

**National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health)
FSU Working Group (November 16, 2007)**

Information drawn from: <http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/addhealth>

Purpose of Study

“The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) is a nationally representative study that explores the causes of health-related behaviors of adolescents in grades 7 through 12 and their outcomes in young adulthood. Add Health seeks to examine how social contexts (families, friends, peers, schools, neighborhoods, and communities) influence adolescents' health and risk behaviors.

Initiated in 1994 under a grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) with co-funding from 17 other federal agencies, Add Health is the largest, most comprehensive survey of adolescents ever undertaken. Data at the individual, family, school, and community levels were collected in two waves between 1994 and 1996. In 2001 and 2002, Add Health respondents, 18 to 26 years old, were re-interviewed in a third wave to investigate the influence that adolescence has on young adulthood.

Multiple datasets are available for study, and more than 1,000 published reports and journal articles have used the data to analyze aspects of these complex issues. Add Health investigators hope this research will enable policy makers, researchers, health-care providers, and educators to better understand how to protect the health of young people in the US.”

Data Instruments

Wave I

90,118 adolescent In-School Questionnaires	(September 1994–April 1995)
164 School Administrator Questionnaires	(September 1994–April 1995)
20,745 adolescent In-Home Interviews	(April 1995–December 1995)
Add Health Picture Vocabulary Test	(April 1995–December 1995)
17,700 Parent Questionnaires	(April 1995–December 1995)

Wave II

128 School Administrator Questionnaires	(May 1996–June 1996)
14,738 adolescent In-Home Interviews	(April 1996–August 1996)

Wave III

15,197 young adult In-Home Interviews & biomarkers	(July 2001–April 2002)
Add Health Picture Vocabulary Test Scores	(July 2001–April 2002)

Contexts Explored in Add Health and Where to Find the Info.

Families

- In-School Questionnaire
- In-Home Interviews
- Parent Questionnaire
- In many cases, questionnaires and interviews with additional adolescents living in the same household (over-samples of siblings, can be linked together).

Peer groups/social networks

- In-School Questionnaire includes social network data for most students in 140 schools. Students were asked to identify up to 5 male and 5 female friends.
- Friendship networks can be determined and a respondent's peer group, as well as his or her position within it, can be described in detail.
- Patterns of association within the school community, the density and centralization of the social network, and the degree to which it is fractured on lines of race, gender, or behaviors can be computed.

Dyadic relationships

- In-School Questionnaire includes data on best friends, romantic partners, and sexual partners.
- Wave III In-Home Interviews collected data from Rs and sample of 1,507 partners.
 - one-third married, one-third cohabiting, and one-third dating partners.

Schools

- School Administrator Questionnaire and subsequent telephone interview
- In-Home Interviews - reports of school climate, and of teacher and student attitudes
- Parent Questionnaire - reports of the safety and quality of children's schools.

*School-level information can be created by the aggregation of respondent reports.

Neighborhoods/communities

- Contextual files created using data from US Census, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Center for Health Statistics, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Council of Churches, and other published databases.
- Community variables include the following:
 - geographic and household characteristics;
 - labor force participation and unemployment; income and poverty;
 - social integration/disintegration;
 - availability and utilization of health services;
 - social programs and policies; crime

*Other neighborhood attributes can be created by the aggregation of respondent reports.

Data and Documentation at FSU

Add Health data and documentation are located on the CDPH server (in the P: and Q: drives, respectively).

Everyone with access to the CDPH server may access the documentation (Q: drive) and the public-use version of the data (P:\pub). You may also request a copy of the public-use data on CD. Public-use data may be saved to disk or to your personal hard-drive. You may also print out data/output from the public-use files.

To access restricted-use data, you must be officially approved by both Kathi Tillman and the Add Health staff at the Carolina Population Center. You must carefully read and agree to follow established security protocol (You may receive copies from Kathi Tillman - ktillman@fsu.edu).

SOME KEY POINTS:

- 1. RESTRICTED-USE DATA MUST BE KEPT ONLY ON THE SERVER. YOU MAY NOT SAVE THESE DATA TO DISK OR HARD-DRIVE.**
2. You must configure your computer so that all temporary work files and temporary datasets created during analysis are directed to (saved to) the server. See documentation in the Q: drive to learn how to do this. You will find information on how to do this when analyzing data with STATA, SAS and SPSS (see Minxing Chen for additional help - mchen@fsu.edu).
- 3. YOU MAY ONLY PRINT OUTPUT. NO DATA WITH IDENTIFYING MARKERS MAY BE PRINTED AT ANY TIME.**
4. You may not provide access to data to anyone who does not have official clearance to use the add health.
5. You must include the following acknowledgement on all publishable work:

“This research uses data from Add Health, a program project designed by J. Richard Udry, Peter S. Bearman, and Kathleen Mullan Harris, and funded by a grant P01-HD31921 from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, with cooperative funding from 17 other agencies. Special acknowledgment is due Ronald R. Rindfuss and Barbara Entwisle for assistance in the original design. Persons interested in obtaining data files from Add Health should contact Add Health, Carolina Population Center, 123 W. Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC 27516-2524 (addhealth@unc.edu).”

