

DATE CREATED: 04JUN2026  
 NUMBER OF VARIABLES: 51

Variable Name	Variable Label	Variable Source	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
SEQNUM	Sequence Number	N/A	ID		Sequential numbering of records in synthetic data file.
NHIS_AGE	Age of Survey Respondent	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported age. The file includes survey respondents aged 18 and older. Source variable is AGE_P from NHIS.
			0	18-24 years	
			1	25-29 years	
			2	30-34 years	
			3	35-39 years	
			4	40-44 years	
			5	45-49 years	
			6	50-54 years	
			7	55-59 years	
			8	60-64 years	
			9	65-69 years	
			10	70-74 years	
			11	75-79 years	
			12	80-84 years	
			13	85+ years	
NHIS_AGE_R1	Survey Respondent Age Recode 1	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported age recoded to primarily 10-year age ranges. The file includes survey respondents aged 18 and older. Source variable is NHIS_AGE. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	18-24 years	
			1	25-34 years	
			2	35-44 years	
			3	45-54 years	

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Variable Name	Variable Label	Variable Source	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
			4	55-64 years	
			5	65-74 years	
			6	75-84 years	
			7	85+ years	
NHIS_AGE_R2	Survey Respondent Age Recode 2	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported age, recoded to three major age groups. The file includes survey respondents aged 18 and older. Source variable is NHIS_AGE. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	18-44 years	
			1	45-64 years	
			2	65+ years	
NHIS_CHRONICCOND	Number of Chronic Conditions	NHIS - SAMADULT			Count of chronic health conditions reported by the NHIS respondent among the following selected health conditions: diabetes, hypertension, cancer, asthma, and obesity. Source variables are DIBEV1, HYPEV, CANEV, AASMEV and BMI from NHIS.
			0	No chronic condition reported	
			1	One chronic condition reported	
			2	Two chronic conditions reported	
			3	Three chronic conditions reported	
			4	Four chronic conditions reported	
			5	Five chronic conditions reported	
NHIS_CHRONICCOND_R	Recoded Number of Chronic Conditions	NHIS - SAMADULT			Recoded count of chronic health conditions reported by the NHIS respondent among the following selected health conditions: diabetes, hypertension, cancer, asthma, and obesity. Source variable is NHIS_CHRONICCOND. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.

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			0	No chronic condition reported	
			1	One chronic condition reported	
			2	Two or more chronic conditions reported	
NHIS_DISABILITY	Disability Status	NHIS - SAMADULT			NHIS respondent disability status, based on a response of “a lot of difficulty” or “cannot do at all” to any of six questions asking about difficulties in the following functional domains: seeing; hearing; walking or climbing stairs; communicating; remembering or concentrating; and self-care. Source variables are VIS_SS2, HEAR_SS2, MOB_SS2, COG_SS, UB_SS, and COM_SS from NHIS (Washington Group on Disability Statistics Short Set on Functioning).
			0	No reported disability	
			1	Reported disability	
			NA	Unknown or missing	
NHIS_EDUCATION	Education Level	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported education level. Source variable is EDUC1 from NHIS.
			0	Less than high school	
			1	HS diploma or GED	
			2	Some college	
			NA	Unknown or missing	
NHIS_EMPLOYMENT	Employment Status	NHIS - SAMADULT			NHIS respondent reported employment status. Source variable is DOINGLWA from NHIS. Records with values of 7 - Refused, 8 - Not ascertained, and 9 - Don't know were removed pre-synthesis.
			0	Not working	
			1	Working	
NHIS_FLUVAX	Flu Vaccine	NHIS - SAMADULT			NHIS respondent reported receipt of a flu vaccine in the last year. Source variable is FLUVACYR from NHIS.
			0	No	

