

CDC/NCHS Statistical Workshops on Tracking Health Indicators

Purpose:

- To describe the challenges encountered in tracking health indicators
- To provide technical guidance and strategies for overcoming these challenges
- To provide technical support to State and local health departments

Scope:

- Addresses issues applicable to staff working in a variety of public health settings
- Does not require extensive knowledge of statistics

Audience:

- State and local health professionals
- Health-related non-governmental organizations
- Academic researchers

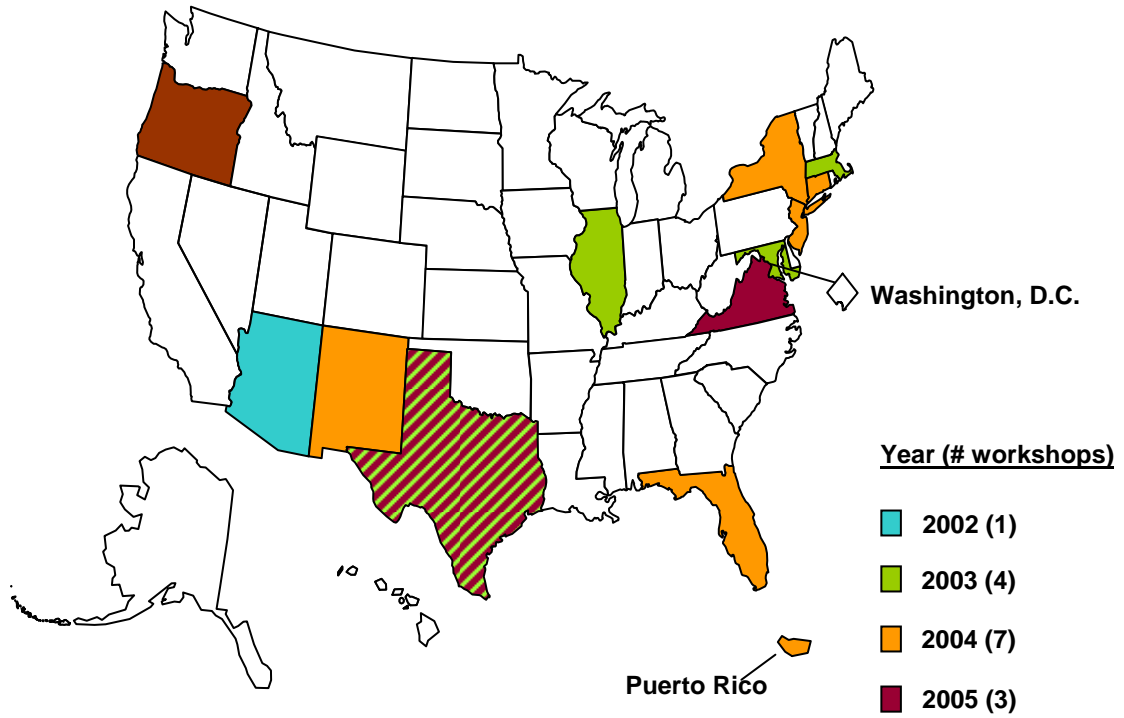
Teaching Methods:

- Lectures
- Demonstrations
- Hands-on exercises
- Comprehensive group exercise

Overall Course Learning Objectives:

- Review selected analytical issues
- Review selected statistical, demographic, and epidemiological methods used in public health research
- Review the limitations and difficulties associated with measuring, analyzing, and interpreting public health data

Statistical Workshop Locations, 2002-2005



Workshop teaching modules:

