

Institutional Review Board

Use of Public Use Data Sets

National Human Subjects Protection Advisory Committee (NHRPAC) recommended the following definition and advice on the use of public data sets on January 28-29, 2002 committee meeting. [To read the full recommendation, click here.](http://robots.engin.umich.edu/SoftwareData/Ford)

Definition: Public use data files are data files prepared by investigators or data suppliers with the intent of making them available for public use. The data available to the public are not individually identified or maintained in a readily identifiable form.

Inventory of Public Use Data Files: Institutions are urged to post a list of approved publicly available data sets, including data files reviewed at that institution that qualify for public availability.

**The following items *do require* IRB Review and must therefore submit an IRB application:**

* Public data sets that will be merged or enhanced that could potentially identify individuals.
* Use of restricted datasets.
* A proposal to obtain the use of a dataset is required
* Additional information from the database owner is obtained
* A data use agreement is involved

**The following list of public use data sets has been reviewed by VSCC IRB** and no further review is required provided there is no merging or enhancing of data sets that could make an individual identifiable.

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| **VSCC Inventory of Public Use Data Sets**  *Users of public use data sets do not need to submit an IRB application to use such files or seek a determination that the use of the public data files meets the criteria for being exempt from IRB review.* | |
| **Site of Data** | **Data Set(s)** |
| Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality | * [Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (H-CUP) healthcare databases](http://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/overview.jsp) * [Medical Expenditure Panel Survey](http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/) |
| [American College of Surgeons (ACS)](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/882) | * [National Trauma Data Bank (NTDB)](http://www.nass.usda.gov/) * [American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program(ACS-NSQIP) Participant Use Data File](http://www.resdac.org/cms-data/files/hcris) |
| American National Election Studies, Stanford University and University of Michigan | <http://www.electionstudies.org/> |
| [Bureau of Labor Statistics](http://www.bls.gov/nls/home.htm) | *Public Use data sets only, IRB approval required for restricted and geo-coded/zip code data sets*   * National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97) * National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79) * NLSY79 Children and Young Adults * National Longitudinal Survey of Young Women and Mature Women (NLSW) * National Longitudinal Survey of Young Men and Older Men * [American Time Use Survey (ATUS)](http://www.dhsprogram.com/) |
| University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) | [California Health Interview Survey](http://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/surveys/2004/the-commonwealth-fund-survey-of-older-adults) (public use data files only) |
| University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR) | [Social Science Data Archives](http://www.ssc.wisc.edu/cdha/services/terms.html) |
| California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development | [Home Health Agency and Hospice Facility Annual Utilization Data](https://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/HHH-Utilization.html#Complete) |
| [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.cdc.gov) including the [National Center for Health Statistics](http://www.census.gov/) | *Public data sets including but not limited to the following:*   * [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (federal level only)](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/648) * [Longitudinal Studies of Aging](https://ccss.stjude.org/) * [National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS)](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd.htm) * [National Center for Health Statistics](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/) * [Hispanic Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (HHANES)](http://optn.transplant.hrsa.gov/converge/data/) * [National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (public data only)](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/984) * [National Health Interview Survey](http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/arh29-2/74-78.htm) * [National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS)](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/hhanes.htm) * [National Hospital Care Survey](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhcs.htm) * [National Immunization Survey](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nis.htm) * [National Mortality Followback Survey (NMFA) 1993](http://www.midus.wisc.edu/) * [National Nursing Home Survey](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/NACDA/studies/4248) * [National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs (public version)](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/HealthcareProfessionsandFacilities/DataReportingandRetrieval/HospitalInpatientDatabaseCHARS) * [National Survey of Children’s Health (public version)](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits/nsch.htm) * [National Survey of Family Growth](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nsfg.htm) * [National Vital Statistics System](http://medicare.gov/hospitalcompare/search.html) * [Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System](mailto:effectivness@southwest.tn.edu) * [State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey (SLAITS)](mailto:effectivness@southwest.tn.edu) * [Youth Risk Behavioral Survey Study (YRBSS) (federal level only)](http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbs/data/index.htm) |
| China Census Datasets [log in via UT Libraries](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/1020) | A collection of zipped census datasets |
| China Data Online, University of Michigan [log in via UT Libraries](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits/cshcn.htm) | A collection of statistics about China |
| The Commonwealth Fund | [Survey of Older Americans 2004](http://www.nhtsa.gov/NASS) |
| Cornell University | [Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research (CISER)](https://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/bhps) |
| Cross-National Data Center in Luxembourg | [Luxembourg Income Study (LIS)](http://www.lisdatacenter.org/) |
| Data-Planet Statistical Datasets [log in via UT Libraries](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/1029) |  |
| Duke University and National Institute on aging | [National Long-Term Care Survey](http://www.who.int/chp/gshs/en/) |
| Economic Research Service (ERS), US Department of Agriculture (USDA) | [Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS)](http://wayback.archive-it.org/4657/20150930182942/http:/www.hhs.gov/ohrp/archive/nhrpac/doc-report.htm) |
| University of Essex Institute for Social and Economic Research | [British Household Panel Survey](http://www.facs.org/trauma/ntdb/) |
| European University Institute | [German Socio-Economic Panel Survey (G-SOEP)](http://www.nltcs.aas.duke.edu/) |
