

The Child Indicator

THE CHILD, YOUTH, AND FAMILY INDICATORS NEWSLETTER

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Developing a Set of Key National Indicators for the Nation

The General Accounting Office (GAO), The National Academies, and over 200 other organizations and individuals are working together to develop a national indicators system. Such a system, it is felt, will facilitate making a better assessment of needs, an informed understanding of the nation's current status in a broad set of areas, and the ability to monitor progress towards goals. To date, a National Coordinating Committee on the Key National Indicators Initiative (KNII) has been formed, and three general meetings of the Committee have been held. The effort is generating a lot of good ideas and some useful resources for those in the social indicators field.

The Initiative got under way with a National Indicators Forum on February 27, 2003. At the Forum, national leaders and experts discussed the validity of the concept of a national indicators system, and identified practical steps that might be taken to advance its development. The National Coordinating Committee on Key National Indicators, which was formed following the National Indicators Forum, met in October and December 2003 and again in February 2004 to discuss the next steps in forming national indicators and to examine what has been done thus far. The National Academies currently

serves as the secretariat of the Committee. Members of this Coordinating Committee include The National League of Cities, The National Academy of Public Administration, The Conference Board and The Council for Excellence in Government as well as other broadly representative organizations that agree with the goals and principles of the effort. In addition, representatives of federal agencies are participating in these meetings. The KNII's framework for national indicators includes three main areas: the economy, people and the environment, all of which are viewed as interrelated.

Over the next two years, the KNII expects to work with potential audiences and subject matter experts to develop a set of potential indicators, design and test a website that would provide user-friendly access to indicators, and develop a long-term financing plan for expanding and sustaining the Initiative.

Materials from the 2003 conference, a bibliography of publications on social indicators systems, and the list of online links to over 80 indicators initiatives can be found at www.keyindicators.org. Please contact Jane Ross at jross@nas.edu with questions.

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Just Released

Children and the Households They Live in, 2000, a special report by the U.S. Census Bureau, contains information on the social and economic characteristics of American children. The report provides data on the percentage of children growing up in poor neighborhoods, living with their grandparents, and who have parents who were foreign-born, as well as the percentage of high school students who are in the labor force, among other topics. It is based on data from the Census 2000 long-form.

The report is available online at: <http://www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/censr-14.pdf>.

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Statement of Purpose

The goal of *The Child Indicator* is to communicate major developments and new resources within each sector of the child and youth indicators field to the larger community of interested users, researchers, and data developers on a regular basis. By promoting the efficient sharing of knowledge, ideas, and resources, *The Child Indicator* seeks to advance understanding within the child and youth indicators community and to make all its members more effective in their work.

Child Trends, a nonpartisan, nonprofit research center that has been active in the child and youth indicators field for 20 years, produces and distributes *The Child Indicator* with funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. We welcome your comments and suggestions. All communications regarding this newsletter can be directed to childindicator@childtrends.org.

Brett Brown, Ph.D., Editor

International Scene

Children and Youth in Emerging and Transforming Societies: International Childhood Conference 2005

The International Childhood Conference in Oslo, Norway aims to foster international dialogue on childhood and youth well-being in emerging and transforming societies. The conference, which is to be held June 29 to July 3, 2005, is envisioned as an important step in establishing a worldwide network of researchers and policymakers. Such a network would potentially increase knowledge of how social change is affecting children and work towards improving the well being of children everywhere. Over 1,000 participants are expected. During the conference, participants can attend plenary assemblies, sessions and workshops, as well as meet with various thematic network groups. For more information on the conference, please see <http://childhoods2005.uio.no/index.htm>.

The conference is being organized by a group of researchers from the Norwegian Social Research (NOVA) group, the University of Oslo, and the Child Watch International Regional Network Group. Conference organizers aim to create an international interdisciplinary network of researchers from all over the world and various fields of study. Researchers from disciplines ranging from sociology and psychology to economics and criminology will be participating.

