

Catalogue of Surveillance Systems

ACCELERATING
PROGRESS
TO REDUCE CHILDHOOD OBESITY

Overview of NCCOR

The National Collaborative on Childhood Obesity Research (NCCOR) brings together the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and U.S. Department of Agriculture. NCCOR's mission is to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and application of childhood obesity research and to halt—and reverse—childhood obesity through enhanced coordination and collaboration.

Key NCCOR activities include developing common measures and methods, evaluating and identifying effective interventions, and assessing policy and environmental changes related to childhood obesity.

Two useful tools developed by NCCOR are the Catalogue of Surveillance Systems and the Measures Registry. Learn more about the Catalogue below.

Catalogue of Surveillance Systems

In February 2011, NCCOR launched the Catalogue of Surveillance Systems, a free online resource that helps researchers and practitioners more easily investigate childhood obesity in America. The purpose of the Catalogue is to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and innovation in obesity research. The Catalogue provides one-stop access for users to review, sort, and compare more than 85 surveillance systems relevant to childhood obesity research and the evaluation of policy and environmental interventions.

Using the Catalogue, one can:

- Identify data resources related to childhood obesity
- Compare attributes across systems
- Link to other resources of interest

The Catalogue provides a unique window on obesity-related environmental factors and policies, as well as trends in relevant determinants, health behaviors, and outcomes. Systems were chosen for inclusion because they provide access to publicly available, raw data gathered in the United States within the last 10 years.

The Catalogue is available at www.nccor.org/css. A 2011 webinar describing the Catalogue is available at www.nccor.org/resources/nccor/webinars.php#css. A demo video of the Catalogue is available at www.nccor.org/resources/nccor/videos.php.

Feedback on the Catalogue is welcome. Information in the Catalogue is updated regularly. On the Catalogue website, one can:

- Suggest a system for inclusion
- Suggest an update to a system's profile
- Provide general feedback

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"The NCCOR Measures Registry and Catalogue of Surveillance Systems are excellent resources. I find it especially useful to be able to access detailed information on hundreds of measures and data sources all in one place. The websites are extremely easy to navigate and provide everything I would want to know about the measure or surveillance system. I highly recommend these resources, especially to anyone preparing grants or developing studies with a focus on obesity."

~ Keryn E. Pasch, Ph.D., M.P.H.,
Department of Kinesiology and Health Education,
University of Texas

"I was so pleased to learn of the Catalogue of Surveillance Systems and all its capabilities. I needed to find and sort through documentation on a number of surveys to determine what measures were included in each. Using the Catalogue, I found the information I was looking for in 10 minutes! Without this resource, it would have taken me days to contact people responsible for each survey and review and download multiple surveys and accompanying documentation online to find the information."

~ April Oh, Ph.D., M.P.H., Behavioral Research Program,
Division of Cancer Control & Population Sciences,
National Cancer Institute

"The Catalogue of Surveillance Systems provides a great starting point for researchers interested in examining the effects of multiple levels of influence on student obesity and other outcomes. The CSS will help them to identify possible sources that may be able to be linked together for conducting large-scale multi-level studies."

~ Jamie F. Chriqui, Ph.D., M.H.S.,
Institute for Health Research and Policy,
University of Illinois at Chicago

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