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			1	Yes	
			NA	Unknown or missing	
NHIS_HEALTH	Subjective Health Status	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported health status. Source variable is PHSTAT from NHIS. Records with values of 7 - Refused, 8 - Not ascertained, and 9 - Don't know were removed pre-synthesis.
			0	Excellent, very good, or good	
			1	Fair or worse	
NHIS_HOUSEOWN	Rental Status	NHIS - FAMILYXX			NHIS respondent reported home tenure status. The 2 - Other category includes the following values from the source variable: 3 Other arrangement, 7 - Refused, 8 - Not ascertained, and 9 - Don't know. Source variable is HOUSEOWN from NHIS.
			0	Owned	
			1	Rented	
			2	Other	
NHIS_INSURANCE	Health Insurance Type	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent health insurance coverage hierarchy. This variable was created by combining the COVER and COVER65 variables from NHIS.
			0	Private (ages 18+)	
			1	Medicaid and other public (ages 18-64 only)	
			2	Dual Eligible (ages 65+ only)	
			3	Medicare Advantage (ages 65+ only)	
			4	Medicare only excluding Medicare Advantage (ages 65+ only)	
			5	Other coverage (ages 18+)	
			6	Uninsured or unknown (ages 18+)	

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NHIS_INSURANCE_R	Recoded Health Insurance Type	NHIS - PERSONSX			Recoded NHIS respondent health insurance coverage hierarchy, indicating any insurance. Source variable is NHIS_INSURANCE. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	Uninsured or unknown	
			1	Any insurance	
NHIS_MARITAL	Marital Status	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported marital status at the time of interview. Source variable is R_MARITL from NHIS. Records with a value of 9 - Unknown marital status were removed pre-synthesis.
			0	Not married	
			1	Married or living with partner	
			2	Widowed	
NHIS_PLACEFORCARE	Usual Place of Care	NHIS - SAMADULT			NHIS respondent reported usual place of health care. Source variable is AUSUALPL from NHIS.
			0	No	
			1	Yes	
			NA	Unknown or missing	
NHIS_POVERTY	Poverty Status	NHIS - Imputed income files			Ratio of NHIS respondent reported family income to poverty threshold. Family income may be imputed. Source variable is POVRATI3 from NHIS.
			0	Income to poverty ratio less than one	
			1	Income to poverty ratio greater than or equal to one and less than two	
			2	Income to poverty ratio two or greater	
NHIS_POVERTY_R	Recoded Poverty Status	NHIS - Imputed income files			Recoded NHIS respondent reported family income to poverty threshold. Source variable is NHIS_POVERTY. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.

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Variable Name	Variable Label	Variable Source	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
			0	Income to poverty ratio less than two	
			1	Income to poverty ratio two or greater	
NHIS_PREGNANT	Pregnancy Status	NHIS - SAMADULT			NHIS respondent reported current pregnancy status. Source variable is PREGNOW from NHIS. Only females ages 18-49 can have a value of 1. All females aged 50 and older and males are coded as 0.
			0	No	
			1	Yes	
NHIS_PSYCHDISTRESS	Psychological Distress	NHIS - SAMADULT			NHIS respondent reported psychological distress as measured by the Kessler 6 Psychological Distress Scale (K6). Responses to the questions regarding feelings of sadness, hopelessness, worthlessness, that everything is an effort, nervousness, and restlessness were combined to create an indicator of psychological distress. Source variables are ASISAD, ASINERV, ASIRSTLS, ASIHOPLS, ASIEFFRT and AISWTHLS from NHIS.
			0	None or unknown	
			1	1-5	
			2	6-10	
			3	11+	
NHIS_PSYCHDISTRESS_R	Recoded Psychological Distress	NHIS - SAMADULT			Recoded NHIS respondent reported psychological distress as measured by the Kessler 6 Psychological Distress Scale (k6). Responses to the questions regarding feelings of sadness, hopelessness, worthlessness, that everything is an effort, nervousness, and restlessness were combined and then grouped into 2 categories to create a binary indicator of psychological distress. Source variable is NHIS_PSYCHDISTRESS. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	0-10	
			1	11+	
NHIS_RACE_ETH	Race/Hispanic origin	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported race and Hispanic origin. Source variable is HISCODI3 from NHIS.
			0	Hispanic	

