

National Survey of Lead and Allergens in Housing (NSLAH)

(Used for Indicator E6)

Brief description of the data set	A nationally representative sample of homes was selected for this survey. NSLAH measured levels of lead, lead hazards, allergens, and endotoxins in homes nationwide. The lead data included the levels of lead in paint, dust and soil, and levels of paint deterioration.
Who provides the data set?	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
How are the data gathered?	A nationally representative sample of 1,984 housing units in which children could reside was drawn from 75 primary sampling units (metropolitan statistical areas or counties), and 831 eligible housing units were recruited and completed a survey. Measurements of lead paint and dust were gathered from the surveyed homes in specific rooms; soil lead was gathered from the surveyed homes through core sampling.
What documentation is available describing data collection procedures?	National Survey of Lead and Allergens in Housing. Final Report. Volume I. Analysis of Lead Hazards. April 2001. At http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Article0312.pdf . National Survey of Lead and Allergens in Housing. Draft Final Report. Volume II. Design and Methodology. March 2001.
What types of data relevant for children’s environmental health indicators are available from this database?	Relevant information includes lead-based paint hazards in housing (prevalence, deteriorated, loadings), dust lead, soil lead (children’s play areas, yard), indoor allergens (dust mite, cockroach, cat, dog, mouse, Alternaria), endotoxins, race, ethnicity, age, sex, income, asthma and allergies health history, housing characteristics (building age; heating, cooling, and cooking equipment), pets, and pests. Pesticide data were not collected.
What is the spatial representation of the database (national or other)?	National.
Are raw data (individual measurements or survey responses) available?	Not currently.
How are database files obtained?	Data have not been publicly released. HUD provided data files directly to EPA for purposes of developing an indicator for America’s Children and the Environment. Summary tables are obtained from: National Survey of Lead and Allergens in Housing. Final Report. Volume I. Analysis of Lead Hazards. April 2001. At http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Article0312.pdf . NSLAH data summaries are also available in “American Healthy Homes Survey, Final Report, Lead and Arsenic Findings,” June 2009, Draft Final Report (not yet publicly released).
Are there any known data quality or data analysis concerns?	http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Article0312.pdf . Chapter 7 of the study report outlines sources of error in data collection and analysis. Concerns include: response rate, non-response bias, and measurement errors.

National Survey of Lead and Allergens in Housing (NSLAH)

(Used for Indicator E6)

What documentation is available describing quality assurance procedures?	http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Article0312.pdf . Chapter 7, sections 7.4 (“Quality of Field Data Collection”) and section 7.5 (“Paint Testing Quality Assurance”), pages 7-32 through 7-36.
For what years are data available?	The main field study (survey and in-home lead) was conducted in 1998-1999, with an augmentation of the soil sampling in 2000.
What is the frequency of data collection?	Data were collected once, from 1998-1999, with an augmentation of the soil sampling in 2000.
What is the frequency of data release?	Raw data have not been publicly released. The report was published in April 2001.
Are the data comparable across time and space?	As a one-time survey, time comparisons within the NSLAH are not possible, but NSLAH results can be compared with the later AHHS survey (2005-2006). Geographic comparisons should be possible using the raw data, since the same data were collected at all homes.
Can the data be stratified by race/ethnicity, income, and location (region, state, county or other geographic unit)?	Data can be stratified by residents’ age, race, ethnicity, and household income, as well as by census region. Data can also be stratified by year of home construction, and by the housing type (rented or owned). However, estimates of lead hazards in the home for children ages 0 to 5 years broken out by race/ethnicity and income are not statistically reliable, due to the relatively small number of homes in each group.