



U.S. Census Bureau Official Correspondence

NATIONAL AMBULATORY MEDICAL CARE SURVEY



Dear

You have been randomly selected to participate in the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS). NAMCS has been conducted since 1973 and is the Nation's foremost study of ambulatory care. NAMCS focuses on non-federally employed ambulatory care providers who are primarily engaged in direct patient care. The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) collects NAMCS data from ambulatory care providers to help health services researchers and policy makers understand changing characteristics of ambulatory health care in the United States. Information collected on the provider experience includes topics such as telemedicine, EHR usage, and health equity.

The easiest way to respond is on the web version of this survey, found at <https://respond.census.gov/namcs>. A unique Log-in ID and password to access the survey will be sent to you in a separate email for confidentiality reasons.

Participation in this 30-minute survey is voluntary. You are not being asked to provide any patient information. You may stop participation at any time and there are no penalties for nonparticipation. If you participate, you are giving consent. This allows for your deidentified information to be made available for future research by NCHS or other investigators. We may carry out additional health care research by linking your survey responses to administrative medical information and other related records. The NCHS Ethics Review Board (ERB) has approved this survey.

If you have questions or comments regarding this study, or you do not receive the second email with your Log-in ID and password, please call (1-888) 443-9195. If you have questions about your rights as a participant, please call the NCHS ERB at (1-800) 223-8118 and say you are calling about Protocol #2021-03. Additional information about NAMCS may be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/NAMCS>.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important study.

Brian C. Moyer, PhD
Director
National Center for Health Statistics

Frequently Asked Question

How does NCHS protect the confidentiality of NAMCS data and responses?

We take your privacy very seriously. The answers you provide are used for statistical purposes only. This means that your answers will be combined with other providers' answers in a way that protects everyone's identity. As required by federal law, only those NCHS employees and our specially designated agents who must use your personal information for a specific reason can see your answers.

NCHS complies with numerous federal laws to protect your data, privacy, and confidentiality, as described in detail below. Data collection is authorized under Section 306 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242k). A number of federal laws require that all information we collect be held in strict confidence: Section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 242m(d)), the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2018 (CIPSEA Pub. L. No. 115-435, 132 Stat. 5529 section 302), and the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. section 552a).

Transmissions across the internet into Federal information systems may be monitored for cybersecurity purposes in accordance with the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. sections 151 and 151 note). Every NCHS employee, contractor, and agent has taken an oath to keep your information private. Anyone who willfully discloses ANY identifiable information could get a jail term of up to five years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both.