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			1	White, Non-Hispanic	
			2	Black, Non-Hispanic	
			3	Asian, Non-Hispanic	
			4	Other races, Non-Hispanic	
NHIS_SEX	Sex	NHIS - PERSONSX			NHIS respondent reported sex. Source variable is SEX from NHIS.
			0	Male	
			1	Female	
NHIS_SMOKING	Smoking Status	NHIS - SAMADULT			NHIS respondent reported smoking status. Source variable is SMKSTAT2 from NHIS.
			0	Never	
			1	Current	
			2	Former	
			NA	Unknown or missing	
NHIS_SOCIALASSIST	Social Services	NHIS - FAMILYXX			Indicates whether anyone in the NHIS respondent's family is receiving any selected forms of social assistance. Source variables are FSNAP, FGAH, FSSIYN, FTANFYN and FWICYN from NHIS.
			0	No	
			1	Yes	
			NA	Unknown or missing	
HUD_ASSIST2YPRIOR	Housing Assistance (Two Years)	Linked NHIS-HUD Files			Indicates if HUD linked NHIS respondent received HUD housing assistance within the two years before 2018 NHIS interview date. For HUD linked NHIS respondents who were receiving assistance at the time of the NHIS interview (HUD_ASSISTCONCUR=1), HUD_ASSIST2YPRIOR was set to 1 - Yes only if the linked administrative data indicates that the respondent had an episode of a different housing assistance program (Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV), Public Housing (PH), or Multifamily (MF)) than they were receiving at the time of the interview.
			0	No assistance or not linked	
			1	Yes	

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Variable Name	Variable Label	Variable Source	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
HUD_ASSIST5YPRIOR	Housing Assistance (Five Years)	Linked NHIS-HUD Files			Indicates if HUD linked NHIS respondent received HUD housing assistance within the five years before 2018 NHIS interview date. For HUD linked NHIS respondents who were receiving assistance at the time of the NHIS interview (HUD_ASSISTCONCUR=1), HUD_ASSIST5YPRIOR was set to 1 - Yes only if the linked administrative data indicates that the respondent had an episode of a different housing assistance program (HCV, PH, or MF) than they were receiving at the time of the interview.
			0	No assistance or not linked	
			1	Yes	
HUD_ASSISTAFTER	Housing Assistance (After Interview)	Linked NHIS-HUD Files			Indicates if HUD linked NHIS respondent began a new episode of HUD housing assistance after their 2018 NHIS interview (later in 2018 or in 2019). For HUD linked NHIS respondents who were receiving assistance at the time of the NHIS interview (HUD_ASSISTCONCUR=1), HUD_ASSISTAFTER was set to 1 - Yes only if the linked administrative data indicates that the respondent had an episode of a different housing assistance program (HCV, PH, or MF) than they were receiving at the time of the interview.
			0	No assistance or not linked	
			1	Yes	
HUD_ASSISTCONCUR	Housing Assistance (Concurrent)	Linked NHIS-HUD Files			Indicates if HUD linked NHIS respondent was receiving HUD housing assistance on the 2018 NHIS interview date.
			0	No assistance or not linked	
			1	Yes	
HUD_LINKED	HUD Match Status	Linked NHIS-HUD Files			Indicates whether the NHIS respondent linked to one or more years of HUD administrative data from 1996 to 2019.
			0	Not linked	
			1	Linked	
CMS_COVERAGE_TYPE		Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			Combines CMS_MA_MONTHS and CMS_FFS_MONTHS to indicate whether the linked NHIS respondent has fee-for-service (FFS), also known as original Medicare, or Medicare Advantage (MA) coverage in 2018. Only applies if CMS_LINKED=1 and NHIS_AGE>=65. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.