The conference represents a continuation of Norway's commitment to international research on children and youth. The dates of the conference coincide with the 100th anniversary of Norway's independence. Children and youth played a large role in Norway's fight for independence and in social change, nation building and democratization since independence. The conference serves as recognition of the role of youth as advocates for positive social change. Norway ratified the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1991, and was one of the first countries to support the UN's Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography in 2001 and the UN's Optional Protocol on Children in Armed Conflict in 2002. Norway is home to two interdisciplinary international journals, *Childhood* and *Young*, that already bring together researchers to discuss issues relevant to childhood and youth in a global context. Childwatch

International, a nonprofit network of institutions engaged in research on children, also has its headquarters in Norway.

Social Indicators of Children's Well-Being is one of 17 thematic network groups that has been formed in anticipation of the conference. This network is based on the former work of the multinational project "Measuring and Monitoring Children's Well Being" (for details, please see <http://multinational-indicators.chapinhall.org>). Individuals are invited to submit papers and posters to this group. For more information on paper submission, please see *Call for Papers*, on page 3 of this newsletter. In recent years, there has been a growing demand for more data measuring conditions of children's well being. A topic that is relevant to policymakers, child development professionals and social science researchers alike, the network group on social indicators hopes to begin discussing different ways of defining and measuring child well being. The group aims to begin to form more accurate and consistent measures of child well-being. In addition to social indicators of child well being, such themes as family policy, child poverty and marginalization, children's welfare, the implications of the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, and health risks among children and youth will be discussed during the conference.

The *Social Indicators of Children's Well-Being* thematic network work is guided by an international steering committee which includes: Asher Ben-Arieh, Ivar Frønes, Robert Goerge, Kristin Moore, Shelley Phipps, Katherine Scott, Gerardo Sauri Suárez and Chen Xuefeng and works in collaboration with Child Trends.

For more information, please visit <http://childhoods2005.uio.no/index.htm>, or contact the conference secretariat at childhoods@uv.uio.no.

New Updates to Neighborhood Change Database Mean Better Access to 2000 Census Data for Communities Throughout the Country

The Neighborhood Change Database (NCDB) combines census information from 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 on one CD, making it easy to track neighborhood change over time. With the recent addition of Long Form Census data from 2000 to the CensusCD Neighborhood Change Database (NCDB), time trend analyses are now possible for nearly 1,000 additional variables. The NCDB is a product of the Urban Institute and GeoLytics Inc., and was partially funded by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Long Form questions, asked of about one of every six households in the census population, include detailed demographic and income information about individuals, families and households (for example, immigration status, educational attainment, family income, poverty status, and housing costs), and detailed housing characteristics.

According to GeoLytics Inc., which collaborated with the Urban Institute to expand the NCDB and make it more user-friendly, the NCDB is more cost and time efficient for the user than using individual census data products for each decade. While it only includes a subset of variables from the complete censuses, the NCDB does include about 1,000 variables for each decade, defined in ways that make it very easy to compare data across censuses.

Because of periodic changes in census tract boundaries, it can be difficult to compare data from different censuses. With the NCDB, however, users can access information in either a regular or normalized form. In regular form, information from the 1970, 1980, 1990 and 2000 censuses are presented according to that year's neighborhood bound-

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Call for Papers

Childhoods 2005 Oslo: Children and Youth in Emerging and Transforming Societies

**International Conference
University of Oslo, Norway
June 29 - July 3, 2005**

This call is from the network on Social Indicators of Children's Well-Being in Emerging and Transforming Societies.

The title of the conference refers to a world where new ethno-cultural encounters, technology and globalization shape the structure of social change, new childhoods and the lives of children and young people. The purpose of this event is to situate modern childhood and youth in a global perspective and provide an opportunity to present and learn from child researchers in various countries and regions of the world. All plenary sessions and presentations will be related to the conference theme; "Children and Youth in Emerging and Transforming Societies."

The conference will be made up of parallel sets of sessions hosted by different thematic networks. (See <http://childhoods2005.uio.no>) Each set of sessions will feature individual keynote speakers, thematic paper presentations and workshops.

The network on ***Social Indicators of Children's Well-Being*** in emerging and transforming societies invites paper submissions for their sessions, which will span the whole period of the conference. The Organizers will give priority to papers involving sets or systems of indicators related to children's well-being in specific local, national, or multi-national contexts, on empirical analysis and production of data, and on the use of data to affect public policy. The focus will be on indicators of well being for categories/groups of children at multi-national, national, regional or community levels, on theoretical approaches to the identification and use of child well-being indicators, as well as on case studies and comparative research. Papers will be presented as workshops, panels and posters.

