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APPENDIX I. HEALTH SERVICE AREAS

Health Service Areas (HSA's) are aggregations of counties and independent cities based on a cluster analysis of where Medicare patients obtained routine hospital care in 1988 (31) (See fold-out map.). The clustering algorithm defined the HSA as an area within which its residents were more likely to seek hospital care than to travel outside it. The 805 HSA's used for this atlas differ from the original 802 HSA definitions (referred to as the "800-unlinked solution" by Makuc et al. (31)). These differences are as follows.

- HSA's for Alaska and Hawaii were created using the same clustering algorithm. The counties (or territories) included for these HSA's are the following.

817: Ketchikan Gateway, Wrangell - Petersburg, Prince of Wales - Outer Ketchikan, AK

818: Juneau, Sitka, Angoon, Haines, Skagway-Yakutat, AK

819: Fairbanks North Star, Southeast Fairbanks, Upper Yukon, Yukon - Koyukuk, AK

820: Remainder of AK

821: Honolulu, Maui, Kalawao, HI

822: Kauai, HI

823: Hawaii, HI

- The islands of Nantucket, Massachusetts (HSA 111) and Duke Island, Massachusetts (HSA 120) were combined with Boston, Massachusetts (HSA 22) and Rockland, New York (HSA 133) was grouped with Bergen City, New Jersey (HSA 36) to achieve a minimum HSA size of 250 square miles for visibility on the maps. Only New York City (HSA 94) remains below this minimum. It is shown at larger scale east of its actual location and is labeled "NYC" on the maps.
- New York City (HSA 94) was redefined to be consistent with its census designation. From the original Series Report definitions, Kings and Richmond counties, New York (HSA 113) and Queens, New York (removed from HSA 83) were added to HSA 94.

Names have been developed for the 805 HSA's to assist readers in recognizing their geographic location (DD Ingram, personal communication). The HSA's were originally identified only by numbers. The primary identification of the HSA's is by county name because counties were used in the creation of the HSA's. For some HSA's a place name (for a city, town, or other Census Designated Place (CDP)) was also

chosen for use in the HSA name because it may be better known to readers than the county name. Therefore, to meet the objective of recognizability, the following approach was taken to create the HSA names.

- A maximum of two county names was used in an HSA name. For HSA's comprised of only one county, the name of that county appears in the HSA name. For HSA's comprised of two counties or more, the county with the largest number of Medicare hospital stays in 1988 (primary county) appears first in the HSA name and the county with the second largest number of hospital stays (secondary county) appears second. The two-letter State abbreviation was included with each county name as some HSA's include counties from more than one State.
- If the primary or secondary county in the HSA was part of a Metropolitan Statistical Area as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census in 1990, a place name (for a city, town, CDP, etc.) was included in the HSA name. The place name used in the HSA name was the name of the place with the largest 1990 population from either the primary or secondary county in the HSA. The place name appears in the HSA name in parentheses, following either the primary or secondary county name.
 - To avoid redundancy, place names were not included in the names of five HSA's for which the county was actually an independent city. These HSA's are Washington, D.C.-Montgomery, Maryland (HSA 61); St. Louis, Missouri-St. Louis city, Missouri (HSA 541); Newport News city, Virginia-Hampton city, Virginia (HSA 5); and Norfolk/Portsmouth city, Virginia-Virginia Beach city, Virginia (HSA 6).
 - A place name was not included in the HSA name for Nassau, New York-Suffolk, New York (HSA 83), Washington, Pennsylvania-Fayette, Pennsylvania (HSA 100), or St. Croix, Wisconsin-Goodhue, Minnesota (HSA 370) because their primary and secondary counties include a number of small communities that are suburbs of a large metropolitan area. It was not possible to select one of them as the principal place in the county.

- A place name was not included in the HSA name if the primary or secondary county in the HSA was not part of a Metropolitan Statistical Area. For these HSA's, the

population of the largest place tended to be small or the county was composed of numerous small towns with similar population size.

