

**NHANES 2001-2002 Data Release
May 2004
Sample Person Questionnaire**

Audiometry (AUQ_B)

Survey Years Included in this File: 2001-2002

Questionnaire Section Characteristics:

Questionnaire Section Description:

The Audiometry section (variable name prefix AUQ) provides interview data on self-reported hearing status, tinnitus (ringing in the ears), hearing screening history, the use of assistive devices for hearing, and risk factors for hearing loss.

Interview Setting:

Home Interview

Mode of administration:

In-person

Topics Included in the Section:

- Self assessed hearing status
- How recently hearing tests were performed, if ever.
- Hearing aid use: ever used; current use, 12 month period prevalence; and the habitual frequency of hearing aid use.
- 12- month period prevalence of tinnitus; frequency of symptoms.
- Exposure history for non-occupational loud noise from firearms, power tools or loud music; whether hearing protection was used.

Eligible sample and any section-specific exclusion criteria:

All survey participants ages 1 year of age and older were eligible for the initial question (AUQ010) relating to self reported hearing capability/deficits. Survey respondents 20 years of age and older were asked further detailed questions about hearing and noise exposure.

Questionnaire Source(s):

Previous National Health Interview Survey and NHANES III Audiometry questionnaires.

Links to examination and laboratory data:

Audiometry Examination data is found in the Audiometry Section of the NHANES 2001-2002 Examination Files (AUX). The Occupation Section of the SP Household Questionnaire (OCQ) has related questions regarding survey participant's current and past occupational noise exposure.

Quality Control During Data Collection:

The Audiometry questionnaire data was systematically reviewed for logical, processing and data input errors on a periodic basis during the process of data collection.

Data Processing and Editing:

The 2001-2002 Audiometry Questionnaire data was verified against the main data file prior to public release.

Analytic Notes:

Audiologic data analysis is a complex endeavor requiring knowledge of the specialty content area for valid results to be obtained. If an analyst does not have professional experience in this area, it is recommended that audiologic consultation be obtained to help formulate and review the results of the analysis.

Data Access:

The AUQ data are publicly available at www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm

Reference:

None.