

**University of North Texas School of Public Health
Research Collaborative
January 30, 2009**

Organization Description of Interests for Collaboration

Name of Organization: Texas Department of State Health Services

Description (100 words or less)

DSHS holds a wide variety of health status and health service data that can be accessed for research. The DSHS Center for Health Statistics (CHS) is a convenient access point; its web page provides statistics on vital events like birth and death, population and demographic information, geographic material and survey data on risk factors and disease prevalence. CHS also provides information on health professions, hospital discharge records, and surveys of Texas hospital facilities and charity and community benefits, and serves as an entry point to other data sources through DSHS programs.

<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/default.shtm>

Key Areas of Interest for Collaboration (Check all that apply and specify as needed)

- Cancers (Specify): Cancer registry, breast and cervical cancer services, behavioral risk factors, mortality, hospital discharge data
- Cardiovascular Diseases (Specify): Behavioral risk factors, mortality, hospital discharges
- Diabetes/Obesity (Specify): Behavioral risk factors, mortality, hospital discharges
- Asthma/Respiratory Diseases (Specify): Behavioral risk factors, mortality, hospital discharge data
- Other Diseases/Conditions: (Please list and specify):
Birth defects monitoring; Injury prevention and control; HIV, AIDS, STDs, TB and other reportable infectious disease data, mortality, hospital discharge data _____
- Access to Care (Specify): Health professions supply and distribution
- Quality of Care (Specify): Hospital, outpatient facility and HMO data
- Cost of Care (Specify): Hospital, outpatient facility and HMO data
- Populations of Interest: (Please list and specify):
State vital statistics, demographic information
- Other (Please list and specify):
Data related to environmental epidemiology and toxicology, poison center network, substance abuse drug and alcohol trends, maternal/child health services.
See attached information on Center for Health Statistics and other DSHS data sources.

Texas Department of State Health Services

Center for Health Statistics

The DSHS Center for Health Statistics was established to provide a convenient access point for health-related data for Texas. Our objective is to be a source of information for assessment of community health and for public health planning. Our data are used to support research, grant applications and policy development and to provide rapid needs response to health emergencies. We also offer technical assistance in the appropriate use of the data we provide, and in the development of innovative techniques for data dissemination. We support the development and application of consistent standards for privacy and statistical validity.

Through the CHS web page you will find statistics on vital events like birth and death, population and demographic information, geographic material and survey data on risk factors and disease prevalence. We also provide information on supply trends for health professions, including nurses, as well as hospital discharge records, and surveys of Texas hospital facilities and charity and community benefits.

For information, check the CHS website <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/default.shtm>

Or contact: Ramdas Menon, PhD, Center Director Ramdas.menon@dshs.state.tx.us

Phone 512-458-7261

Additional specific data-rich areas of DSHS include:

Birth Defects Monitoring: Collects data on births occurring throughout the state of Texas. Our mission includes identifying and describing patterns of birth defects in Texas; and collaborating with others to find the causes of birth defects and work toward their prevention.

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance: Data on lifestyle risk factors contributing to the leading causes of death and chronic diseases.

Breast & Cervical Cancer Services: Income eligibility information, provider locations, statistics, and links to other Cancer-related sites.

Cancer Registry: Maintains a population-based cancer incidence reporting system that collects, analyzes and disseminates information on all new cases of cancer.

Epidemiology: Applies the principles and techniques of Epidemiology to a variety of public health concerns. These areas include: Texas Birth Defects Monitoring, Environmental Epidemiology and Toxicology, Texas Poison Center Network, Injury Prevention and Control, and Texas Child Fatality Review Team.

HIV/STD, AIDS: Information on HIV/STD prevention and care in Texas. Find out about HIV/STD testing and service delivery programs in your area, access HIV/STD statistics for Texas, or learn more about eligibility requirements for the Texas HIV Medication Program.

Infectious Disease Control Unit: Promotes epidemiology, surveillance, education, risk stratification/communication, consultation, and disease interventions.

Recent State Research Studies-Substance Abuse: Substance Abuse Related Drug and Alcohol Trends in Texas.

Substance Abuse Statistical Information by County: Provides Alcohol and Substance Abuse related data by county for the state of Texas.

Tuberculosis: Lists several measures describing the basic epidemiology of tuberculosis in Texas. Included are total number of cases and incident rates for the state and counties, maps, selected risk factors and directly observed therapy percentages.

Spatial Approaches to Health Outcomes: SAHO uses geographic information systems (GIS) to analyze locational aspects of health data. Use this site to find out more about GIS at DSHS.

Vital Statistics: Records all Texas' births, deaths, marriages, and divorces. Additionally the Bureau develops, analyzes, and disseminates information for planning and evaluating public health programs, as well as identifying problem areas such as infant mortality, teen pregnancy and tobacco use.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Substance Abuse Related Risk Behavior Survey.