FOLD OUT MAP

HSA number	Number of counties in HSA	HSA name
1	5	Allegheny (Cumberland), MD - Garrett, MD
2	6	Kenton (Covington), KY - Campbell, KY
3	5	Sussex, DE - Wicomico, MD
4	3	Hartford (Hartford), CT - Windham, CT
5	6	Newport News city, VA - Hampton city, VA
6	7	Norfolk/Portsmouth city, VA - Virginia Beach city, VA
7	6	Kanawha (Charleston), WV - Putnam, WV
8	5	Schuylkill, PA - Montour, PA
9	4	Cumberland (Portland), ME - Knox, ME
10	3	Albany (Albany), NY - Rensselaer, NY
11	3	Floyd, KY - Johnson, KY
12	11	McCracken, KY - Graves, KY
13	3	Pike, KY - Logan, WV
14	9	Roanoke (Roanoke), VA - Campbell, VA
15	5	Grafton, NH - Washington, VT
16	5	Baltimore (Baltimore), MD - Anne Arundel, MD
17	4	Penobscot (Bangor), ME - Hancock, ME
18	13	Fayette (Lexington - Fayette), KY - Perry, KY
19	5	Broome (Binghamton), NY - Bradford, PA
20	5	Providence (Providence), RI - New London, CT
21	4	Ontario (Geneva), NY - Wayne, NY
22	7	Middlesex, MA - Suffolk (Boston), MA
23	4	Camden (Camden), NJ - Burlington, NJ
24	6	Ohio (Wheeling), WV - Belmont, OH
25	8	Frederick, VA - Berkeley, WV
26	3	Clearfield, PA - Centre (State College), PA
27	5	Boyle, KY - Lincoln, KY
28	5	Philadelphia (Philadelphia), PA - Montgomery, PA
29	6	Warren, KY - Logan, KY
30	4	Alleghany, VA - Greenbrier, WV
31	4	Monongalia, WV - Marion, WV
32	2	Hampden (Springfield), MA - Hampshire, MA
33	20	Henrico (Richmond), VA - Prince Edward, VA
34	8	Wood (Parkersburg), WV - Washington, OH
35	5	Cattaraugus, NY - McKean, PA
36	4	Bergen, NJ - Hudson (Jersey City), NJ
37	3	Pulaski, KY - Wayne, KY
38	3	Kennebec, ME - Somerset, ME
39	5	Mercer, WV - Tazewell, VA
40	2	Henderson (Henderson), KY - Union, KY
41	4	Westchester (Yonkers), NY - Dutchess, NY
42	6	Allegheny (Pittsburgh), PA - Westmoreland, PA
43	4	Dauphin (Harrisburg), PA - Cumberland, PA
44	2	Lycoming (Williamsport), PA - Clinton, PA
45	7	Hopkins, KY - Christian (Hopkinsville), KY
46	9	Cabell (Huntington), WV - Boyd, KY
47	2	Lackawanna (Scranton), PA - Wayne, PA
48	3	York (York), PA - Frederick, MD
49	4	Chittenden (Burlington), VT - Franklin, VT
50	4	Randolph, WV - Barbour, WV
51	4	Whitley, KY - Laurel, KY

