

# Package: nhanesA (via r-universe)

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**Title** NHANES Data Retrieval

**BugReports** <https://github.com/cjendres1/nhanes/issues>

**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0), methods

**Imports** stringr, foreign, rvest, xml2, plyr

**Description** Utility to retrieve data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) website  
<<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/index.htm>>.

**License** GPL (>= 2)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**URL** <https://cran.r-project.org/package=nhanesA>

**Suggests** knitr, odbc, DBI, rmarkdown, survey, ggplot2

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

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**Repository** <https://epiverse-connect.r-universe.dev>

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browseNHANES	<i>Open a browser to NHANES.</i>
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---

### Description

The browser may be directed to a specific year, survey, or table.

### Usage

```

browseNHANES(
  year = NULL,
  data_group = NULL,
  nh_table = NULL,
  local = TRUE,
  browse = TRUE
)

```

### Arguments

year	The year in yyyy format where 1999 <= yyyy.
data_group	The type of survey (DEMOGRAPHICS, DIETARY, EXAMINATION, LABORATORY, QUESTIONNAIRE). Abbreviated terms may also be used: (DEMO, DIET, EXAM, LAB, Q).
nh_table	The name of an NHANES table.
local	logical flag. If TRUE, and a local or alternative source was specified using the environment variable NHANES_TABLE_BASE, this will be used in preference to the CDC website at <a href="https://wwwn.cdc.gov">https://wwwn.cdc.gov</a> for named tables.
browse	logical flag, indicating whether the specific NHANES site should be opened using a browser (which is the default behaviour).

### Details

By default, browseNHANES will open a web browser to the specified NHANES site.

### Value

A character string giving the URL, invisibly if the URL is also opened using [browseURL](#).

**Examples**

```

browseNHANES(browse = FALSE) # Defaults to the main data sets page
browseNHANES(2005)          # The main page for the specified survey year
browseNHANES(2009, 'EXAM')  # Page for the specified year and survey group
browseNHANES(nh_table = 'VIX_D') # Page for a specific table
browseNHANES(nh_table = 'DXA') # DXA main page

```

---

nhanes

*Download an NHANES table and return as a data frame.*


---

**Description**

Use to download NHANES data tables that are in SAS format.

**Usage**

```

nhanes(
  nh_table,
  includelabels = FALSE,
  translated = TRUE,
  cleanse_numeric = FALSE,
  nchar = 128,
  adjust_timeout = TRUE
)

```

**Arguments**

nh_table	The name of the specific table to retrieve.
includelabels	If TRUE, then include SAS labels as variable attribute (default = FALSE).
translated	translated whether the variables are translated.
cleanse_numeric	Logical flag. If TRUE, some special codes in numeric variables, such as ‘Refused’ and ‘Don’t know’ will be converted to NA.
nchar	Maximum length of translated string (default = 128). Ignored if translated=FALSE.
adjust_timeout	Typically a logical flag indicating whether the default <a href="#">download.file</a> timeout option should be adjusted by taking into account the size of the file to be downloaded, as reported by the server. The value can also be a positive numeric value, in which case it is used as a further multiplicative factor for the default calculation.

**Details**

Downloads a table from the NHANES website as is, i.e. in its entirety with no modification or cleansing. If the environment variable NHANES\_TABLE\_BASE was set during startup, the value of this variable is used as the base URL instead of <https://www.cdc.gov> (this allows the use of a local or alternative mirror of the CDC data). NHANES tables are stored in SAS ‘.XPT’ format but are imported as a data frame. The nhanes function cannot be used to import limited access data.

**Value**

The table is returned as a data frame.

**Examples**

```
bpx_e = nhanes('BPX_E')
dim(bpx_e)
folate_f = nhanes('FOLATE_F', includeLabels = TRUE)
dim(folate_f)
```

---

nhanesAttr	<i>Returns the attributes of an NHANES data table.</i>
------------	--

---

**Description**

Returns attributes such as number of rows, columns, and memory size, but does not return the table itself.

**Usage**

```
nhanesAttr(nh_table)
```

**Arguments**

nh\_table      The name of the specific table to retrieve

**Details**

nhanesAttr allows one to check the size and other characteristics of a data table before importing into R. To retrieve these characteristics, the specified table is downloaded, characteristics are determined, then the table is deleted. Downloads a table from the NHANES website as is, i.e. in its entirety with no modification or cleansing. If the environment variable NHANES\_TABLE\_BASE was set during startup, the value of this variable is used as the base URL instead of <https://www.cdc.gov> (this allows the use of a local or alternative mirror of the CDC data).