| Federal Reserve System | [Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF)](http://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/scf/scfindex.htm) |
| HIV Prevention Trials Network | [Vaccine Preparedness Study/Uninfected Protocol Cohort](http://www.ssgs.ucla.edu/data-archives) |
| International City/County Management Association [log in via UT Libraries](http://www.facs.org/) | ICMA Datasets |
| International Country Risk Guide [log in via UT Libraries](http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm) | ICRG Table 3B Political Stability Data |
| International Terrorism [log in via UT Libraries](http://site.acsnsqip.org/participant-use-data-file/) | Attributes of Terrorist Events (ITERATE) 1968-2010 |
| ICPSR (Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Science Research) University of Michigan [log in via UT Libraries](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/301) | *Public data sets including, but not limited to the following:*   * Collaborative Psychiatric Epidemiology Surveys * Established Populations for Epidemiological Studies of the Elderly (EPESE) * General Social Survey (GSS) * Hispanic Established Populations for the Epidemiological Study of the Elderly (HEPESE) * National Survey of America’s Families * National Survey on Drug Use and Health * National Youth Survey * Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) |
| University of Michigan Institute for Social Research | [Health and Retirement Study](http://hrsonline.isr.umich.edu/index.php) [Survey of Consumers (SCA)](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/904) |
| University of Michigan [National Archive of Computerized Data on Aging](http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/?geography=United+States) | Advanced Cognitive Training for Independent Vital Elderly, 1999-2001 (ACTIVE), *public data only. Apply through IRB to use restricted sets.* |
| Medicare Hospice Compare Data Set | Provided by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, these data allow you to compare the quality of care provided by Medicare-certified hospice agencies throughout the nation. [https://data.medicare.gov/](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/lsoa.htm) |
| Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota | Integrated Public Use Microdata Series, International <https://international.ipums.org/international/> |
| University of Minnesota | [FINBIN](https://finbin.umn.edu/) places detailed reports on whole farm, crop, and livestock financials at your fingertips. |
| Murray Research Archive, Harvard University [http://www.murray.harvard.edu/](http://www.southwest.tn.edu/ie/) |  |
| National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), U.S. Department of Agriculture | Census of Agriculture and other data collected and distributed by NASS [http://www.nass.usda.gov/](http://www.disc.wisc.edu) |
| National Alliance for Caregiving | [Caregiving in the US-Years 2009, 2010, & 2015](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/LandScanData) |
| National Cancer Institute (NIH) | Health Information National Trends Survey (HINTS) <http://hints.cancer.gov/> |
| National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) | NCAA Injury Surveillance Program (ISP) <http://www.ncaa.org/health-and-safety/medical-conditions/sports-injuries> |
| National Highway Traffic Safety Administration | * Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) [http://www.nhtsa.gov/FARS](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slaits.htm) * National Automotive Safety System [http://www.nhtsa.gov/NASS](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/nmfs.htm) |
| ORNL and U. S. Department of Energy Land Scan Datasets [log in via UT Libraries](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm) | The LandScan Global Archive includes all of the historical datasets of the LandScan Global Population Database back to the year 2000. |
| Perceptual Robotics Lab (PeRL) at the University of Michigan | [Ford Campus Vision and Lidar Data Set](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/ahcd/about_ahcd.htm) |
| RavenPack | RavenPack News Analytics 4.0 [www.ravenpack.com/products](http://www.ravenpack.com/products/) |
| Research Data Assistance Center, University of Minnesota | Medicare Healthcare Cost Report Information System (HCRIS) [http://www.resdac.org/cms-data/files/hcris](http://www.hptn.org/network_information/public_data_sets.htm) |
| Roper Center for Public Opinion Research [log in via UT Libraries](http://www.bls.gov/tus/data.htm) |  |
| St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital | Childhood Cancer Survivor Study [https://ccss.stjude.org/](http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/chis/data/Pages/public-use-data.aspx) |
| Social Explorer [log in via UT Libraries](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/646) |  |
| Social Science Electronic Data Library (SSEDL) [log in via UT Libraries](http://libguides.utk.edu/databases/296) | Library of data files from eight topically-based health and social science collections |
| UK Data Service, University of Essex and University of Manchester | National Child Development Study <http://discover.ukdataservice.ac.uk/series/?sn=2000032> |
| US Agency for International Development | Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) [http://www.dhsprogram.com/](http://www.eui.eu/Research/Library/ResearchGuides/Economics/Statistics/DataPortal/GSOEP.aspx) |
| US Department of Agriculture | Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individuals (CSFII) [http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=14392](http://www.cdc.gov/prams/researchers.htm?docid=14392) |
| US Department of Commerce | [US Census Bureau](http://ciser.cornell.edu/) U. S. Foreign Trade Data [log in via UT Libraries](https://www.lib.utk.edu/databases/census-ftd/) |
| US Department of Education | National Center for Education Statistics <http://nces.ed.gov/> |
| US Department of Health and Human Services | [Hospital Compare](http://www.sca.isr.umich.edu/) [National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC)](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm)[Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network](http://www.caregiving.org/research/open-data/) |
| US Department of Justice | [National Crime Victimization Survey School Crime Supplements](http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=dcdetail&iid=245) |
| United Nations Statistics Division | [UNdata](http://data.un.org/) |
| Washington State Department of Health | [Comprehensive Hospital Abstract Reporting System](https://data.medicare.gov/data/hospice-compare) (CHARS; public data only) |
| [University of Wisconsin Data and Information Services Center](http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/arms-farm-financial-and-crop-production-practices.aspx) | [Better Access to Data for Global Interdisciplinary Research BADGIR](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nnhs.htm) |
| University of Wisconsin Institute on Aging | [Midlife in the United States (MIDUS)](http://www.murray.harvard.edu/) |
| World Bank | [World Development Indicators, Global Development Finance, and additional statistical data files from the World Bank](http://datacatalog.worldbank.org/) |
| World Health Organization | Global School-Based Student Health Survey (GSHS) [www.who.int/chp/gshs/en](http://www.nhtsa.gov/FARS) |

For all IRB and protocol questions contact [IERPA@volstate.edu](mailto:IERPA@volstate.edu)

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