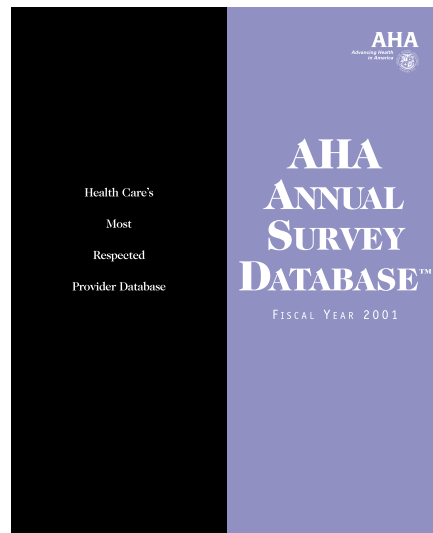


THE RESULTS ARE IN...



AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SURVEY DATABASE™ FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001. AVAILABLE NOW.

For over 20 years, health care professionals responsible for conducting research and analysis have relied on the AHA Annual Survey Database. Each year the database contains the results from AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. This survey has been conducted annually since 1946, with historical files available dating back to 1980, to make it the most widely used database for time-series analysis.

U.S. News & World Report uses data from the AHA Annual Survey Database as part of its methodology for the *America's Best Hospitals* issue.

The database contains nearly 700 fields of data on more than 6,000 hospitals in the United States. Information from complementary data sources are merged with the AHA Annual Survey Database including:

Medicare Provider Number; Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSAs), FIPS County Codes and other geographical codes; and approval and accreditation codes from 16 different health care organizations like JCAHO, AHA and AAMC. And because the Medicare Provider Number is included you can easily

link our database with federal data to make it an even more powerful tool. This combination makes the AHA Annual Survey Database the preeminent database for health care research.

Organizations and professionals in these fields continue to rely on the database for research, market assessments, benchmarking and strategic planning:

- National Policymakers, Policy Institutes, Think Tanks, and Market Analysts
- Executive, Judicial, and Legislative branches of government including Federal health and social agencies
- State Hospital and Health Associations
- Universities and Colleges
- Major Medical Equipment Manufacturers
- National and International Pharmaceutical Companies
- Consultants
- Hospitals and Health Care Systems
- Strategic Planning & Business Development Professionals

THE AHA DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

The Annual Survey of Hospitals is the principal data collection tool of the American Hospital Association and is a primary source of data on hospitals in the United States. Its purpose is to provide a cross-sectional view of the hospital industry each year and to make it possible to monitor hospital performance over time.

In December each year, the Annual Survey is mailed to hospitals in the United States and associated territories to gather information on organizational structure, facilities and services, utilization, finances, and staffing.

The mailing universe consists of both AHA registered and nonregistered institutions. Registered hospitals comprise approximately 98 percent of the mailing universe. Identification of non registered hospitals is provided by sources such as the National Center for Health Statistics and other national organizations such as the Federation of American Hospitals.

Overall, the average response rate over the past five years has been approximately 83%. The response varies, however, between groups of hospitals categorized by size, ownership, service, geographical location, and membership status. The response rate of community hospitals, defined as all nonfederal, short term general and other special hospitals, is generally higher than that of noncommunity hospitals.

For more information including a listing of fields available in the database, visit www.ahaonlinestore.com and enter AHA Annual Survey Database in the search field. Downloads are available of the [file layout](#) and [survey instrument](#).

When questionnaires are returned partially completed, or are not returned at all and contact made with the hospitals does not yield completed questionnaires, estimates for most missing data items are generated on the basis of their values in the previous year, whether they were actual or estimated, and on the basis of data reported by hospitals similar to the non-respondents in size, type of control, principal medical service provided, and length of stay (long- or short-term).

Information reported is carefully screened for accuracy. The continuity of the survey makes accurate time-series analyses possible, a major component of the editing phase involves testing the reliability of information reported in the current survey against data reported by

SURVEY STRUCTURE

The survey is divided into the following five sections:

REPORTING PERIOD. In this section, the beginning and ending dates of the reporting period are requested, as well as information about the hospitals' current fiscal year. Respondents are asked to report data for a full 12-month period, preferably their last completed fiscal year (365 days).

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. This section indicates the type of organization that is responsible for establishing policy for overall operation of the hospital, indicates the type of services it offers and the its affiliations.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES. Reports facilities and services offered by a particular institution.

COMMUNITY ORIENTATION. This self assessment is an evaluation of an organization's management system through achievements in areas such as: leadership; strategic planning; human resource management; information management; process management; customer focus and satisfaction; and business results.

