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](http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/2004/NewsMediaKit.html)

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concepts, and to a Population Bulletin about the American Community Survey (published in 2005, so a few things are out of date, but it’s a good introduction).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
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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:
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/](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/](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](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](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm)

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

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.

D’Vera Cohn
California Endowment