

How to Cite Data

Why Cite Data?

Using data created by other scholars is just like using any other resource in your research! So be sure to cite your sources in order to give credit to the researchers. It also helps others find and reuse the data, as well as verify your findings.



Identify your Information

Citing data can seem trickier than articles and books. However, much of the information is often the same. When citing data, look to see if you can identify the following information:

- **Author**
- **Title**
- **Distributor**
- **Date**
- **Version**
- **Publisher**
- **Persistent identifier** (such as the Digital Object Identifier, Uniform Resource Name URN, or Handle System)

Example dataset from ICPSR 1

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 2005-2006 (ICPSR 25504) ← *Title*

Version Date: Feb 22, 2012 2 ← *Authors*

Principal Investigator(s): 1 ← *Authors*
[United States Department of Health and Human Services. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics](#)

Series:

- [National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey \(NHANES\) and Followup Series](#)

https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR25504.v5 1 ← *Persistent Identifier*

Version V5 1

Guides to Citing Data

- [ICPSR's Quick Guide to Data Citation](#)
- [Data Planet's Guide to Data Citation](#)
- [Data Curation Center's Guide to Data Citation](#)

Citation Styles

Below are examples how to cite one dataset in the three most commonly used citation styles: APA, MLA, and Chicago.

APA (6th Edition)

United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, & National Center for Health Statistics. (2012). *National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 2005-2006* (Version 5) [data file]. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor].
doi:10.3886/ICPSR25504.v5

MLA (8th Edition)

United States Department of Health and Human Services, et al. *National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 2005-2006*. Version 5. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, 2012. Web. 19 April 2018.
doi:10.3886/ICPSR25504.v5

Chicago (16th Edition)

Bibliography style:

United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, & National Center for Health Statistics. *National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 2005-2006*. (Version 5). Distributed by Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, 2012.
doi:10.3886/ICPSR25504.v5.

Author-Date style:

United States Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, & National Center for Health Statistics. 2012. *National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 2005-2006*. (Version 5). Distributed by Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research.
doi:10.3886/ICPSR25504.v5.



Created by Sharon Showalter
from Noun Project

Questions?

Contact me – etweir2@illinois.edu