



COVID-19 and NCHS Survey Programs

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

- On March 16, 2020 data collection stopped due to COVID-19
- NHANES mobile exam centers (MECs) are currently parked in Maryland
- Data quality control, editing, and release of earlier years of data continues
- NHANES truck with laboratory being used for COVID-19 testing in DC
- Proposal for antibody testing of SARS-coV-2 using NHANES blood samples
- Planning for resumption of NHANES data collection – potential impact on the redesign of NHANES to be fielded in 2023



Health Care Surveys

- Looking at the possibility of delaying the start of fielding for many health care surveys (some were expected to start in May 2020)
- May start induction interviews by phone as soon as possible
- Considering adding COVID-19 questions to NAMCS, NHAMCS, NEHRS, NHCS and NPALS
 - including questions on the shortage of personal protective equipment, use of telemedicine, providers testing positive for COVID-19, across many health care surveys (outpatient, hospitals, and long-term care facilities)
- Planning to analyze data from COVID questions to better understand the overall physician and hospital experience of the COVID response

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

Data Collection - March

- In-person data collection suspended on March 19
- All incomplete March cases transitioned to telephone contact only
- March response rates were only two percentage points lower than February

Data Collection - April

- No in-person data collection
- All addresses contacted by phone only, if phone numbers could be identified
- Good response rates from households contacted
- Carefully evaluating bias due to households that could not be contacted



NHIS

- **Developed new questions to be added starting in July**
 - Testing and hospitalization
 - Problems accessing non-COVID-related health care
 - Immunosuppression
 - Telehealth use
 - Social support
- **Collaborated with Census Bureau to add questions to Household Pulse survey**
 - Anxiety and depression
 - Health insurance coverage
 - Problems accessing non-COVID-related health care
- **Collaborated with BLS to add question to Current Population Survey**
 - Problems accessing non-COVID-related health care



Research and Methodology: COVID-19 Response

- **Research Data Center (RDC)**

- NCHS RDC is closed to researchers



- **Collaborating Center for Questionnaire Design and Evaluation Research**

- Cognitive interviewing has stopped but exploring ways to conduct virtual interviews



- **Research and Development Survey (RANDS) – COVID**

- Goal – to determine if RANDS can provide information on the public's understanding of, response to, and health impacts from COVID-19