HSA number	Number of counties in HSA	HSA name
52	3	Venango, PA - Clarion, PA
53	4	Barren, KY - Monroe, KY
54	7	Erie (Buffalo), NY - Monroe, NY
55	3	Wise, VA - Lee, VA
56	3	Onondaga (Syracuse), NY - Cayuga, NY
57	4	Cambria, PA - Blair (Altoona), PA
58	4	Otsego, NY - Delaware, NY
59	3	Oneida (Utica), NY - Herkimer, NY
60	4	Raleigh, WV - Fayette, WV
61	5	Washington, DC - Montgomery, MD
62	4	Madison, KY - Rockcastle, KY
63	3	Rockingham, VA - Page, VA
64	2	Atlantic (Atlantic City), NJ - Cape May, NJ
65	3	Steuben, NY - Chemung (Elmira), NY
66	4	Essex (Newark), NJ - Union, NJ
67	4	Rowan, KY - Morgan, KY
68	2	Bristol (New Bedford), MA - Newport, RI
69	4	Alexandria city, VA - Arlington - Alexandria (Arlington), VA
70	4	Montgomery, VA - Pulaski, VA
71	3	Halifax, VA - Mecklenburg, VA
72	3	Franklin, PA - Washington (Hagerstown), MD
73	3	Grayson, VA - Alleghany, NC
74	2	Essex (Lynn), MA - Rockingham, NH
75	3	New Castle (Wilmington), DE - Harford, MD
76	2	Montgomery (Amsterdam), NY - Fulton, NY
77	4	Dinwiddie (Petersburg), VA - Prince George, VA
78	3	Luzerne (Wilkes - Barre), PA - Columbia, PA
79	2	Henry, VA - Patrick, VA
80	3	St. Lawrence, NY - Jefferson, NY
81	3	Clinton, NY - Franklin, NY
82	4	Taylor, KY - Russell, KY
83	2	Nassau, NY - Suffolk, NY
84	4	Lehigh (Allentown), PA - Northampton, PA
85	3	New Haven (New Haven), CT - Litchfield, CT
86	3	Orange (Newburgh), NY - Sullivan, NY
87	2	Morris (Parsippany - Troy Hills Township), NJ - Sussex, NJ
88	5	Schenectady (Schenectady), NY - Warren, NY
89	5	Hardin, KY - Grayson, KY
90	2	Cheshire, NH - Windham, VT
91	4	Hillsborough (Manchester), NH - Merrimack, NH
92	6	Harrison, WV - Lewis, WV
93	2	Warren (Phillipsburg), NJ - Hunterdon, NJ
94	5	New York, NY - Kings (New York), NY
95	3	Androscoggin (Lewiston), ME - Oxford, ME
96	3	Bell, KY - Claiborne, TN
97	3	Augusta, VA - Rockbridge, VA
98	2	York, ME - Strafford (Rochester), NH
99	10	Albemarle (Charlottesville), VA - Culpeper, VA
100	3	Washington, PA - Fayette, PA
101	2	Worcester (Worcester), MA - Franklin, MA

HSA number	Number of counties in HSA	HSA name
102	2	Bourbon (Paris), KY - Nicholas, KY
103	3	Orleans, VT - Caledonia, VT
104	2	Cumberland, KY - Clinton, KY
105	2	Cortland, NY - Tompkins, NY
106	3	Erie (Erie), PA - Chautauqua, NY
107	4	Talbot, MD - Dorchester, MD
108	2	Ocean (Brick Township), NJ - Monmouth, NJ
109	2	Prince William (Dale City), VA - Fauquier, VA
110	3	Mifflin, PA - Huntingdon, PA
112	3	Berkshire (Pittsfield), MA - Columbia, NY
114	3	Franklin, KY - Owen, KY
115	4	Calloway, KY - Carroll, TN
116	3	Mason, KY - Fleming, KY
117	1	Crawford, PA
119	2	Harrison, KY - Robertson, KY
121	1	Fairfield (Bridgeport), CT
122	1	Rutland, VT
123	1	Letcher, KY
124	1	Kent, MD
125	1	Elk, PA
126	1	Mercer (Trenton), NJ
127	1	Cumberland (Vineland), NJ
128	1	Tioga, PA
129	1	Lawrence, PA
130	2	Greensville, VA - Brunswick, VA
131	2	Montgomery, KY - Bath, KY
132	2	Pittsylvania (Danville), VA - Caswell, NC
135	4	Spotsylvania, VA - Caroline, VA
136	1	Aroostook, ME
137	2	Northampton, VA - Accomack, VA
138	2	Coos, NH - Essex, VT
139	1	Berks (Reading), PA
140	1	Lancaster (Lancaster), PA
141	6	Hamilton (Chattanooga), TN - Catoosa, GA
142	6	Orange (Orlando), FL - Volusia, FL
143	6	Chatham (Savannah), GA - Beaufort, SC
144	9	Dougherty (Albany), GA - Early, GA
145	2	Whitfield, GA - Murray, GA
146	9	Shelby (Memphis), TN - Panola, MS
147	8	Knox (Knoxville), TN - Blount, TN
148	7	Davidson (Nashville - Davidson), TN - Dickson, TN
149	5	Forsyth (Winston - Salem), NC - Surry, NC
150	8	Jefferson (Birmingham), AL - Walker, AL
151	6	Sullivan (Kingsport), TN - Washington, VA
152	12	Richmond (South Augusta), GA - Aiken, SC
153	9	Fulton (Atlanta), GA - DeKalb, GA
154	5	Floyd, GA - Bartow, GA
155	6	Bay (Panama City), FL - Jackson, FL
156	4	Tuscaloosa (Tuscaloosa), AL - Pickens, AL
157	8	Hall, GA - Union, GA
158	9	Duval (Jacksonville), FL - Glynn, GA
159	10	Alachua (Gainesville), FL - Columbia, FL
160	4	Richland (Columbia), SC - Lexington, SC
161	5	Mobile (Mobile), AL - Baldwin, AL
162	7	Houston (Dothan), AL - Coffee, AL
163	6	Escambia (Pensacola), FL - Okaloosa, FL

