

# Demographic and Health Databases

## Demographics

**Census Bureau** [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)

Most useful are the American Community Survey and the annual county population estimates (including race, age and sex numbers). The site also has links to state data centers, a useful A-Z subject listing and a news release section. Here is a link to the news media tool kit: <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2004/NewsMediaKit.html>

**Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Dept. of Homeland Security:** <http://www.dhs.gov/ximgtn/statistics/>

Official national (and some state or metropolitan) statistics on new immigrants, naturalization and trends.

**Sites that repackage and analyze government demographic data on specific topics, sometimes in easier-to-use form than the Census Bureau:**

KidsCount [www.kidscount.org](http://www.kidscount.org)

State (and some local) numbers and ranking about children from government datasets.

Migration Policy Institute [www.migrationpolicy.org](http://www.migrationpolicy.org)

DataHub that includes extensive U.S. and foreign data about immigration.

Pew Hispanic Center [www.pewhispanic.org](http://www.pewhispanic.org)

Population projections, estimates of unauthorized immigration, detailed Hispanic data.

## Further reading

Population Reference Bureau [www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org)

Nonpartisan nonprofit that studies U.S. and international demographics. The website includes links to “Population: A Lively Introduction,” which explains basic demographic concepts, and to a Population Bulletin about the American Community Survey (published in 2005, so a few things are out of date, but it’s a good introduction).

D’Vera Cohn  
California Endowment

## Health & Demographics

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:

Agency for Health Research and Quality <http://www.ahrq.gov/>

Links to National Healthcare Quality & Disparities Reports, Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) and more.

Hospital Compare website: <http://www.hospitalcompare.hhs.gov/>

Compares hospital services nationwide, including 30-day risk-adjusted death rates for heart attack, health failure and pneumonia. Patient satisfaction

Measures also included; run by Medicare but intended for general use.

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Administration: <http://www.samhsa.gov/>

Alcohol, drugs, treatment for substance abuse (including demographics).

Centers for Disease Control Office of Minority Health & Health Disparities

<http://www.cdc.gov/omhd/default.htm>

Links to statistics and research by population group or disease.

National Health Interview Survey: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm>

National Center for Health Statistics: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/>

Births, deaths, marriage, divorce, injuries, National Survey of Family Growth, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey and more.

Health Resources and Services Administration <http://www.hrsa.gov/>

Data on the health workforce, nationally and by state. Unfortunately, some of it is not very recent.

**Institute of Medicine**, National Academy of Sciences [www.iom.edu](http://www.iom.edu).

**Dartmouth Atlas of Health Care** – [www.dartmouthatlas.org](http://www.dartmouthatlas.org) – Analyzes Medicare claims data for hospitals around the country and uses it to highlight “excess” care that fuels overspending on health. Recently added: Chronic disease.

**Guttmacher Institute** [www.guttmacher.org](http://www.guttmacher.org) - Good source of statistics on HIV/AIDS, STIs, etc.

**Kaiser Family Foundation** [www.kff.org](http://www.kff.org)

Data and analysis on a wide range of health topics, including disparities in access and treatment.

