

## **DSQ Readme.doc**

Instructions for using Dietary Supplements Questionnaire (DSQ) Component  
NHANES 1999-2000 Data Release

This document contains general instructions for downloading, extracting and formatting the NHANES 1999-2000 Dietary Supplements Questionnaire (DSQ) Component files (DSQFILE1, DSQFILE2, DSQFILE3, DSQFILE4, DSQFILE5). A format code file (DSQFMT) is also included, which provides text descriptions for the format codes used in these files for several variables.

### **About the DSQ Format File**

Dietary Supplement Questionnaire data for 1999-2000 contains a number of lengthy text fields including supplement names, ingredient names, blend component names and others. Many names are hundreds of characters in length and in many cases these text fields are repeated across multiple records. For example, a single dietary supplement having 20 ingredients will have 20 records in DSQFILE4 (Ingredient File), and on each of these records that supplement's name must be repeated. Therefore, in order to reduce the size of these files certain text fields have been format coded, i.e., each text string has been replaced by a shorter coded value. The coded values are mapped to the full text strings in a SAS format library, which is provided with the datafiles. The source of the text descriptions used in this file is the NHANES Dietary Supplement Database. Please refer to the documentation for more detailed information about this database.

There are four variables included in the DSQFMT file:

- 1) FMTNAME: a text field encoding the name of the key variable (e.g., DSDSUPF) used to link with the format code in the DSQ Files;
- 2) START: the character or numeric value of the format code;
- 3) LABEL: the text description for the corresponding format code.
- 4) TYPE indicates character or numeric format type.

### **Downloading, Extracting and Formatting 1999-2000 DSQ Datasets**

NHANES data in this release are in SAS transport file format, and in the DSQ datafiles, several data fields contain format-coded values. To use the DSQ data files, these steps must be performed:

1. Use FTP to download the SAS transport files from the NHANES website to local directory C:\NHANES.

2. To access this data in any version of SAS, use the XPORT engine. It is recommended that you copy the transport files to a permanent SAS library. For example, assuming you have extracted the six SAS transport files to the folder C:\NHANES, use the following SAS code to copy the DSQ data files to a SAS library DSQ (C:\NHANES\DSQFILE):

```
LIBNAME DSQ "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE";  
LIBNAME DSQXPT1 XPORT "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE1.XPT";  
PROC COPY IN= DSQXPT1 OUT= DSQ;  
RUN;  
LIBNAME DSQXPT2 XPORT "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE2.XPT";
```

```

PROC COPY IN= DSQXPT2 OUT= DSQ;
RUN;
LIBNAME DSQXPT3 XPORT "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE3.XPT";
PROC COPY IN= DSQXPT3 OUT= DSQ;
RUN;
LIBNAME DSQXPT4 XPORT "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE4.XPT";
PROC COPY IN= DSQXPT4 OUT= DSQ;
RUN;
LIBNAME DSQXPT5 XPORT "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE5.XPT";
PROC COPY IN= DSQXPT5 OUT= DSQ;
RUN;
LIBNAME DSQFMT XPORT "C:\NHANES\DSQFMT.XPT";
PROC COPY IN= DSQFMT OUT= DSQ;
RUN;

```

3. SAS program code is provided below which will associate text strings with formatted values for all format coded variables in these datasets. Assuming all DSQ datasets (DSQFILE1, DSQFILE2, DSQFILE3, DSQFILE4, DSQFILE5) and the format file (DSQFMT) are located in the SAS library DSQ:

```

LIBNAME DSQ "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE";
PROC FORMAT CNTLIN=DSQ.DSQFMT ;
PROC DATASETS LIB=DSQFILE;
MODIFY DSQFILE1;
    FORMAT DSD010 DSD010F. ;
    FORMAT DSDCOUNT DSDCNTF. ;
MODIFY DSQFILE2;
    FORMAT DSDSUPP $DSDSUPF. ;
    FORMAT DSD070 DSD070F. ;
    FORMAT DSDMTCH DSDMTCHF. ;
    FORMAT DSD100U DSD100UF. ;
    FORMAT DSD120U DSD120UF. ;
MODIFY DSQFILE3;
    FORMAT DSDSUPP $DSDSUPF. ;
    FORMAT DSDSRCE DSDSRCEF. ;
    FORMAT DSDTYPE DSDTYPEF. ;
    FORMAT DSDSERVU DSDSRVF. ;
    FORMAT DSDSERVA DSDASERF ;
MODIFY DSQFILE4;
    FORMAT DSDSUPP $DSDSUPF. ;
    FORMAT DSDINGR $DSDINGF. ;
    FORMAT DSDUNIT DSDUNTF. ;
    FORMAT DSDCAT DSDCATF. ;
    FORMAT DSDBLFLG DSDBLF. ;
MODIFY DSQFILE5;
    FORMAT DSDINGR $DSDINGF. ;
    FORMAT DSDBCCAT DSDCATF. ;
    FORMAT DSDBCNAM $BCNAMF. ;
QUIT;

```

The use of multiple format statements allows the user to "unselect" any variable from the format process by commenting out its format statement. When a format statement is commented out with an asterisk:

```
*      FORMAT DSDBLFLG $DSDBLF. ;
```

the variable it contains will display format codes instead of text strings. In the above example the variable DSDBLFLG will show values of only "1" and "2" instead of the text strings "Ingredient is a blend" and "Ingredient is not a blend". Format codes or full text strings can be shown in any combination by commenting/uncommenting and re-running the PROC DATASETS at any time.

To simply obtain a listing of formatted text labels for each formatted variable, data users can use the following SAS code:

```
OPTIONS LS=240;  
LIBNAME DSQ "C:\NHANES\DSQFILE";  
PROC PRINT DATA=DSQFILE.DSQFMT;  
RUN;
```