Healthy People 2010

CDC Health Data Sources

Additional Health Data Sources

Race & Ethnicity Classification

Variability & Data Suppression

Measuring Health Disparities

Small Area Estimation

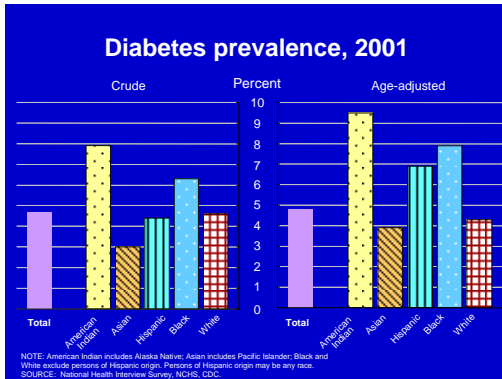
Mortality Data and Life Tables

Age Adjustment

Effective Data Presentation

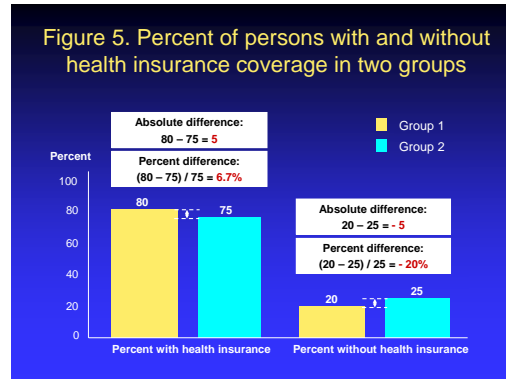
Excerpts from the workshop materials:

Age Adjustment



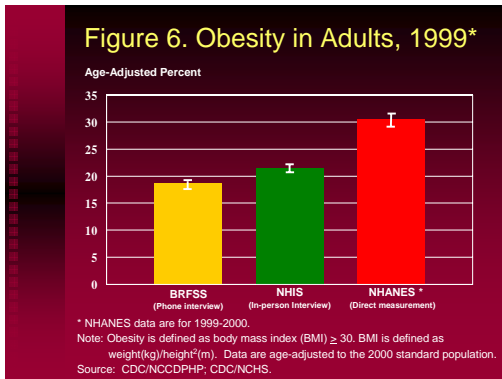
It is important to account for potential differences in age distribution when comparing rates for various groups.

Measuring Health Disparities



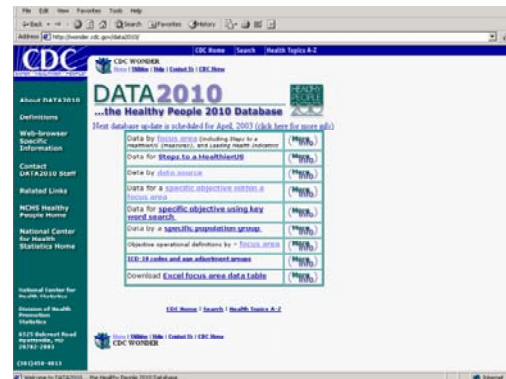
The value of a relative disparity measure can differ depending on whether the outcome is measured in a favorable or adverse manner.

CDC Health Data Systems



The mode of survey administration can affect the estimation of some health measures.

Web Available Data



Homepage of DATA2010, the Healthy People 2010 on-line database.

Course Materials:

Course Binder

- Detailed module text in outline format; graphical and numerical examples; hands-on exercises and answer keys.

PowerPoint Presentations

- Used to present the core concepts of the module; step-by-step calculations included; slides follow the outline format of the binder.

Excel Files

- Pre-programmed spreadsheets that can be used by participants to produce the statistics discussed in the course.

Comments from past participants:

What was particularly effective about the course presentation?

Presenters knowledgeable and able to explain simply to non-statistical folks. Excellent binder- well organized, readable, and closely follows course presentation

-Maryland, 2003

The exercises were very good. I thought the final exercise was particularly useful and fun. I really liked the formula reference sheet! Great job!

- Texas, 2005

How will you apply these newly acquired skills to your current position?

I've gained the basic knowledge to understand what I'm seeing. I'm also glad that I have so many resources to go for the data and data interpretation. Great job!

- New York, 2004

I will use your excellent notebook when I am reading reports which use epidemiological terminology, to help me judge and interpret the conclusions better

- Virginia, 2005