

Helping The Public Find Data

*New Internet Based Tools And
The Role Of Geospatial Data*

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Federal Health Statistics

- **Rich body of information**
- **Reported by**
 - **NCHS**
 - **CDC surveillance analysts**
 - **AHRQ**
 - **NIH**
 - **Other agencies**

State, Local and NGO

- **States and local governments**
- **Non governmental sources**
 - NGOs such as **American Cancer Society**
 - **Businesses**
- **Scholarly literature**

Enhancing Access on the Internet

- DHHS Data Council
- ASPE
- Agency support and cooperation

Goals

- **Helping the public find this information**
- **Promoting increased and more appropriate access**
- **Protecting privacy and data integrity**
- **Using existing resources**

Prior Efforts

- *FEDSTATS*
- *Directory of Health and Human Services Data Resources*
- *Private and University Library Directories*
- *NLM coverage of Reports with internet resources*
- *Private Services such as the Statistical Universe*
- *Individual agency efforts*

FGDC

- ***Federal Geographic Data Committee***
- ***OMB Circular A-16 provides its authority***
- ***DHHS is a Member***
- ***Clearinghouse***

Geospatial Data

- *Identifies the geographic location and characteristics of natural, constructed, or governmental features and boundaries on the earth.*

Statistics Covered

- *Even if they use externally defined cartography*
- *Geographically referenced statistical summaries*
- *Datasets with geographic tags*

How This Applies To DHHS

- *Geographic features not mapped by DHHS*
- *Many reports and files include data for states and counties*

FGDC Clearinghouse

- ***To include:***
 - ***Metadata for these resources***
 - ***Web links***
- ***DHHS must provide this information to them***

Specifications

- *Compile metadata for these resources*
- *Comply with FGDC specified standards*
- *Link to methodological, data and access information*
- *Limit impact on DHHS agency resources*
- *Take maximum advantage of agency expertise*

Gateway Online Catalog

- *Indexing with controlled vocabularies*
- *Relating resources for*
 - *Studies and collections*
 - *Agencies and organization*
 - *By type*
 - *By geography covered*
 - *Staff contacts*

Gateway and the FGDC

- *Gateway website provides access*
 - *www.hhs-stat.net*
- *FGDC Clearinghouse*
 - *<http://www.fgdc.gov/clearinghouse/clearinghouse.html>*
- *Geospatial one Stop*
 - *<http://www.geo-one-stop.gov/index.html>*

Approach

- *Provide one set of data for these three resources*
- *Conserve scarce compilation resources*
- *Provide consistent picture*
- *Rely on agency sources*

Privacy and Data Integrity

- *Agencies control its dissemination*
- *Websites help users find right agency site*
- *Include metadata*
 - *Content*
 - *Methods,*
 - *Limits*
 - *Access*

Gateway to Data and Statistics

- *Virtual integration of DHHS statistical resources*
- *Relies on existing web-based resources*
- *Driven by an online catalog—SQL database*
- *Provides for searching the catalog as well as for table of contents features*

Content

- *Feature sites where users can:*
 - *Obtain reports*
 - *Generate tables*
 - *Download datasets*
- *Link to metadata as well as data*
- *Gateway organizes information by agency, study, type of site*

Gateway Coverage

- *Federal, State and Local Government Sources*
- *Related to Health and Human Services*
- *Web sources with Data are Featured*
- *Up to now reviewed more than 9000 web sources and included almost 7000 of them*

Maintaining and Enhancing the Gateway

- *Monitoring Key sites for new Material*
- *Continual updating*
- *Checking URL integrity*
- *Agency help*
- *Enhancing Features—new site will be online soon*

Federal Geographic Data Committee Clearinghouse

- *Designed for Geographers*
- *DHHS part:*
 - *Only Department material*
 - *Geographically Referenced Material*
 - *Data and reports*
 - *Initially including more than 500 sources*

Geospatial One Stop

- *Based on material in the FGDC clearinghouse*
- *Designed to provide metadata in a format for more general use*

Encouraging Greater Use

- *Resources Designed to Make it Easier to Find Resources*
- *Built on Existing Resources*
- *Need Feedback from the NCHVS members and Users about these Resources*
- *Suggestions for the Redesign*

Contacts

- *Prime contractor: Moshman Associates*
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