective methods for keeping your information safe.

- The first National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) was conducted in 1960.
- We remove all of your personal information from our data files, including your name, address, and telephone number, to make sure no one knows you took part in NHANES.
- We will never release any data if they represent a place where few people live to make sure no one can be identified.
- All computers are password protected. Data are kept on secure servers to prevent unauthorized access.
- NHANES publishes summary reports so no one who takes part in our survey can be identified.

We combine the responses from thousands of participants across the United States to report on the “big picture” of our nation’s health.

Learn More

For more information on NHANES visit:
<https://www.cdc.gov/nhanes>

You may also call toll-free
(English or Spanish)
at: 1-800-344-1386

Data from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) are released in reports found on the NCHS website at
www.cdc.gov/nchs

For specific questions about how NCHS protects the information you provide, contact the NCHS Confidentiality Officer at:

1-888-642-4159

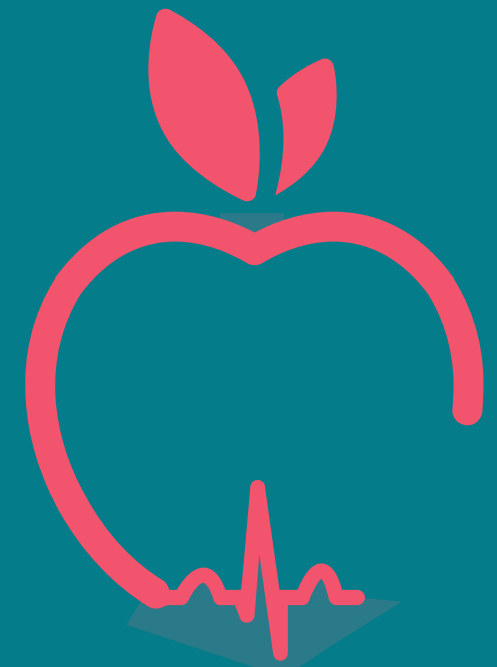
NCHSconfidentiality@cdc.gov

The Privacy Act Systems Notice used for NHANES provides information on routine uses, policies and practices for storing, retrieving, accessing, retaining, and disposing of records is available here:

<https://www.hhs.gov/foia/privacy/sorns/09200164/index.html>



How the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey Keeps Your Information Confidential



Protecting Your Privacy

Federal law protects your information.

We take your privacy very seriously.

- Federal law does not allow us to share information that identifies you or your family without your permission.
- We will keep all your survey data safe and secure. When we share data with our partners to help prepare and process the data, we do so in a way that protects your privacy as required by law.
- Although NCHS will not disclose any of your information, if we see signs of abuse we are required to report it to social services or the police.

Assurance of Confidentiality – We take your privacy very seriously. All information that relates to or describes identifiable characteristics of individuals, a practice, or an establishment will be used only for statistical purposes. NCHS staff, contractors, and agents will not disclose or release responses in identifiable form without the consent of the individual or establishment in accordance with section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242m(d)) and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act or CIPSEA (44 U.S.C. 3561-3583). In accordance with CIPSEA, every NCHS employee, contractor, and agent has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to five years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you. In addition to the above cited laws, NCHS complies with the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. §§ 151 and 151 note) which protects federal information systems from cybersecurity risks by screening their networks.

The NHANES pledge protects your privacy.

Anyone working on NHANES must sign a pledge to protect your privacy. Sharing your information without your permission is against the law.

We will not tell others that you are taking part in NHANES.

- Taking part in NHANES will not affect your benefits like Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, food stamps, or disability.
- We encourage you not to tell others about your participation in NHANES. This helps prevent someone from trying to find your information in NHANES public data files.

NCHS is required by law to protect your data using strict privacy standards.