

# *The China Health and Nutrition Survey (CHNS)*

## **DATA USE AGREEMENT**

The China Health and Nutrition Survey (CHNS) began in 1989 and to date (mid-2002) has collected five rounds of data. We plan to propose for funding a CHNS2003 and 2006. For those new rounds the questionnaire will be restructured into adult, child and household forms to facilitate rapid data entry and cleaning. The CHNS obtains information on health, reproduction, nutrition, income, assets, expenditures, employment, and education from people in a nationally representative sample of Chinese households. Additional data on aging, physical activity and inactivity, and mass media use were added for CHNS1997 and all subsequent surveys. The survey has also collected information about the communities in which respondents live.

CHNS data sets are presently being made available via the World Wide Web. In order to safeguard the confidentiality of CHNS respondents, such data sets do not include community-level data, which might be used in an attempt to deduce location. Plans are being made to release new county-level data for CHNS users in 2002. Release of these data will require an Institutional Review Board (IRB) clearance to guarantee confidentiality before the data can be provided to the researcher. More details on this will be provided in 2002.

Community-level data can, however, be useful to legitimate researchers studying regional differences in outcomes. In order for CHNS project staff to make them available in a manner that meets the requirements for the ethical treatment of human subjects set forth by the Institutional Review Board at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, it is necessary that potential users of community-level data agree to the guidelines and restrictions listed below. By signing this agreement, the person requesting community-level data agrees to abide by all listed guidelines and restrictions, and acknowledges that any violation of the terms of this agreement may result in punitive action.

# TERMS OF AGREEMENT

In order to protect the anonymity of respondents to the China Health and Nutrition Survey, the undersigned individual researcher, who is applying to receive community-level CHNS data (hereinafter called "confidential data"), and also his/her parent institution (center, department, or other legally established entity), agree to abide by the following guidelines:

- A. The undersigned researcher will not share these confidential data with anyone whose name does not appear in document 2 referred to in article E, below. "Sharing" includes not only providing data as received from CHNS staff, but also providing secondary information obtained from the confidential data. This is not meant to hinder publication of the results of analyzing confidential data, but publication must not risk the violation of respondents' anonymity.
- B. The researcher will use confidential data only for the purposes he/she outlines in document 1 referred to in article E, below.
- C. The researcher will use confidential data only on the premises of the department or institute whose chair or director has signed this agreement. Before these data may be moved to another department or institute, a new agreement specific to the new location must be submitted for approval, including all applicable signatures.
- D. The researcher affirms that he/she has the capacity to restrict access to confidential data. Such capacity may include features of a computer operating system, software that removes electronic images of data from physical storage devices, locking cabinets to store the disks or tapes on which confidential data, including back-up copies, are written, and the training of personnel who will handle confidential data. The China Health and Nutrition Survey reserves the right to judge the adequacy of such protections.
- E. The researcher encloses with this agreement three documents:
  - 1. a brief description of the research he/she intends to undertake using confidential CHNS data;
  - 2. a list of the names and organizational affiliations of all those with whom he/she will engage in this research; and
  - 3. a description of the means by which he/she will restrict access to confidential CHNS data, as outlined in article D, above.
- F. The researcher will report to Dr. Barry Popkin any breach of this agreement within 15 days of his/her discovery of such breach.

Within approximately two weeks of receiving a completed copy of this agreement, CHNS staff will notify the undersigned researcher of their decision whether to approve the nature of the proposed research and the means by which the researcher will restrict access to confidential data. If these items are approved, within another two weeks CHNS staff will send the requested data on diskette to the researcher, in SAS XPORT format, via U.S. mail.

This form must be completed in full and mailed, along with the supplemental documentation outlined in article E above, to:

**Dr. Barry Popkin  
Carolina Population Center  
The University of North Carolina  
123 West Franklin Street, University Square East  
Chapel Hill, NC 27516-3997  
USA**

NAME AND TITLE OF RESEARCHER:

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INSTITUTIONAL ADDRESS:

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SIGNATURE OF RESEARCHER:

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DATE OF SIGNING:

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NAME OF DEPARTMENT OR INSTITUTE:

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NAME AND TITLE OF DEPARTMENT CHAIR OR INSTITUTE DIRECTOR:

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INSTITUTIONAL ADDRESS:

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SIGNATURE OF CHAIR OR DIRECTOR:

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DATE OF SIGNING:

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***Data Use Agreement for The China Health and Nutrition Survey***