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			0	Any FFS but no MA coverage	
			1	Any MA coverage	
			NA	Under age 65 or not linked to Medicare	
CMS_DUALENROLL	Dual Enrollment	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			CMS linked NHIS respondent was dually enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid during any month in 2018. Only applies if CMS_LINKED=1 and NHIS_AGE >=65.
			0	No dual enrollment	
			1	Any dual enrollment	
			NA	Under age 65 or not linked to Medicare	
CMS_EDVISITS	Emergency Visits	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			CMS linked NHIS respondent emergency department visits paid for by Medicare in 2018. Only applies if CMS_FFS_MONTHS>0, NHIS_AGE >= 65 and CMS_LINKED=1.
			0	No visits	
			1	One visit	
			2	Two or more visits	
			NA	Under age 65, not linked to Medicare, or not enrolled in fee-for-service	
CMS_EDVISITS_R	Recoded Emergency Visits	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			Recode of CMS linked NHIS respondent emergency department visits paid for by Medicare in the 2018. Only applies if CMS_FFS_MONTHS>0, NHIS_AGE >= 65, and CMS_LINKED=1. Source variable is CMS_EDVISITS. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	No visits	
			1	One or more visits	
			NA	Under age 65, not linked to Medicare, or not enrolled in fee-for-service	

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CMS_FFS_MONTHS	Fee for Service Coverage	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			CMS linked NHIS survey respondent months of Medicare fee-for-service coverage in 2018. Only applies if NHIS_AGE >= 65 and CMS_LINKED=1.
			0	No months	
			1	At least one month but less than 12 months	
			2	12 months	
			NA	Under age 65 or not linked to Medicare	
CMS_IPVISITS	Acute Hospitalizations	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			CMS linked NHIS respondent acute care hospitalizations paid for by Medicare in the 2018calendar year. Only applies if CMS_FFS_MONTHS>0, NHIS_AGE >= 65 and CMS_LINKED=1.
			0	No hospitalizations	
			1	One hospitalizations	
			2	Two or more hospitalizations	
			NA	Under age 65, not linked to Medicare, or not enrolled in fee-for-service	
CMS_IPVISITS_R	Recoded Acute Hospitalizations	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			Recode of CMS linked NHIS respondent acute care hospitalizations paid for by Medicare in the 2018 calendar year. Only applies if CMS_FFS_MONTHS>0, NHIS_AGE >= 65 and CMS_LINKED=1. Source variable is CMS_IPVISITS. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	No hospitalizations	
			1	One or more hospitalizations	
			NA	Under age 65, not linked to Medicare, or not enrolled in fee-for-service	
CMS_LINKED	Medicare Match Status	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			Indicates whether 2018 NHIS respondent linked to 2018 CMS Medicare administrative data. Only NHIS respondents ages 65 and older can have a value of 1. All NHIS respondents ages 18 – 64 are coded as 0.

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Variable Name	Variable Label	Variable Source	Range of Values	Value Description	Notes
			0	Not linked	
			1	Linked	
CMS_MA_MONTHS	Medicare Advantage Coverage	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			CMS linked NHIS respondent months of Medicare Advantage coverage during the 2018 calendar year. Only applies if NHIS_AGE >= 65 and CMS_LINKED=1.
			0	No months	
			1	At least one month but less than 12 months	
			2	12 months	
			NA	Under age 65 or not linked to Medicare	
CMS_TOTALPAYMENTS	Total Medicare Payments	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			CMS linked NHIS respondent total Medicare payment amount for the 2018 calendar year. Only applies if CMS_LINKED=1, CMS_FFS_MONTHS>0 and NHIS_AGE >=65.
			0	Less than \$2,500	
			1	Less than \$25,000 but greater than or equal to \$2,500	
			2	Greater than or equal to \$25,000	
			NA	Under age 65, not linked to Medicare, or not enrolled in fee-for-service	
CMS_TOTALPAYMENTS_R1	Total Medicare Payments Recode 1	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			Recode (1) CMS linked NHIS respondent total Medicare payment amount for the 2018 calendar year. Only applies if CMS_LINKED=1, CMS_FFS_MONTHS>0 and NHIS_AGE >=65. Source variable is CMS_TOTALPAYMENTS. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	Less than \$2,500	
			1	Greater than or equal to \$2,500	