The steering committee of this network looks forward to receiving a variety of fresh approaches.

Final registration for the conference will close on March 15, 2005.

We welcome individual or co-authored papers, posters and symposium proposals. Abstracts and papers have to be presented in English. Abstracts should include the following: A statement of the purpose (preferably one sentence), summary

of methods and results (presented in sufficient detail to support the conclusion) and statement of conclusions reached. Abstracts are limited to 200 words.

Information regarding program, registration, conference fees and other practical information will follow in a 2nd announcement on the conference website <http://childhoods2005.uio.no>. The official language of the conference is English.

To submit:

Abstracts can be submitted electronically to the conference secretariat childhoods@uv.uio.no no later than October 20, 2004. Mark the abstract *Indicators* since there will be a general call for papers, as well as calls from other networks.

Typed/diskette abstracts submitted by mail should be marked *Indicators* and sent to:

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As of January 1, 2003, federal programs are required to adopt new standards for collecting and reporting racial and ethnic status in data collections. Indicator users may have noticed the implementation of these standards in Census 2000 and other reports that now contain labels such as "white alone," "white in combination with any other race," and so on when referring to racial status. The main reason for revising these standards was a concern that the prior standards, established in 1977, did not adequately reflect the diversity of the country's present population.

The committee charged with making recommendations for the revisions¹ recognized that the tabulation of race/ethnicity data must ultimately fulfill at least two purposes. First, they must provide the most accurate and informative body of data to those government officials charged with carrying out constitutional and legislative mandates, such as redistricting legislatures, or enforcing civil rights laws. Second, they must also fulfill the needs of the statistical agencies that produce and analyze the data used to monitor economic and social conditions and trends.

The revisions, issued by the United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB), have implications for the reporting of population characteristics by race and ethnic status. The revised standards include, but are not limited to, the following changes:

- Allowing for the identification of more than one race
- Separating the category "Asian" from "Pacific Islander"
- Changing terms, for example, "Hispanic Origin" to "Hispanic or Latino"
- Increasing the minimum number of categories to be used by Federal agencies for the identification of race from four to five:
 1. American Indian or Alaska Native
 2. Asian
 3. Black or African American
 4. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 5. White

These changes naturally elicit a number of questions. "Will data users be able to make comparisons by race across years prior to and following the revisions?" and "In what form will data on race be reported?"

¹ See *Recommendations from the Interagency Committee for the Review of the Racial and Ethnic Standards to the Office of Management and Budget Concerning Changes to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity*:

http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/race/Directive_15.html

The Census Bureau was one of the first agencies to implement the OMB-mandated revisions, effective in time for the Census 2000. The Census will present data on race using several different options. One option is to present each of the five categories 'alone,' where alone means that the respondents reported only one race; the remaining categories would depict all remaining possible combinations for those who reported more than one race.

When it is not possible to show all such categories, data can be shown in less detail. For example, the data could be shown as mutually exclusive and exhaustive categories, such as White alone, Black or African American alone, American Indian and Alaska Native alone, Asian alone, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, Some other race alone, and Two or more races. (See Box 1, page 5.)

Alternatively, estimates can be produced for all persons identifying with a particular race group regardless of whether they also identify themselves with other groups. These alternative categorizations can make a big difference in the estimation of race-specific population sizes.

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Data2010, an Easy Way to Access Health Indicators Data

DATA2010 is the online database that is being used to track progress towards national public health goals laid out in Healthy People 2010. Data are available for most of the 467 objectives across 28 categories. The primary focus is on national estimates, though state-level data are provided when available. Data are updated on a quarterly basis so that users have access to the most up-to-date estimates. Healthy People 2010 is a comprehensive, nationwide set of health goals "designed to serve as a roadmap for improving the health of all people in the United States during the first decade of the 21st century." DATA2010 was developed and is maintained by the Division of Health Promotion Statistics of the National Center for Health Statistics.