**Value**

The following attributes are returned as a list

- nrow = number of rows
- ncol = number of columns
- names = name of each column
- unique = true if all SEQN values are unique
- na = number of 'NA' cells in the table
- size = total size of table in bytes
- types = data types of each column

## Examples

```
bpx_e = nhanesAttr('BPX_E')
length(bpx_e)
folate_f = nhanesAttr('FOLATE_F')
length(folate_f)
```

---

nhanesCodebook	<i>Display codebook for selected variable.</i>
----------------	--

---

## Description

Returns full NHANES codebook including Variable Name, SAS Label, English Text, Target, and Value distribution.

## Usage

```
nhanesCodebook(nh_table, colname = NULL, dxa = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

nh_table	The name of the NHANES table that contains the desired variable.
colname	The name of the table column (variable).
dxa	If TRUE then the 2005-2006 DXA codebook will be used (default=FALSE).

## Details

Each NHANES variable has a codebook that provides a basic description as well as the distribution or range of values. This function returns the full codebook information for the selected variable. If the environment variable NHANES\_TABLE\_BASE was set during startup, the value of this variable is used as the base URL instead of <https://www.cdc.gov> (this allows the use of a local or alternative mirror of the CDC documentation).

## Value

The codebook is returned as a list object. Returns NULL upon error.

## Examples

```
nhanesCodebook('AUX_D', 'AUQ020D')
nhanesCodebook('BPX_J', 'BPACSZ')
bpx_code = nhanesCodebook('BPX_J')
length(bpx_code)
```

---

nhanesCodebookFromURL *Parse NHANES doc URL*

---

### Description

Download and parse an NHANES doc file from a URL

### Usage

```
nhanesCodebookFromURL(url)
```

### Arguments

url                      URL to be downloaded

### Details

Downloads and parses an NHANES doc file from a URL and returns it as a list

### Value

list with one element for each variable

---

nhanesDXA                      *Import Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DXA) data.*

---

### Description

DXA data were acquired from 1999-2006.

### Usage

```
nhanesDXA(year, suppl = FALSE, destfile = NULL, adjust_timeout = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

year                      The year of the data to import, where 1999<=year<=2006.

suppl                      If TRUE then retrieve the supplemental data (default=FALSE).

destfile                      The name of a destination file. If NULL then the data are imported into the R environment but no file is created.

adjust\_timeout              Typically a logical flag indicating whether the default [download.file](#) timeout option should be adjusted by taking into account the size of the file to be downloaded, as reported by the server. The value can also be a positive numeric value, in which case it is used as a further multiplicative factor for the default calculation.

**Details**

Provide destfile in order to write the data to file. If destfile is not provided then the data will be imported into the R environment.

**Value**

By default the table is returned as a data frame. When downloading to file, the return argument is the integer code from download.file where 0 means success and non-zero indicates failure to download.

**Examples**

```
dxa_b <- nhanesDXA(2001)
dxa_c_s <- nhanesDXA(2003, suppl=TRUE)
## Not run: dxa = nhanesDXA(1999, destfile="dxx.xpt")
```

---

nhanesFromURL	<i>Parse NHANES doc URL</i>
---------------	-----------------------------

---

**Description**

Download an NHANES table from URL

**Usage**

```
nhanesFromURL(
  url,
  translated = TRUE,
  cleanse_numeric = TRUE,
  nchar = 128,
  adjust_timeout = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

url	URL of XPT file to be downloaded
translated	logical, whether variable codes should be translated
cleanse_numeric	Logical flag. If TRUE, some special codes in numeric variables, such as ‘Refused’ and ‘Don’t know’ will be converted to NA.
nchar	integer, labels are truncated after this
adjust_timeout	Typically a logical flag indicating whether the default <code>download.file</code> timeout option should be adjusted by taking into account the size of the file to be downloaded, as reported by the server. The value can also be a positive numeric value, in which case it is used as a further multiplicative factor for the default calculation.

**Details**

Downloads an NHANES table from a URL and returns it as a data frame

**Value**

data frame

---

nhanesManifest	<i>Download and parse NHANES manifests</i>
----------------	--

---

**Description**

Downloads and parses NHANES manifests for public data (available at <https://www.cdc.gov/Nchs/Nhanes/search/DataPage.aspx>), limited access data (<https://www.cdc.gov/Nchs/Nhanes/search/DataPage.aspx?Component=LimitedAccess>), and variables (<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/search/variablelist.aspx?Component=Demographics>, etc.), and returns them as data frames.

**Usage**