Minxing Chen can help you to obtain access to the CDPH server and can configure your account to allow you access to the restricted-use data (mchen@fsu.edu). If you wish to use the restricted-use data, first contact Kathi Tillman (ktillman@fsu.edu) and wait for official approval before contacting Minxing.

Restricted-Use Data

The restricted-use Add Health is disseminated in multiple small datasets. These datasets must be merged together by the user (each respondent has a unique identifier, an “aid”, that allows for merging across datasets).

The following restricted-use datasets are available on the CDPH server (P:\secure) in both STATA and SAS format:

“In-School - WI; School Admin - WI & II; School Info – WI” Folder:

- In-school WI Interview Data (Inschool) –
questionnaire filled out by all students in class on day of administration
- School Administrator Questionnaire WI and WII Data (Schadm1, Schadm2) –
demographic/social/curriculum information about the school provided by an administrator (usually principal)
- School Information Wave I (Schinfo) –
basic school information, sampling info, etc. provided by Add Health

“In-Home Interview Files -- Waves I, II, & III” Folder:

- Wave I In-Home Interview Data, including Parental Questionnaire (allwave1)
- Wave II In-Home Interview Data (wave2)
- Wave III In-Home Interview Data (wave3)

“Weight Files - Waves I, II, & III” Folder:

- In-School Data Weight (Inschlwt)
- School Administrator Data Weight (Schadmwt)
- Wave I In-Home Weight (Homewt1)
- Wave II In-Home Weight (Homewt2)
- Wave III In-Home Weight (Weights3)

“Pieces Dataset” Folder:

- Dataset of pre-constructed variables (pieces) -
-respondent identifier (aid) plus indicators of whether respondent has data for other sections of the Add Health collection (wave I, wave II, parent questionnaire, ah_pvt score, etc.)

“Friends Files - Wave I” Folder:

- Friends dataset (sfriend) –
-Identification numbers of In-school friendship nominations (Wave I)

“Sibling Files - Wave I” Folder:

- Pairs dataset (pairs)
-pair identification number, family identification number, and information on relatedness of the siblings (information from first two waves)
- Sibling Wave III dataset (sibling3) –
-sibling relatedness information from wave III

“DNA - Wave III” Folder:

- DNA Wave III dataset (dna)

“Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test Files - Wave III” Folder:

- PPVT Wave III dataset (ahpvt)

“Network Data” Folder:

- “School Network Data” Folder:
 - Network Data Wave I (network) -
*-network variables (measured at both individual and school levels)
constructed from friendship nomination section of in-school questionnaire*
- “Network Structure Files” Folder:
 - Multiple network files -
*-general structural properties of friendship networks constructed from
friendship nomination section of in-school questionnaire*

“Transcript Data - Wave III” Folder:

- School Weights Wave III (Schwt)
- Graduation Date and High School Exit Status, Wave III (Trangrad)
- High School Transcript Data, Wave III (Trans1)
- Transcript Weights Wave III (tranwt)
- * *Will soon be receiving more information regarding school curriculum,
specific courses taken, school contextual information, information on
school districts*

“Field Interviewer Data” Folder:

- Field Interviewer Background Data (inti)

“Age Variables” Folder:

- Pre-constructed Age Variables (age)

“Contextual Files - Waves I & II” Folder:

- Contextual Dataset Wave I (context1)
- Contextual Dataset Wave II (context2)

Where to Find More Information

Add Health Website:

Homepage:

<http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/addhealth>

Study Design:

<http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/addhealth/design>

Frequently Asked Questions:

<http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/addhealth/faqs/addhealth>

Official Add Health Listserv:

To subscribe to the official Add Health listserv, send e-mail to: listserv@unc.edu and in the body of the message put: subscribe addhealth2 <firstname lastname>

Add Health Users Conference (held annually in Bethesda, MD):

- The 2008 conference is July 24-25.
- The call for papers will be available on-line at the Add Health web site (www.cpc.unc.edu/addhealth/news) in January.
- Conference registration will be available on-line May 1.