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NURSING 249: INTEGRATION OF THEORETICAL AND CLINICAL ASPECTS OF NURSING

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COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

An Overview of Census Geography & Terms

<u>CENSUS HIERARCHY</u>	CENSUS TRACT FACTS:
STATE COUNTY PLACE (or Place Part) CENSUS TRACT BLOCK GROUP BLOCK MSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small, relatively permanent statistical subdivision of a county• Designed to be relatively homogeneous units with respect to population characteristics, economic status, and living conditions• Average about 4,000 inhabitants.• Census tracts do not cross county boundaries.• The spatial size of census tracts varies widely depending on the density of settlement

For more information see *Reference Resources for Understanding Census Bureau Geography*
(<http://www.census.gov/geo/www/reference.html>)

100 % Data – short form = SF1 & SF2

Sample Data – long form - 1 in 6 count = SF3 & SF4

American Communities Survey (ACS) - <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/index.html>

Finding U.S. Census Tract Information

Identify your Census Tract and find statistical information about it at the U.S. Bureau of the Census web site

Key Resource - You can find much of the information that you need on the Internet from the Census website:
(www.census.gov)

Important Note: Some of your variables are *not* directly available from Census information: including land use, environmental status (except sanitation), religion, recreation and entertainment, and health.

Find a Map - use American Factfinder/Enter a Street Address **to find a map** of your Census tract:

1. From the U.S. Census website (www.census.gov) → Click on “Census 2000” → Click “Enter a Street Address” → Type in the address and zip code and click "GO" (Be sure to include whether the address is a street, road, drive, etc.)

Example: 460 Ninth Avenue, Smyrna, Tennessee 37167-2010

2. Note the Geographic Area box below the address → Select the Census Tract (or other geographic area)
3. Click "Map It" → Print the tract map → Click "close" in the lower right of the page.

Find Statistics - use American Factfinder/Enter a Street Address **to find statistics** for your Census tract:

1. Follow steps 1-3 above to select geographic area → Click 'OK'
2. Scroll down the page to "**Quick Tables and Demographic Profiles**" → Choose and print the following four pages:

Census 2000 Summary File 1 (100%)	Census 2000 Summary File 3 (Sample)
DP-1 -- General Demographic Characteristics	DP-2 -- Selected Social Characteristics DP-3 -- Selected Economic Characteristics DP-4 - Selected Housing Characteristics

Note: After printing each DP use the browser's "← BACK" button to return to the menu page. A glitch in the program takes you to the top to the page again, so you will need to scroll back down the page each time.

3. To compare Census Tract data with County or State level data, scroll back up to the top of the page and select the new geographic area. → Repeat step #2
4. Additional statistics are available "**Population and Housing Detailed Tables**" (at the bottom of the page) → Click on "Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) – Sample Data." → Click on the "Tables" link in the "You are Here" menu → Select up to 50 tables → Click "add" → Click "show tables."
5. For more information on the questions asked in Census 2000 and the types of data available see <http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/2000quest.html>

Finding County-Level Health Statistics - Tennessee

The most up-to-date information on vital statistics (natality, morbidity, and mortality) is found in State government publications rather than in U.S. national government publications.

This information is generally broken down by county only so statistics for a census tract are not available.

1. State of Tennessee County-Level Data:

Tennessee. Dept. of Health. *Health Statistic Publications*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/publications.htm>)

Specific publications include:

Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (2008). *Tennessee's Health: Picture of the Present, 2006*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee. Dept. of Health. Office of Health Statistics and Information. (<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/PdfFiles/pp06R.pdf> [takes a long time to load] or Latest in GOVT Ref Alcove HB 3525 .T2 P538)

Population, pregnancy and birth data, and mortality data broken down by age and race, pregnancies by age and race, five leading causes of death by age group, time series data, and manpower data for health professionals.

Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (2007). *Countdown to Progress, 2005; A County Data Book*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee Dept. of Health, Office of Policy, Planning, and Assessment. (<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/PdfFiles/cntdwn05.pdf>)
Trend data for births, and more detailed breakdown of deaths.

Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (2008). *Tennessee Vital Statistics Summary, Resident Data, 2006*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee Dept. of Health, Office of Health Statistics and Information. (<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/PdfFiles/VSSum06.pdf>)
Covers number and percentage of births (including adolescent (10-17) births and underweight births), deaths, infant deaths, and adolescent pregnancies broken down by sex.

2. For other Tennessee data visit the TN Dept. of Health (<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/healthdata.htm>). See also "Health Information Tennessee" (<http://hit.state.tn.us/home.aspx>). Click on "Data Query." Choose your variables. In addition to the Data Query option, the HIT page also includes Tables, Reports, and County Profiles that may be of use.
3. For county health departments, see:
Tennessee. Dept. of Health. *Find Your Local Health Department*. (<http://health.state.tn.us/localdepartments.htm>)
Contact information for Tennessee county public health departments. Scroll down below the map to find the list of counties. Larger counties will likely have websites that contain some current publications on vital statistics.

PART 3--Finding County-Level Health Statistics – Other States

1. To locate State Health Departments and Services visit the CDC/MMWR site (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/international/relres.html>)

The site for Kentucky's Cabinet for Health and Family Services has changed to <http://chfs.ky.gov/>.

2. To locate county government websites visit the National Association of Counties site (<http://www.naco.org/>) → Click on 'About Counties' → Click on 'Find a County'

The first versions of this handout were prepared with the assistance of Gretchen Dodge and Amy Stewart-Mailhiot.

- Tennessee. Dept. of Health. *Vital Statistics*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee Dept. of Health, Office of Health Statistics and Information. (<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/vital.htm>)
Provides illegitimate births and most detailed cause of death. Earlier version available in paper: Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (2006). *Tennessee Vital Statistics / Annual Bulletin of Vital Statistics for the Year 2003*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee Dept. of Health, Office of Health Statistics and Information. (no online version; Latest in GOVT Ref Alcove HA 643 .A3)
- Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (2008). *Tennessee Vital Statistics Summary, Resident Data, 2006*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee Dept. of Health, Office of Health Statistics and Information.
(<http://health.state.tn.us/statistics/PdfFiles/VSSum06.pdf>)
Provides adolescent (10-17) births and pregnancies
- Tennessee. Dept. of Health. (2008). *Tennessee County Health Rankings: 2007 Index*. Nashville, TN: Tennessee Dept. of Health.
(http://state.tn.us/tniph/County%20Health%20Rankings%202007_pdf/Health%20Ranking%20Report%20ver%201.0.pdf)
Covers health outcomes, health determinants, health behaviors, socioeconomic factors, and physical environment for each county.