

Important Information on Merging Restricted and Public Use NCHS Survey Data

The data provided on the restricted NCHS-linked files can be merged with the NCHS public use survey data files using unique survey person identification numbers. However, the identifying variables are different across surveys and years.

Note: The linked data files are only available through the NCHS restricted access data center (RDC). Approved RDC researchers may choose to provide their own analytic files created from public use survey files to the RDC. Therefore, it is important for researchers to include the correct survey person identification number.

The following table presents the variables needed to merge each public use survey data with restricted NCHS-linked data in the RDC.

NCHS Survey	Survey Person Identification Variable
National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)	SEQN
Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III)	SEQN
NHANES Epidemiologic Followup Study (NHEFS)	SEQN
National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)	PUBLICID*
Second Longitudinal Study of Aging (LSOA II)	PUBLICID*
National Nursing Home Survey (NNHS)	RESNUM

*PUBLICID must be created for NHIS and LSOA (see below). It is important to note the construction of PUBLICID varies by year in NHIS.

Creation of PUBLICID for NHIS and LSOA

On the NHIS and LSOA surveys, researchers need to construct the person identification number (PUBLICID) from the following variables. The number and public-use location varies by NHIS survey year.

I. National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

NHIS 1994

<u>Variable</u>	Public-use <u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
YEAR	3-4	2	Year of interview
QUARTER	5	1	Calendar quarter of interview
PSUNUMR	6-8	3	Random recode of PSU #
WEEKCEN	9-10	2	Week of interview within quarter
SEGNUM	11-12	2	Segment number
HHNUM	13-14	2	Household number within quarter
PNUM	15-16	2	Person number within household

Note: Concatenate all variables to get the unique person identifier.

SAS example:

```
length publicid $14;  
PUBLICID = trim(left(YEAR|QUARTER|PSUNUMR|WEEKCEN|SEGNUM|HHNUM|PNUM));
```

Stata example: (note this will convert the variables to a string variable)

```
egen PUBLICID = concat(YEAR QUARTER PSUNUMR WEEKCEN SEGNUM HHNUM PNUM)
```

NHIS 1995, 1996

<u>Variable</u>	Public-use <u>Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
YEAR	3-4	2	Year of interview
HHID	5-14	10	Household ID number
PNUM	15-16	2	Person number within Household

Note: Concatenate all variables to get the unique person identifier.

SAS example:

```
length publicid $14;  
PUBLICID = trim(left(YEAR|HHID|PNUM));
```

Stata example: (note this will convert the variables to a string variable)

```
egen PUBLICID = concat(YEAR HHID PNUM)
```

NHIS 1997-2003

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Public-use Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
SRVY_YR	3-6	4	Year of interview
HHX	7-12	6	Household serial number
FMX	13-14	2	Family number
PX	15-16	2	Person number within Household

Note: Concatenate all variables to get the unique person identifier.

SAS example:

```
length publicid $14;  
PUBLICID = trim(left(SRVY_YR || HHX || FMX || PX));
```

Stata example: (note this will convert the variables to a string variable)

```
egen PUBLICID = concat(SRVY_YR HHX FMX PX)
```

*The person identifier was called PX in the 1997-2003 NHIS and FPX in the 2004 (and later) NHIS; users may find it necessary to create an FPX variable in the 2003 and earlier datasets (or PX in later datasets).

NHIS 2004

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Public-use Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
SRVY_YR	3-6	4	Year of interview
HHX	7-12	6	Household serial number
FMX	13-14	2	Family number
FPX	15-16	2	Person number

Note: Concatenate all variables to get the unique person identifier.

SAS example:

```
length publicid $14;  
PUBLICID = trim(left(SRVY_YR || HHX || FMX || FPX));
```

Stata example: (note this will convert the variables to a string variable)

```
egen PUBLICID = concat(SRVY_YR HHX FMX FPX)
```

NHIS 2005

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Public-use Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
SRVY_YR	3-6	4	Year of interview
HHX	7-12	6	Household serial number
FMX	16-17	2	Family number
FPX	18-19	2	Person number

Note: Concatenate all variables to get the unique person identifier.

SAS example:

```
length publicid $14;  
PUBLICID = trim(left(SRVY_YR || HHX || FMX || FPX));
```

Stata example: (note this will convert the variables to a string variable)

```
egen PUBLICID = concat(SRVY_YR HHX FMX FPX)
```

II. The Second Longitudinal Study of Aging (LSOA II)

LSOA II

<u>Item</u>	<u>Public-use Location</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Description</u>
YEAR	3-4	2	Year of interview
QUARTER	5	1	Calendar quarter of interview
PSUNUMR	6-8	3	Random recode of PSU #
WEEKCEN	9-10	2	Week of interview within quarter
SEGNUM	11-12	2	Segment number
HHNUM	13-14	2	Household number within quarter
PNUM	15-16	2	Person number within household

Note: Concatenate all variables to get the unique person identifier.

SAS example:

```
length publicid $14;  
PUBLICID = trim(left(YEAR || QUARTER || PSUNUMR || WEEKCEN || SEGNUM || HHNUM || PNUM));
```

Stata example: (note this will convert the variables to a string variable)

```
egen PUBLICID = concat(YEAR QUARTER PSUNUMR WEEKCEN SEGNUM HHNUM PNUM)
```