```
nhanesManifest(
  which = c("public", "limitedaccess", "variables"),
  sizes = FALSE,
  dxa = FALSE,
  verbose = getOption("verbose"),
  use_cache = TRUE,
  max_age = 24 * 60 * 60
)
```

**Arguments**

which	Either "public" or "limitedaccess" to get a manifest of available tables, or "variables" to get a manifest of available variables.
sizes	Logical, whether to compute data file sizes (as reported by the server) and include them in the result.
dxa	Logical, whether to include information on DXA tables. These tables contain imputed imputed Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry measurements, and are listed separately, not in the main listing.
verbose	Logical flag indicating whether information on progress should be reported.
use_cache	Logical flag indicating whether a cached version (from a previous download in the same session) should be used.
max_age	Maximum allowed age of the cache in seconds (defaults to 24 hours). Cached versions that are older are ignored, even if available.



**Value**

A data frame, with columns that depend on which. For a manifest of tables, columns are "Table", "DocURL", "DataURL", "Years", "Date.Published". If `sizes = TRUE`, an additional column "Data-Size" giving the data file sizes in bytes (as reported by the server) is included. For limited access tables, the "DataURL" and "DataSize" columns are omitted. For a manifest of variables, columns are "VarName", "VarDesc", "Table", "TableDesc", "BeginYear", "EndYear", "Component", and "UseConstraints".

**Note**

Duplicate rows are removed from the result. Most of these duplicates arise from duplications in the source tables for multi-cycle tables (which are repeated once for each cycle). One special case is the WHQ table which has two variables, WHD120 and WHQ030, duplicated with differing variable descriptions. These are removed explicitly, keeping only the first occurrence.

**Examples**

```
manifest <- nhanesManifest(sizes = FALSE)
dim(manifest)
```

---

nhanesOptions

*Options for the nhanesA package*


---

**Description**

Set and retrieve global options controlling the behaviour of certain functions in the package.

**Usage**

```
nhanesOptions(...)
```

**Arguments**

... either one or more named arguments giving options to be set (in the form `key = value`), or a single unnamed character string to retrieve a setting.

**Details**

The `'nhanesOptions()'` function can be used in two forms, to set or get options. Options can be set using `'nhanesOptions(key1 = value1, key2 = value2)'`. Options can be retrieved (one at a time) using `'nhanesOptions("key")'`. When called with no arguments, all currently set options are returned as a list.

Options currently used in the package are `'use.db'` (logical flag controlling whether a database should be used if available), and `'log.access'`, a logical flag that logs any attempted URL access by printing the URL).

**Value**

When retrieving an option, the value of the option, or NULL if the option has not been set. When setting one or more options, a list (invisibly) containing the previous values (possibly NULL) of the options being set.

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**Examples**

```
nhanesOptions(foo = "bar")
nhanesOptions()
print(nhanesOptions(foo = NULL))
```

---

nhanesSearch

*Perform a search over the comprehensive NHANES variable list.*

---

**Description**

The descriptions in the master variable list will be filtered by the provided search terms to retrieve a list of relevant variables. The search can be restricted to specific survey years by specifying ystart and/or ystop.

**Usage**

```
nhanesSearch(
  search_terms = NULL,
  exclude_terms = NULL,
  data_group = NULL,
  ignore.case = FALSE,
  ystart = NULL,
  ystop = NULL,
  includerdc = FALSE,
  nchar = 128,
  namesonly = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

search_terms	List of terms or keywords.
exclude_terms	List of exclusive terms or keywords.
data_group	Which data groups (e.g. DIET, EXAM, LAB) to search. Default is to search all groups.
ignore.case	Ignore case if TRUE. (Default=FALSE).
ystart	Four digit year of first survey included in search, where ystart >= 1999.

ystop	Four digit year of final survey included in search, where ystop >= ystart.
includerdc	If TRUE then RDC only tables are included in list (default=FALSE).
nchar	Truncates the variable description to a max length of nchar.
namesonly	If TRUE then only the table names are returned (default=FALSE).

### Details

nhanesSearch is useful to obtain a comprehensive list of relevant tables. Search terms will be matched against the variable descriptions in the NHANES Comprehensive Variable Lists. Matching variables must have at least one of the search\_terms and not have any exclude\_terms. The search may be restricted to specific surveys using ystart and ystop. If no arguments are given, then nhanesSearch returns the complete variable list.

### Value

Returns a data frame that describes variables that matched the search terms. If namesonly=TRUE, then a character vector of table names that contain matched variables is returned.