TOTAL FACILITY BEDS, UTILIZATION, FINANCES, AND STAFFING. This section records information on: beds; and utilization; Medicare/Medicaid utilization; revenue and expense information, revenue by type; uncompensated care; revenue by payor; and staffing.

the same hospital in previous years. Unusual changes from one year to the next may indicate data problems. Additional tests include comparing data from a responding hospital and testing each response for consistency and agreement with the other information reported on the questionnaire. Once all additions and corrections to these data are completed, aggregate totals for geographical areas, hospital types, and hospital size are compiled for each item. The aggregates are then compared with those obtained in the past. If the changes

in aggregate levels are inconsistent with historical trends, the individual case data are re-evaluated until either the findings are confirmed or a specific problem is identified.

When new items are added and no historical data are available for testing, the editing routine for these items is based primarily on comparing them with data reported by similar hospitals and on checking their consistency with other information reported on the questionnaire.

The individual hospital is contacted for clarification and confirmation of specific responses that fail the editing tests. As a result of this contact, the data are modified if necessary (in some instances, specific data are revised without the hospital being contacted if other reported information indicates that the revision is appropriate and justified.) More than half of the hospitals that have responded have been contacted each year for resolution of problems.

HEALTH FORUM AND THE WEB BASED SURVEY

Health Forum, an affiliate of the AHA, offers health care leaders access to new information and fresh ideas that they can use to strengthen their organization's clinical and business performance.

An initiative Health Forum introduced in 2000 was the web based collection tool, the AHA Annual Survey online. More than 4,000 hospitals completed their survey electronically in 2001. To encourage participation and provide assistance state hospital associations act as cooperative partners to encourage response.

The online survey is quicker than the traditional mailed survey process. This approach also produces higher quality results through the application of hundreds of data validations tests that are instantly delivered back to respondents for resolution.

AHA ANNUAL SURVEY DATABASE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2001

The AHA Annual Survey Database for Fiscal Year 2001 is available now and contains

- Organization and structure variables
- Utilization, personnel, and expense variables
- More than 80 facilities and service variables, with seven categories added recently:
 - Ambulance Services
 - Enabling Services

- Palliative Care Program
- Enrollment Assistance Services
- Hemodialysis
- Sleep Center
- Tobacco Treatment/Cessation Program

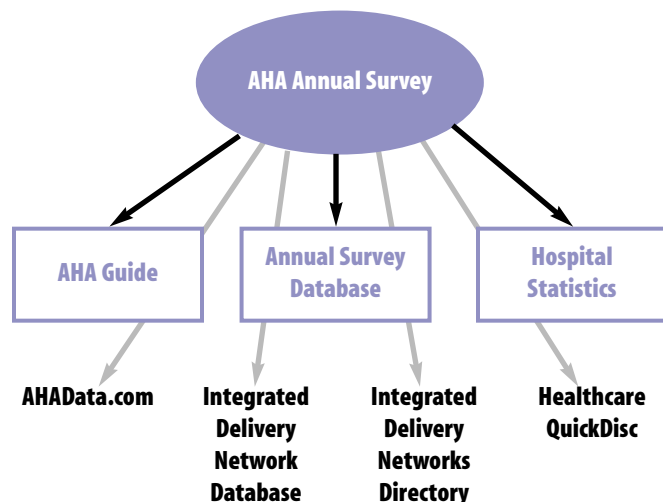
The FY 2001 database is provided on a CD-ROM containing three formats: an ASCII flat file; an ASCII delimited file; and, Microsoft® ACCESS.

HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS & A TAXONOMY OF HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

A new method to identify health systems, the *Taxonomy of Health Care Systems*, was developed by the American Hospital Association's Health Research and Education Trust and Health Forum with the Northwestern University and the University of California-Berkeley. This taxonomy classifies systems into five distinct groups or clusters that share common strategic/instructional features. This has been a valuable addition to the database for studying health systems.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM THE AHA ANNUAL SURVEY OF HOSPITALS

The AHA Annual Survey is a source of data for several other popular Health Forum products including *AHA Guide*®, *Hospital Statistics*™, Healthcare QuickDisc™, www.AHAdata.com, *AHA IDN Directory*, and the AHA IDN Database.



For more information including

a listing of fields available in

the database, visit

www.ahaonlinestore.com

and enter AHA Annual Survey

Database in the search field.

Downloads are available of the
[file layout](#) and [survey instrument](#).

ORDERING INFORMATION:

Call 800-242-2626 for an order form and licensing agreement.

FY 2001 AHA ANNUAL SURVEY DATABASE

Item No. 083502 \$6,000
\$3,000 College/University
Hospitals*

FY 2000 AHA ANNUAL SURVEY DATABASE

Item No. 083501 \$6,000
\$3,000 College/University
Hospitals*

FY 1999 AHA ANNUAL SURVEY DATABASE

Item No. 083500 \$6,000
\$3,000 College/University
Hospitals*

Databases between 1980-1998 are available for purchase and range in price from \$3,000 to \$5,100 (\$1,500-\$3,000 for Colleges and Universities). For information on pricing and data content please contact AHA Order Services at 800-242-2626.

** Hospitals must call for pricing to find out if they are eligible for a special data provider discount.*



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