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			NA	Under age 65, not linked to Medicare, or not enrolled in fee-for-service	
CMS_TOTALPAYMENTS_R2	Total Medicare Payments Recode 2	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			Recode (2) CMS linked NHIS respondent total Medicare payment amount for the 2018 calendar year. Only applies if CMS_LINKED=1, CMS_FFS_MONTHS>0 and NHIS_AGE >=65. Source variable is CMS_TOTALPAYMENTS. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	Less than \$25,000	
			1	Greater than or equal to \$25,000	
			NA	Under age 65, not linked to Medicare, or not enrolled in fee-for-service	
CMS_VITALSTATUS	Vital Status	Linked NHIS-CMS Medicare Files			CMS linked NHIS respondent vital status (as of December 31, 2018) based on Medicare administrative records. Only applies if CMS_LINKED=1 and NHIS_AGE >= 65.
			0	Alive	
			1	Deceased	
			NA	Under age 65 or not linked to Medicare	
ZCTA_INCOME	ZCTA Income to Poverty Ratio	AHRQ CLH Database			Indicates whether the NHIS respondent lived in a Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) where the percent of the population with an income to poverty ratio less than 1 was greater than the US national median value of 12.0%. Missing values were imputed for ZCTA_INCOME.
			0	Less than or equal to median (<=12.0%)	
			1	Greater than median (>12.0%)	
ZCTA_INTERNET	ZCTA Internet Access	AHRQ CLH Database			Indicates whether the NHIS respondent lived in a Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) where the percent of households with an Internet connection was greater than the US national median value of 77.2%. Missing values were imputed for ZCTA_INTERNET.
			0	Less than or equal to median (<=77.2%)	

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			1	Greater than median (>77.2%)	
ZCTA_MEDICAID	ZCTA Medicaid Coverage	AHRQ CLH Database			Indicates whether the NHIS respondent lived in a Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) where the percent of the population younger than age 65 with any means-tested public health insurance (e.g., Medicaid) was greater than the US national median value of 16.8%. Missing values were imputed for ZCTA_MEDICAID.
			0	Less than or equal to median (<=16.8%)	
			1	Greater than median (>16.8%)	
ZCTA_UNINSURED	ZCTA Uninsured	AHRQ CLH Database			Indicates whether the NHIS respondent lived in a Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA) where the percent of the population with no health insurance coverage was greater than the US national median value of 7.2%. Missing values were imputed for ZCTA_UNINSURED.
			0	Less than or equal to median (<=7.2%)	
			1	Greater than median (>7.2%)	
UNIV_65P_MCARE	Universe of Medicare Beneficiaries				Defines subpopulation of 2018 NHIS survey respondents aged 65 years or older and linked to CMS Medicare data. Source variables are NHIS_AGE and CMS_LINKED. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	Not in universe	
			1	65 years of age or older and linked to CMS	
UNIV_LT2XPOV	Universe of Income to Poverty Ratio Less than Two				Defines subpopulation of survey respondents with a family income to poverty threshold ratio of less than two. Source variable is NHIS_POVERTY. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	Not in universe	
			1	Income to poverty ratio less than two	

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UNIV_MCARE_FFS	Universe of Medicare FFS Beneficiaries				Defines subpopulation of 2018 NHIS survey respondents aged 65 years or older, linked to CMS Medicare data, and with at least one month of FFS coverage. Source variables are NHIS_AGE, CMS_LINKED, and CMS_FFS_MONTHS. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	Not in universe	
			1	65 years of age or older, linked to CMS, and in FFS	
UNIV_RENTLT2XPOV	Universe of Renters with Income to Poverty Ratio Less than Two				Defines subpopulation of 2018 NHIS survey respondents who rent their home and have a family income to poverty threshold ratio of less than two. Source variables are NHIS_POVERTY and NHIS_HOUSEOWN. Note that this variable was created post-synthesis.
			0	Not in universe	
			1	Income to poverty ratio less than two and rent	