DATA2010 is a flexible tool allowing users to search for data based by health area, by population subgroup (e.g., youth), and by data source. To search by focus area, users choose among 28 broad topics, including family planning, maternal, infant and child health, immunization and infectious diseases, access to quality health services, and educational and community-based programs. They then select whether they want information for the United States as a whole or for a particular state and specify which years they are looking for. Indicators are then listed by multiple subgroup topics, such as race/ethnicity group,

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Adapting to the New Federal Race Definitions *(continued)*

For example, there were 2,475,956 people (0.9 percent of the population) who reported themselves as only American Indian or Alaska Native in the 2000 Census. However, there were 4,119,301 people (1.5% of the population) who reported themselves as American Indian or Alaska Native alone or in combination with one or more other races.

Data on race from the Census 2000 are not directly comparable to previous census years, due largely to the option offered to respondents to report more than one race. This problem will affect all federal statistical agency estimates as they switch over to the new definitions.

For other agencies, the revised standards necessitate significant changes to the reporting of national statistics. The National Center for Health Statistics compiles national estimates of birth and death rates based on data provided by individual states. "Making this task somewhat complicated is the fact that states are at different phases in their implementation of the OMB race and ethnicity revisions," explains James Weed, Acting Director of the Division of Vital Statistics. This means that NCHS is charged with the task of compiling national estimates with race data that are not compatible across states.

An additional challenge is that race data are not compati-

ble between the vital records currently collected and 2000 Census data, which is the main source for estimating actual population sizes—the denominator of a death rate calculation, for example. The main issue is that the 2000 census implemented the revised OMB standards for the collection of race and ethnic status, whereas only a dozen or so states have followed suit.

The OMB recognizes these problems and allows agencies to employ "bridge" estimates for a period of time. Until all states uniformly collect multiple race information, a 'bridging' from multiple race categories to single race categories will need to be applied to estimates of birth and death rates. In the meantime, the states that do collect multiple race data will make these data available, as will NCHS.

Additional information on multiple race reporting, bridging, and the Census 2000 Modified Race Data Summary File is available at:

<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/popbridge/popbridge.htm>

For answers to commonly asked questions about race data in the Census 2000 see:

<http://www.census.gov/press-release/www/2001/raceqandas.html>

BOX 1

Population by Race and Hispanic Origin for the United States: 2000

Race	Total Population		Children	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total Population	281,421,906	100%	72,293,812	100%
One Race	274,595,678	97.6	69,436,926	96.0
White	211,460,626	75.1	49,598,289	68.6
Black of African American	34,658,190	12.3	10,885,696	15.1
American Indian and Alaskan Native	2,475,956	0.9	840,312	1.2
Asian	10,242,998	3.6	2,464,999	3.4
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	398,835	0.1	127,179	0.2
Some other race	15,359,073	5.5	5,520,451	7.6
Two or more races	6,826,228	2.4	2,856,886	4.0
Hispanic or Latino				
Total Population	281,421,906	100.0		
Hispanic or Latino	35,305,818	12.5		
Not Hispanic or Latino	246,116,088	87.5		

Source: Total population: U.S. Department of Commerce. 2001. Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin 2000, Census 2000 Brief, Table 1. Children: Child Trends, *Child Trends DataBank Indicator: Racial and Ethnic Composition of the Child Population*: Table 2. Retrieved April 20, 2004 from URL:

<http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/indicators/60RaceandEthnicComposition.cfm>. Original data from unpublished estimates from the 2000 census, produced by the Population Reference Bureau.

Measuring the Family: Status, Transitions and Relationship Health

On November 13-14, 2003, a number of federal agencies along with the University of Maryland Population Research Center sponsored "Measurement Issues in Family Demography," a conference to explore the changing demographics of the American family and to discuss how well existing federal data collection efforts capture these emerging dynamics. Particular attention was given to the measurement of family transitions (such as marriage, separation and divorce), cohabitation, fatherhood, and marital quality.

Family Transitions from the Perspective of the Child.

Many presenters focused on the measurement of family transitions, given their importance for child well-being. Larry Bumpass and Kelly Raley reported that there was "rather remarkable agreement across surveys" that use similar questions and formats. Even different methods of collecting reports of divorce or separation for first marriages in surveys such as the Current Population Survey, the Survey of Income and Program Participation, or the National Survey of Families and Households yield similar results, with a few nonsystematic differences. Further, the levels estimated by surveys are close to estimates derived from Vital Statistics data—which are records of actual divorces—although somewhat lower, especially for more distant events. Estimates from longitudinal surveys such as the NLSY did not seem to perform better than retrospective measures of divorce and separation. Actual dates of divorce, on the other hand, appear to be reported with considerable unreliability. Also, it was noted that The National Center for Health Statistics no longer reports national vital statistics estimates of divorce.

