

**NHANES 1999–2000 Data Release
Revised September 2004
Mobile Examination Center Questionnaire**

Reproductive Health (RHQ)

Survey Years included in this File: 1999–2000

Questionnaire Section Characteristics

Questionnaire Section Description

This section contains questions for women only on reproductive health, including menstrual history, pregnancy history, lactation, oral contraceptive, hormone replacement therapy use, and other related conditions.

Topics in the RHQ Section:

- Menstrual history: age at first menstruation, menopause, and menstrual cycle irregularity.
- Current pregnancy, pregnancy history.
- Birth weight of children and breast-feeding patterns.
- History and current use of oral contraceptive and hormone replacement therapy.

Interview Setting:

Mobile Examination Center (MEC) private face-to-face interview.

Eligible sample and any section-specific exclusion criteria:

Female MEC examination participants ages 12 years and older.

Additional links:

None

Analytic Notes:

The reproductive health questionnaire is a complex, detailed set of questions that includes the administration of questions according to age group or skip patterns based on responses to various reproductive health conditions. Although data were reviewed and edited for completeness and illogical values, inconsistencies in the responses to these self-reported questions remain. Some of the inconsistencies are discussed below. Data analysts are encouraged to carefully review all variables of interest prior to data analysis.

RHQ030: Regular periods in the past 12 months. There are a few instances where women who were pregnant at the time of the interview reported having had “regular periods in the past 12 months. These women all reported that they were pregnant in RHQ140.

RHD080: Days since last period. Women who reported having had a menstrual period in the past 2 months were asked to report the date of their last menstrual period. The derived variable was created by subtracting the number of days between the reported month and day the period began and the date of the MEC Interview. Note that for this variable, extreme values (>60 days) were retained and should be carefully examined prior to analysis. There are several instances of women who reported that they were currently menstruating (RHQ050) who provided a date which may indicate that they were reporting on the last month’s menstrual period.

RHD130: Ever pregnant. The derived variable includes responses from two questions, RHQ040 and RHQ130. If women reported in question RHQ040 that they were currently pregnant, they were not asked the question whether they had ever been pregnant, but were coded as “1” in RHD130.

RHQ140: Current pregnancy status (self-report). See also Laboratory file variable URXPREG: urine pregnancy test result and Demographic file variable, RIDPREG, a variable based on both self-report (RHQ140) and laboratory test results (URXPREG).

RHD170: Number of pregnancies resulting in live births. If the total number of pregnancies resulting in live births was greater than 11, the number was recoded to 11 for the purpose of confidentiality. Note: there are a few instances where the number of pregnancies resulting in a live birth is greater than the number of pregnancies. This may have occurred as a result of women reporting number of lives births rather than “pregnancies” resulting in live births.

RHD280: Had a hysterectomy. Women who were not asked the question because they were pregnant were coded as “2” in RHD280.

RHQ290: Age at hysterectomy. There are instances whereby women reported an age of hysterectomy that is earlier than the age of last menstrual period (RHD060).

RHD350: Fallopian tubes ever cut, tied, or removed. Women who were not asked the question because they were pregnant were coded as “2” in RHD350.

Data Access:

The RHQ data are publicly available at www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm

References:

None.