

The National Center for Health Statistics' (NCHS) Data Linkage Program is pleased to announce the release of additional linked Medicare data files for several NCHS population-based and provider surveys previously linked to Medicare program enrollment, health care utilization and expenditure data from the [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#). The additional linked Medicare files further expand the analytic utility of the NCHS survey data by filling critical data gaps to enable trend analyses and the assessment of utilization and expenditures over time for linked survey participants. The additional Medicare Advantage (MA) encounter data facilitates the examination of health care utilization among linked survey participants enrolled in this rapidly expanding component of the Medicare program.

Listed below are the NCHS surveys with additional Medicare data available:

<p>Surveys previously linked to 2014-2018 Medicare data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1999-2018 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) • 1999-2018 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) • Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III) 	<p>Additional Medicare files:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014-2015 fee-for-service (FFS) claims • 2014-2015 prescription drug events • 2014-2015 patient assessments • 2017-2018 Medicare Advantage (MA) encounters
<p>Surveys previously linked to 2016-2017 Medicare data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 National Hospital Care Survey (NHCS) 	<p>Additional Medicare files:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017 Medicare Advantage (MA) encounters
<p>Surveys previously linked to 2014-2015 Medicare enrollment data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014 National Hospital Care Survey (NHCS) 	<p>Additional Medicare files:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2014-2015 fee-for-service (FFS) claims • 2014-2015 prescription drug events • 2014-2015 patient assessments

Please visit the NCHS Data Linkage website for more information.

For information related to NHIS, NHANES, and NHANES III data linked to CMS Medicare data, please visit: [NCHS Data Linkage - Medicare Enrollment and Claims Data \(cdc.gov\)](#)

For information related to NHCS data linked to CMS Medicare data, please visit: [NCHS Data Linkage Restricted-Use Linked NHCS-CMS Medicare Data \(cdc.gov\)](#)

Due to confidentiality requirements, access to the Linked NCHS-CMS Medicare files is available only through the NCHS and Federal Statistical Research Data Centers (RDCs). Interested researchers must submit a research proposal to the NCHS RDC.

For more information on the NCHS RDC, please visit: [RDC - Research Data Center Homepage \(cdc.gov\)](#)