



**BILLING CODE: 4163-18-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

**[60Day-20-0950; Docket No. CDC-2020-0078]**

**Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations**

**AGENCY:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

**ACTION:** Notice with comment period.

**SUMMARY:** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of its continuing efforts to reduce public burden and maximize the utility of government information, invites the general public and other Federal agencies the opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This notice invites comment on a proposed information collection project titled National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES). NHANES programs produce descriptive statistics, which measure the health and nutrition status of the general population.

**DATES:** CDC must receive written comments on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION DATE IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by Docket No. CDC-2020-0078 by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Regulation.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Mail: Jeffrey M. Zirger, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, N.E., MS-D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

**Instructions:** All submissions received must include the agency name and Docket Number. CDC will post, without change, all relevant comments to Regulations.gov.

Please note: Submit all Federal comments through the Federal eRulemaking portal (regulations.gov) or by U.S. mail to the address listed above.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on the proposed project or to obtain a copy of the information collection plan and instruments, contact Jeffrey M. Zirger, Ph.D., Lead, Information Collection Review Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, N.E., MS-D74, Atlanta, Georgia 30329; phone: 404-639-7570; E-mail: omb@cdc.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. In addition, the PRA also requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the Federal Register concerning each proposed

collection of information, including each new proposed collection, each proposed extension of existing collection of information, and each reinstatement of previously approved information collection before submitting the collection to the OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, we are publishing this notice of a proposed data collection as described below.

The OMB is particularly interested in comments that will help:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

## 5. Assess information collection costs.

### Proposed Project

The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), (OMB No. 0920-0950, Exp. 11/30/2021) - Revision - National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

### Background and Brief Description

Section 306 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act (42 U.S.C. 242k), as amended, authorizes that the Secretary of Health and Human Services (DHHS), acting through NCHS, shall collect statistics on the extent and nature of illness and disability; environmental, social and other health hazards; and determinants of health of the population of the United States. The National Health and Nutrition Examination Surveys (NHANES) have been conducted periodically between 1970 and 1994, and continuously since 1999 by the National Center for Health Statistics, CDC.

NHANES programs produce descriptive statistics, which measure the health and nutrition status of the general population. With physical examinations, laboratory tests, and interviews, NHANES studies the relationship between diet, nutrition and health in a representative sample of the United States.

NHANES monitors the prevalence of chronic conditions and

risk factors and are used to produce national reference data on height, weight, and nutrient levels in the blood. Results from more recent NHANES can be compared to findings reported from previous surveys to monitor changes in the health of the U.S. population over time.

In 2021-22, the program is not considering any substantial changes to NHANES content or procedures. The proposed changes being requested are small additions and modifications to laboratory content, introductions to and wording of existing questions, and the addition of a conditional \$40 incentive for the household interview. As in previous years, the base sample will remain at approximately 5,000 interviewed and examined individuals annually. It is possible that the survey may have to adapt its plans in response to Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) or related concerns.

NCHS collects personally identifiable information (PII). Participant level data items will include basic demographic information, name, address, social security number, Medicare number and participant health information to allow for linkages to other data sources such as the National Death Index and data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

A variety of agencies sponsors data collection components on NHANES. To keep burden down and respond to changing public health research needs, NCHS cycles in and out various

components. The 2021-22 NHANES physical examination includes the following components: anthropometry (all ages), 24-hour dietary recall (all ages), physician's examination (all ages, blood pressure is collected here), oral health examination (ages one and older), dual X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) (ages 50+ bone density; ages 8-69 total body scan) and audiometry (ages 6-19 and 70+).

While at the examination center, additional interview questions are asked (six and older) and a second 24-hour dietary recall (all ages) is scheduled to be conducted by phone 3-10 days later.

The 2021-22 survey will be similar to what was fielded in 2019-20. It is possible that content will be deleted, if collaborator focus changes or resources are not available. NHANES plans to conduct developmental projects during NHANES 2021-22, with a focus on planning for NHANES 2023 and beyond. These may include activities such as tests of new equipment, crossover studies between current and proposed methods, tests of different study modes, settings or technology, outreach materials, incentive strategies, sample storage and processing or sample designs.

The biospecimens collected for laboratory tests include urine, blood, and vaginal and penile swabs. Serum, plasma and urine specimens are stored for future testing, including genetic

research, if the participant consents. Consent to store DNA is continuing in NHANES.

In 2021 we plan to add the following laboratory tests: Acetylcholinesterase Enzyme Activity in whole blood; an Environmental Toxicant in Washed Red Blood Cells (Hemoglobin Adducts); Environmental Toxicants in serum (seven terpenes); Environmental Toxicants in urine (seven volatile organic compound (VOC) metabolites); Infectious Disease Markers in serum (Enterovirus 68 (EV-D68) and Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) in serum); Nutritional Biomarkers in plasma (Four trans-fatty acids (TFA)); and two Nutritional Biomarkers in serum.

In 2021, the following Laboratory Tests will be modified: Steroid hormones in serum (11 steroid hormones).

Cycling out of NHANES in 2021-22 is the Blood Pressure Methodology Study and laboratory tests of Adducts of Hemoglobin (Acrylamide, Glycidamide) and Urine flow rate.

Most sections of the NHANES interviews provide self-reported information to be used in combination with specific examination or laboratory content, as independent prevalence estimates, or as covariates in statistical analysis (e.g., socio-demographic characteristics). Some examples include alcohol, drug, and tobacco use, sexual behavior, prescription and aspirin use, and indicators of oral, bone, reproductive, and mental health. Several interview components support the

nutrition-monitoring objective of NHANES, including questions about food security and nutrition program participation, dietary supplement use, and weight history/self-image/related behavior.

In 2021-2022, we plan to continue or expand upon existing multi-mode screening and electronic consent procedures in NHANES. Our yearly goal for interview, exam and post exam components is 5,000 participants. To achieve this goal, we may need to screen up to 15,000 individuals annually.

Burden for individuals will vary based on their level of participation. For example, infants and children tend to have shorter interviews and exams than adults. This is because young people may have fewer health conditions or medications to report so their interviews take less time or because certain exams are only conducted on individuals 18 and older, etc. In addition, adults often serve as proxy respondents for young people in their families.

Participation in NHANES is voluntary and confidential. There is no cost to respondents other than their time. We are requesting a three-year approval, with 68,417 annualized hours of burden.

Estimated Annualized Burden Hours

Type of Respondent	Form Name	Number of Respondents	Number of Responses per respondent	Average Burden per Response (in hours)	Total Burden (in hours)
Individuals in households	Screener	15,000	1	5/60	1,250
Individuals in households	Household Interview	5,000	1	1.5	7,500
Individuals in households	MEC Interview & Examination	5,000	1	4	20,000
Individuals in households	Telephone Dietary Recall & Dietary Supplements	5,000	1	30/60	2,500
Individuals in households	Flexible Consumer Behavior Survey Phone Follow-Up	5,000	1	20/60	1,667
Individuals in households	Developmental Projects & Special Studies	3,500	1	3	10,500
Individuals in households	24-hour wearable device projects	1,000	1	25	25,000
Total					68,417

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