Measures of adult marital transitions, however, do not necessarily reflect whether, when, and how long children have lived with both biological parents, or in other living arrangements. It was recommended that federal surveys attempt to collect marital and relationship histories, and not just current marital status, from the perspective of children. Towards this end, a method being used at the U.S. Bureau of the Census was presented that could be used in cross-sectional surveys: a children's residential history calendar.

Cohabitation. There was overwhelming sentiment that cohabitation remains a difficult thing to measure, and that this family type matters for estimates of children's experiences of family transitions. The average child experiences an additional one-third as many family structure transitions by age 12 when this measure includes parental cohabitation in addition to parental marital transitions.

Improvements in the collection of cohabitation data include: the inclusion of categories such as 'unmarried partner' in household rosters, such as in the Current Population Survey or Census; the ability to link children and identify their biological ties to all members in the

Data2010, an Easy Way to Access Health Indicators *(continued)*

family income level, education level, age group or marital status, depending on the specific indicator.

Users can create tables of the new data to print out, or can download information into Excel spreadsheets, both of which facilitate data sharing and figure creation. Tables can be constructed by specific health objective, data source, focus area or population group. In order to export data, users must first select the 'include advanced selection options in the table' option. The table can be exported as an ASCII file, a comma-delimited file, or an HTML data file.

Users can also access indicator data related to the Department of Health and Human Services' *Steps to a HealthierUS*, a new initiative of the President that provides information to the U.S. population to help them lead longer, better and healthier lives. In its second year, *Steps to a HealthierUS* focuses on the importance of prevention. Through DATA2010, people can similarly compare health statistics for each state and the nation to see how far they are from the measures outlined in *Steps to a HealthierUS*.

The site also provides links to various surveys and organizations and to the Healthy People 2010 specific health objectives. Healthy People 2010, a health initiative implemented by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, contains 487 health objectives for the United States by 2010.

For additional information on DATA2010, please see URL: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/data2010/>. For additional information on Healthy People 2010, see URL: <http://www.healthypeople.gov/default.htm>.

household, including partners and unrelated individuals, in the Survey of Income and Program Participation data; and the collection of cohabitation histories in the National Survey of Family Growth. However, researchers emphasized that there is still room for improvement. For example:

- The defining factors constituting a cohabiting relationship remain unclear;
- The beginning and end of periods of cohabitation are quite fuzzy, and are not as clearly demarcated as a marriage or divorce;
- Young couples who appear to cohabit often do not seem to view or describe their living arrangement in typical measurement terms, such as living with an 'unmarried partner'; and
- Cohabitors sometimes move in with others, and therefore household rosters that only capture the cohabiting status of the head of household may undercount cohabitators.

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Measuring the Family (continued)

Who is a Biological Father? Other presentations focused on social and biological fathering. In-depth analysis of NLSY79 data suggests that men reliably report the nature of their biological ties to the children in their households about 90 percent of the time, which the presenters termed 'paternal confidence.' The presenters were able to determine this based on respondent reports of paternity, reported names of children in the household, and other measures that were collected over time in the data set. Fathers that did not consistently report their relationship as fathers of children in the household received a data code of 'low paternal confidence.' Factors such as whether the father is present in the household at birth, whether the child has ever lived with the father, or whether the child has had transitions in and out of the father's house are associated with a data code of 'low paternal confidence.'

Beyond Marital Status: Measuring a Healthy Marriage. Another session at the conference discussed the measurement of relationship quality, with particular emphasis on relationships that are important for child well-being. This topic is of particular policy importance, given that interventions to improve marital quality among low-income couples are currently being designed at the federal level. Dr. Scott Stanley of the University of Denver pointed out that measures of marital satisfaction, while many in number, will be inadequate to evaluate intervention effectiveness. On the other hand, improving communication patterns is a reasonable goal for an intervention, and one that research shows to be associated with child well-being. There was an overwhelming sentiment that more work is needed to

assess whether current measures of relationship quality are adequate for low-income populations.

