

Appendix C: Web Data for Core Epidemiologic Question 1

The following Web sites may provide data that can be used to describe the general population in the epidemiologic profile:

<http://www.fedstats.gov> or <http://quickfacts.census.gov> (equivalent Web sites):

Select a state under the “MapStats” heading and click on “submit” or “go.” A table with state-specific data then appears. To change it to county-specific data, select a county and click on “go.” These tables provide the following data, which may be useful for the profile:

- Population, 2000
- Population, net change from 1990 to 2000, as a number and a percentage change
- Females, 2000
- White persons, 2000 (persons reporting only one race, including white Hispanics)
- Black persons, 2000 (persons reporting only one race, including black Hispanics)
- American Indian and Alaska Native persons, 2000 (persons reporting only one race, including Hispanics who are American Indians or Alaskan Natives)
- Asian persons, 2000 (persons reporting only one race, including Asian Hispanics)
- Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander persons, 2000 (persons reporting only one race, including Hispanic Pacific Islanders)
- Other races, 2000 (persons reporting only one race, including other Hispanics)
- Persons reporting two or more races (including those who are Hispanic)
- Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, 2000 (of any race)
- High school graduates among persons 25 years old or older, 1990 (but the percentage cannot be calculated because the denominator of persons 25 years or older is not given)
- College graduates among persons 25 years or older, 1990 (but the percentage cannot be calculated because the denominator of persons 25 or older is not given)
- Percentage of persons living below the poverty level, 1997 model-based estimate

<http://factfinder.census.gov> takes you automatically to

<http://factfinder.census.gov/servlet/BasicFactsServlet> :

A great variety of tables of population data can be obtained from this Web site. For example, to obtain county-specific data by sex, race/ethnicity, and single year of age; select “Census 2000 Summary File 1.” On the next Web page, select “Detailed Tables.” On the following page, select the type of geographic unit in which you are interested (e.g., county). Then select your state. Next, select the specific counties of interest and click on “Add”; then click on “Show Table.” On the next page, scroll down the pop-down menu to select the tables of data in which you are interested. Near the bottom are the tables

“PCT12H” through “PCT120,” which distinguish between Hispanics and non-Hispanics of different races, by sex and single year of age. Click on the tables of interest to highlight them, click on “Add,” and then click on “Show Table.” The resulting tables may then be printed, but it would be better to save them as a spreadsheet file (e.g., Excel.xls). To do that, select “Download” and download a comma-delimited table (csv file). Double click on its icon to open it in your spreadsheet application (e.g., Excel); then save it as a regular spreadsheet file (i.e., change the suffix to “.xls”). You can then analyze the data in more detail, including calculating the subtotals for specific age groups.

Similarly, county-level data on educational attainment among persons who are at least 25 years old can be obtained by going to the main factfinder page and pressing “go” under “Data Sets.” Select “Census 2000 Supplementary Survey Tables” and “List All Tables.” These tables are based on a survey of only 1,023 counties, so the counties in which you are interested may not be here. Table PCT034 will show educational attainment among persons \geq 25 years old by sex, and Table P114 will show poverty status in the last 12 months by sex and age group. Select the table in which you are interested and press “Next.” On the next Web page, select the “geographic type” (e.g., county, MSA) in which you are interested. Wait for the page to automatically change and then select the state. Not all states may be available on the selection menu. If the state in which you are interested is available, select it. Then select the named geographic subunit area in which you are interested if it is available (it may not be) and “Add.” Then press “Show table.”

The Web site <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html> provides data from surveys of samples of the U.S. population, including information about educational attainment and poverty level. The “Quick Pick” choices include state-specific and county-specific data profiles. Select state and press “Go.” On the next Web page, which has selections for the entire state or a county within it, select the “Social” profile. The heading “Educational Attainment,” refers to the percentages of persons aged 25 years and older who have a high school degree or higher and persons who have a bachelor’s degree or higher are tabulated. Return to the Web page offering the choices of profiles and select “Economic” profile. At the bottom of the table that opens next will be the percentages of the population in selected age groups who lived below the poverty level in the past 12 months. These data should be used with caution because they are based on a survey sample and thus may have a sampling error.

<http://www.statehealthfacts.kff.org>: This Web site from the Kaiser Family Foundation provides “health data” by state. Click on a state for data for a single state.

Click on “Health Coverage and Uninsured” to see the health insurance status of the state’s population. The top subcategory, “Distribution by Insurance Status,” should provide sufficient state-specific information on this topic for the epidemiologic profile. Unfortunately, a source for such information at the county or MSA level is not known.

Click on “Demographics and Economy,” and then “People in Poverty” to see the percentage of the state’s population that live under the federal poverty level. This is stratified by demographic category (e.g., sex, race, age), but not by geographic subunit (e.g., county or MSA).

<http://socds.huduser.org/scripts/odbc.exe/census/screen1.htm>: This Web site summarizes some MSA-specific census data in ways that may be convenient for your use, particularly for seeing trends over time. The tables containing data on race/ethnicity, educational attainment, and poverty may be useful for the epidemiologic profile.

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/projections/stproj.html>: This Web site provides state-level population projections into the future, based on census data. The table provides numbers of persons by age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin, which you may use to calculate the corresponding percentages. The layout is cumbersome.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/oas/NHSDA/99YouthState/toc.htm>: This Web site provides state estimates on youth substance use from the 1999 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse.