



Medical Expenditure Panel Survey

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MEPS NHC-005: Cross-Sectional Health Status Data Collected from Nursing Home Sources, Time 1 and 2 Data

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Nursing Home Component data files are not available for public use, but researchers with approved projects can access the files at the [AHRQ Data Center](#).

- [Notes on viewing and downloading files](#)
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This person-level file contains data obtained in Rounds 1, 2, and 3, for a sample of 5,899 persons; one record per person. Most of the health status items collected in the nursing home are based on the Resident Assessment Form of the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), know as the minimum data set (MDS). The variables pertain to the sample person's cognitive skills, hearing and communication status, functional status, continence, psychosocial well-being, active diagnoses and infections, dental health, pressure sores, and use of restraints. Health status data is collected using the facility Health Status Questionnaire. The survey design permits the interviewer to abstract health status data directly from the MDS, and also provides a questionnaire mechanism to collect data from persons with no MDS forms.

Among persons who used a nursing home any time during 1996, the following statistics were derived from these data:

2,215,000 persons were alive as of December 31, 1996 while 882,000 were dead by that same date.

1,276,000 persons had 6 limitations in activities of daily living (ADLs). 640,000 had five, 328,000 had four, 377,000 had two to three, 188,000 had one and 288,000 and no ADL limitations.

1,829,000 persons had no incontinence problem while 267,000 had urinary incontinence and 1,000,000 had bowel incontinence or urinary and bowel incontinence.

1,593,000 persons had no mental disorder. 1,048,000 had no dementia and the remaining 455,000 had a mental disorder other than dementia. Data are included on persons sampled as January 1, 1996 residents and those sampled as a 1996 admission to the sampled nursing home. Together these samples represent all persons who used a nursing home any time during 1996.

| Documentation | File type |
|---------------|---|
| Codebook | PDF (151 KB) / HTML |

Questionnaires — see [Survey Questionnaires](#)

*The PDF version of the codebook is recommended for printing; the HTML version is database driven and lets you navigate quickly to details on each variable.

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