### Examples

```
bladder = nhanesSearch("bladder", ystart=2001, ystop=2008, nchar=50)
dim(bladder)
urin = nhanesSearch("urin", exclude_terms="During", ystart=2009)
dim(urin)
urine = nhanesSearch(c("urine", "urinary"), ignore.case=TRUE, ystop=2006, namesonly=TRUE)
length(urine)
```

---

nhanesSearchTableNames

*Search for matching table names*

---

### Description

Returns a list of table names that match a specified pattern.

### Usage

```
nhanesSearchTableNames(
  pattern = NULL,
  ystart = NULL,
  ystop = NULL,
  includerdc = FALSE,
  includewithdrawn = FALSE,
  nchar = 128,
  details = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

pattern	Pattern of table names to match
ystart	Four digit year of first survey included in search, where ystart >= 1999.
ystop	Four digit year of final survey included in search, where ystop >= ystart.
includerdc	If TRUE then RDC only tables are included (default=FALSE).
includewithdrawn	IF TRUE then withdrawn tables are included (default=FALSE).
nchar	Truncates the variable description to a max length of nchar.
details	If TRUE then complete table information from the comprehensive data list is returned (default=FALSE).

**Details**

Searches the Doc File field in the NHANES Comprehensive Data List (see <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes/search/DataPa>) for tables that match a given name pattern. Only a single pattern may be entered.

**Value**

Returns a character vector of table names that match the given pattern. If details=TRUE, then a data frame of table attributes is returned. NULL is returned when an HTML read error is encountered.

**Examples**

```
bmx = nhanesSearchTableNames('BMX')
length(bmx)
hepbd = nhanesSearchTableNames('HEPBD')
dim(hepbd)
hpvs = nhanesSearchTableNames('HPVS', includerdc=TRUE, details=TRUE)
dim(hpvs)
```

---

nhanesSearchVarName    *Search for tables that contain a specified variable.*

---

**Description**

Returns a list of table names that contain the variable

**Usage**

```
nhanesSearchVarName(
  varname = NULL,
  ystart = NULL,
  ystop = NULL,
  includerdc = FALSE,
  nchar = 128,
  namesonly = TRUE
)
```

**Arguments**

varname	Name of variable to match.
ystart	Four digit year of first survey included in search, where ystart >= 1999.
ystop	Four digit year of final survey included in search, where ystop >= ystart.
includerdc	If TRUE then RDC only tables are included in list (default=FALSE).
nchar	Truncates the variable description to a max length of nchar.
namesonly	If TRUE then only the table names are returned (default=TRUE).

**Details**

The NHANES Comprehensive Variable List is scanned to find all data tables that contain the given variable name. Only a single variable name may be entered, and only exact matches will be found.

**Value**

By default, a character vector of table names that include the specified variable is returned. If namesonly=FALSE, then a data frame of table attributes is returned.

**Examples**

```
nhanesSearchVarName('BMXLEG')
nhanesSearchVarName('BMXHEAD', ystart=2003)
```

---

nhanesTables	<i>Returns a list of table names for the specified survey group.</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

Enables quick display of all available tables in the survey group.

**Usage**

```
nhanesTables(
  data_group,
  year,
  nchar = 128,
  details = FALSE,
  namesonly = FALSE,
  includerdc = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

data_group	The type of survey (DEMOGRAPHICS, DIETARY, EXAMINATION, LABORATORY, QUESTIONNAIRE). Abbreviated terms may also be used: (DEMO, DIET, EXAM, LAB, Q).
year	The year in yyyy format where 1999 <= yyyy.
nchar	Truncates the table description to a max length of nchar.
details	If TRUE then a more detailed description of the tables is returned (default=FALSE).
namesonly	If TRUE then only the table names are returned (default=FALSE).
includerdc	If TRUE then RDC only tables are included in list (default=FALSE).

**Details**

Function `nhanesTables` retrieves a list of tables and a description of their contents from the NHANES website. This provides a convenient way to browse the available tables. NULL is returned when an HTML read error is encountered.

**Value**

Returns a data frame that contains table attributes. If `namesonly=TRUE`, then a character vector of table names is returned.

