IDENTIFYING SECONDARY DATA SOURCES

DAY 2: THE SHARE PROJECT PCORI TRAINING

CONSIDER THE SOURCE:
UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The United States Federal government has multiple surveys that may be useful for your research, including:

- U.S. Decennial (10 year) Census
- The American Community Survey
- National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)
- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System
U.S. CENSUS DATA

The U.S. Census is a survey which happens every 10 years
- The census is a valuable source of data about people for the U.S. Government.
- It’s a survey of (almost) all people in the country.
- It is representative at the national, state, city/town, and census tract levels.
- When we use census data for our study, it is a secondary source, however for the U.S. Government, it is a primary source.

CONSIDER THE SOURCE: STATE GOVERNMENT

The state also collects data, much of which is required by the federal government, this includes:
- Birth and Death data (vital statistics)
- Disease rates for many diseases including cancer, sexually transmitted infections
- Environmental data such as flooding patterns and weather
CONSIDER THE SOURCE: WHERE TO START

- U.S. Federal Government
  - HealthData.gov
  - CDC Wonder – Birth, death, and health data
    https://wonder.cdc.gov/
  - US Department of Justice Bureau of Justice statistics
    http://www.bjs.gov/
- State Government
  - Visit the state health department website
- Large organizations and foundations
  - Kaiser Family Foundation
    http://kff.org/statedata/

HEALTHDATA.GOV

Welcome to HealthData.gov

This site is dedicated to making high value health data more accessible to entrepreneurs, researchers, and policy makers in the hopes of better health outcomes for all.

- HealthData.Gov is a good place to start when looking for health and community level data.
- It is a searchable database of secondary data
- You will be surprised what you can find!
You can be directed to where to find the data directly, even for non-governmental sources.
LIMITATIONS OF POPULATION-BASED SURVEYS TO STUDY JUSTICE-INVOVLED INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

- There are several population-based studies in the community that aim to determine the prevalence or disease, however:
  - These surveys rarely ask about previous involvement with the justice system either for the individual or for family members
  - This makes it difficult to understand health needs and disparities for community justice-involved individuals and families

CRIMINAL JUSTICE DATA SOURCES

- Population-based surveys on people involved in the Criminal Justice System (either themselves or their family) primarily come from two places:
  1. Directly from the CJS
  2. Surveys with justice-related questions
DIRECTLY FROM THE CJS

• The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) collects population-based data from people who are currently incarcerated. But:
  • Little is known about these people after release
• The BJS.gov has all publications released since 1995 including
  • Mortality
  • Segregation or Solitary Confinement
  • Sexual violence

OTHER POPULATION-BASED SURVEYS

• The surveys that ask questions specifically about justice-involvement include:
  • Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
  • National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97)
  • National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79)
  • NLSY79 Child & Young Adult
  • National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)
  • National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG)
# OTHER POPULATION-BASED SURVEYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Justice-related Questions?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The National Survey of Family Growth (NSFG)</td>
<td>Describe families, fertility, and health</td>
<td>Yes; Self – only for men</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Family – Only for partner</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Behavioral Risk Factor</td>
<td>Collect state-level data on risk behaviors, chronic health conditions,</td>
<td>Yes but not sufficient to determine recent or lifetime involvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveillance System (BRFSS)</td>
<td>and use of preventive services</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The National Longitudinal Surveys of Youth</td>
<td>Describe lifetime trends in labor market activity, health, and significant</td>
<td>Yes; Self – Lifetime arrest and charges</td>
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<tr>
<td>(NLSY) 97, 79, and 79 Child and Young Adult</td>
<td>life events</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The National Survey on Drug</td>
<td>Provide national and state-level data on alcohol and drug use</td>
<td>Yes for self – lifetime and past year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use and Health (NSDUH)</td>
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LOCAL ONLINE DATA PORTALS
ROCHESTER, NY: MEASURES FOR JUSTICE

HTTPS://MEASURESFORJUSTICE.ORG/

LOCAL ONLINE DATA PORTALS
SAN FRANCISCO: SF OPENDATA

HTTPS://OPENJUSTICE.DOJ.CA.GOV/INDEX.HTML
LOCAL ONLINE DATA PORTALS
CALIFORNIA: OPEN JUSTICE

HTTPS://DATA.SFGOV.ORG/BROWSE?CATEGORY=PUBLIC+SAFETY

LOCAL ONLINE DATA PORTALS
NEW HAVEN, CT: DATAHAVEN

HTTP://WWW.CTDATAHAVEN.ORG/
UTILIZE THE TCN DATA PLATFORM

The TCN Data Platform has information and data that is likely to be specifically relevant to this work.

- Explore the data
- What is something new that you’ve found?
- What is something missing from the site?

CONSIDER THE SOURCE: ACTIVITY

In groups – begin to identify sources of data to answer a research question that aligns with your interests or is specific to your city or state.

Try find at least one source data from:

1. Start with HealthData.gov
2. Check out the other websites to see if they collect information that is useful for you
3. Use a search engine to look for publications on your topic
   A. See what data they use and if you can use it too
4. Determine if there are barriers to accessing or using the data
FROM THE HEALTH D.A.T.A PROGRAM – DATA, ADVOCACY, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Curriculum: http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/programs/health-data/trainings/Pages/data-democracy.aspx  Photo: http://healthpolicy.ucla.edu/Pages