Child Trends presented an overview of their multi-faceted project conceptualizing and measuring healthy relationships for families with children. A goal of the project is to devise a measure of healthy marriage that can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of interventions. Towards this goal, the research group notes that measurement items may differ across different sub-populations, such as couples with an incarcerated spouse compared to couples that live together. They have also found it useful to distinguish between antecedents of a healthy marriage, such as stable parental employment, the consequences of a healthy marriage, and the quality of a healthy relationship itself.

Two products from the Child Trends project on healthy marriage are available for download: a Healthy Marriages Compendium, a compilation of existing measures that have been used to examine couple relationship; and Recommendation Memos, a compilation of short papers prepared by marriage and relationship experts to provide insight on the conceptualization and measurement of "healthy marriages" at <http://www.childtrends.org/HealthyMarriageCompendium.asp> and <http://www.childtrends.org/HealthyMarriageCompendium.asp>.

For further information about these and other topics presented, including copies of presented papers, go to: <http://www.popcenter.umd.edu/conferences/mifd/>

Recently Released Reports

The National Assessment of Educational Progress recently released its annual reading and math score assessment report for fourth and eighth graders, *The Nation's Report Card*. The report includes information by state and various subgroups, as well as reporting how many students are performing at various proficiency levels. The Report compares 2003 fourth and eighth grade scores to scores in the past decade showing performance changes in math and reading. Additionally, beginning in 2002, NAEP began conducting Trial Urban District Assessments. This year, nine urban districts participated in math and reading and writing assessments at the fourth and eighth grade levels.

Information from *The Nation's Report Card* and the Trial Urban District Assessments is available online at: <http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/mathematics/results2003/>.

2001 State Estimates for Substance Abuse, a report administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, provides state-level data about alcohol, cigarette and drug use among youth ages 12 to 17 and 18 to 25. Questions relating to serious mental illness were also included for the first time, although only for those age 18 and older. Nineteen measures, including changes since 1999 for twelve of the measures, are presented.

The report is available online at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/nhsda/2k1State/vol1/toc.htm>.

The U.S. Census Bureau recently published information on low-income uninsured children by state. Data about children under 19 are available from 1993 through 2002 by three-year averages, with national and state information. Tables include information about all children at or below 200 percent of poverty as well as uninsured children at or below 200 percent of poverty.

The tables can be found online at: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/hlthins/lowinckid.html>.

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Neighborhood Change Database, continued from page 3

aries. In normalized form, the data for all four decades were re-drawn to follow 2000 tract boundaries, making it easier to compare data from all four censuses. According to GeoLytics Inc., the NCDB is the only source of census data with variables and tract boundaries that are consistently defined to the 2000 Census Tract boundaries.

Users can select census tracts by state, county or metropolitan area. In addition, they can choose to search by radius, in which they draw a circle around an area or areas to obtain data for all tracts located within that radius. Finally, users can choose specific counts or populations for which they want to conduct their analysis or create extract datasets in dBase format. For example, they can choose to include the African-American and Hispanic pop-

ulation counts for their geographic area. After making selections and running a report, users can create charts to illustrate the new data they have created or they can map their report.

The NCDB is available on CD, and can be accessed using menu-driven mapping and analysis software. Data can also be extracted for use in external database mapping and statistical analysis packages.

The NCDB may be purchased for a single user for \$1,595 with data for the entire nation and \$845 for data for a single state. For more information or to purchase NCDB, call 1-800-577-6717 or visit URL:

<http://www.geolytics.com/USCensus,Neighborhood-Change-Database-1970-2000,Data,Features,Products.asp>.

Recently Released

The National Center for Health Statistics recently released a new report, **Summary Health Statistics for U.S. Children: National Health Interview Survey, 2002**. The report provides information on health measures for children under age 18, including the prevalence of asthma, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, chronic health conditions, unmet dental needs, and school loss days. Information is available by multiple subgroup breaks, including gender, poverty, race/ethnicity, health insurance coverage, region, family structure and health status.

The report is available online at: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/series/sr_10/sr10_221.pdf.

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