**Examples**

```
exam = nhanesTables('EXAM', 2007)
dim(exam)
lab = nhanesTables('LAB', 2009, details=TRUE, includerdc=TRUE)
dim(lab)
q = nhanesTables('Q', 2005, namesonly=TRUE)
length(q)
diet = nhanesTables('DIET', 'P')
dim(diet)
exam = nhanesTables('EXAM', 'Y')
dim(exam)
```

---

`nhanesTableSummary`      *Summarize NHANES table*

---

**Description**

Summarize a NHANES table

**Usage**

```
nhanesTableSummary(nh_table, use = c("data", "codebook", "both"), ...)
```

**Arguments**

nh_table	the name of a valid NHANES table
use	character string, whether to create a summary from the data itself or the codebook, which respectively use either the NHANES SAS data files or the HTML documentation files. If use = "both" then both are computed as merged; the src and ... arguments are ignored in this case.
...	additional arguments, usually passed on to either <a href="#">nhanes</a> or <a href="#">nhanesCodebook</a> as appropriate. Alternatively, the src argument can be used to pass on an already available data frame or codebook, but this must be consistent with the use argument.

**Details**

Returns a per-variable summary of a NHANES table either using the actual data or its corresponding codebook

**Value**

A data frame with one row per variable, with columns depending on the value of the use argument.

**Examples**

```
nhanesTableSummary('DEMO_D', use = "data")
nhanesTableSummary('DEMO_D', use = "codebook")
```

---

nhanesTableVars	<i>Displays a list of variables in the specified NHANES table.</i>
-----------------	--

---

**Description**

Enables quick display of table variables and their definitions.

**Usage**

```
nhanesTableVars(
  data_group,
  nh_table,
  details = FALSE,
  nchar = 128,
  namesonly = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

data_group	The type of survey (DEMOGRAPHICS, DIETARY, EXAMINATION, LABORATORY, QUESTIONNAIRE). Abbreviated terms may also be used: (DEMO, DIET, EXAM, LAB, Q).
nh_table	The name of the specific table to retrieve.
details	If TRUE then all columns in the variable description are returned (default=FALSE).
nchar	The number of characters in the Variable Description to print. Default length is 128, which is set to enhance readability cause variable descriptions can be very long.
namesonly	If TRUE then only the variable names are returned (default=FALSE).

**Details**

NHANES tables may contain more than 100 variables. Function `nhanesTableVars` provides a concise display of variables for a specified table, which helps to ascertain quickly if the table is of interest. NULL is returned when an HTML read error is encountered.

**Value**

Returns a data frame that describes variable attributes for the specified table. If `namesonly=TRUE`, then a character vector of the variable names is returned.

**Examples**

```
lab_cbc = nhanesTableVars('LAB', 'CBC_E')
dim(lab_cbc)
exam_ohx = nhanesTableVars('EXAM', 'OHX_E', details=TRUE, nchar=50)
dim(exam_ohx)
demo = nhanesTableVars('DEMO', 'DEMO_F', namesonly = TRUE)
length(demo)
```

---

`nhanesTranslate`

*Display code translation information.*

---

**Description**

Returns code translations for categorical variables, which appear in most NHANES tables.

**Usage**

```
nhanesTranslate(
  nh_table,
  colnames = NULL,
  data = NULL,
  nchar = 128,
  mincategories = 2,
```



```

    details = FALSE,
    dxa = FALSE,
    cleanse_numeric = FALSE
  )

```

### Arguments

nh_table	The name of the NHANES table to retrieve.
colnames	The names of the columns to translate. It will translate all the columns by default.
data	If a data frame is passed, then code translation will be applied directly to the data frame. In that case the return argument is the code-translated data frame.
nchar	Applies only when data is defined. Code translations can be very long. Truncate the length by setting nchar (default = 128).
mincategories	The minimum number of categories needed for code translations to be applied to the data (default=2).
details	If TRUE then all available table translation information is displayed (default=FALSE).
dxa	If TRUE then the 2005-2006 DXA translation table will be used (default=FALSE).
cleanse_numeric	Logical flag. If TRUE, some special codes in numeric variables, such as 'Refused' and 'Don't know' will be converted to NA.

### Details

Most NHANES data tables have encoded values. E.g. 1 = 'Male', 2 = 'Female'. Thus it is often helpful to view the code translations and perhaps insert the translated values in a data frame. Only a single table may be specified, but multiple variables within that table can be selected. Code translations are retrieved for each variable. If the environment variable NHANES\_TABLE\_BASE was set during startup, the value of this variable is used as the base URL instead of <https://www.cdc.gov> (this allows the use of a local or alternative mirror of the CDC documentation).

### Value

The code translation table (or translated data frame when data is defined). Returns NULL upon error.

### Examples

```

nhanesTranslate('DEMO_B', c('DMDBORN', 'DMDCITZN'))
nhanesTranslate('BPX_F', 'BPACSZ', details=TRUE)
nhanesTranslate('BPX_F', 'BPACSZ', data=nhanes('BPX_F'))
trans_demo = nhanesTranslate('DEMO_B')
length(trans_demo)

```

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