HSA number	Number of counties in HSA	HSA name
164	8	Clarke (Athens), GA - Barrow, GA
165	4	Lee (Cape Coral), FL - Collier, FL
166	9	Muscogee (Columbus), GA - Russell, AL
167	3	Mecklenburg (Charlotte), NC - Union, NC
168	3	New Hanover (Wilmington), NC - Brunswick, NC
169	3	Washington (Johnson City), TN - Carter, TN
170	5	Durham (Durham), NC - Vance, NC
171	7	Montgomery (Montgomery), AL - Covington, AL
172	6	Troup (La Grange), GA - Coweta, GA
173	4	Bradley, TN - Gilmer, GA
174	4	Ware, GA - Bacon, GA
175	4	Dallas, AL - Marengo, AL
176	4	Orangeburg, SC - Bamberg, SC
177	4	Calhoun (Anniston), AL - Carroll, GA
178	3	Thomas, GA - Grady, GA
179	4	Lee (Auburn), AL - Elmore, AL
180	6	Lowndes, GA - Cook, GA
181	3	Obion, TN - Weakley, TN
182	4	Greenville (Greenville), SC - Anderson, SC
183	8	Leon (Tallahassee), FL - Madison, FL
184	5	Florence (Florence), SC - Darlington, SC
185	2	Morgan (Decatur), AL - Lawrence, AL
186	4	Guilford (Greensboro), NC - Rockingham, NC
187	5	Greenwood, SC - Laurens, SC
188	8	Madison (Jackson), TN - Gibson, TN
189	4	Tift, GA - Ben Hill, GA
190	5	Cobb (Marietta), GA - Cherokee, GA
191	4	Spartanburg (Spartanburg), SC - Union, SC
192	2	Iredell (Statesville), NC - Alexander, NC
193	11	Bibb (Macon), GA - Houston, GA
194	3	Watauga, NC - Ashe, NC
195	6	Pitt, NC - Beaufort, NC
196	3	Sumter, SC - Clarendon, SC
197	5	Sumter, GA - Crisp, GA
198	4	Wake (Raleigh), NC - Wilson, NC
199	2	Marion, SC - Dillon, SC
200	3	Dade (Miami), FL - Broward, FL
201	3	Baldwin, GA - Putnam, GA
202	3	Polk (Lakeland), FL - Highlands, FL
203	4	Orange (Chapel Hill), NC - Harnett, NC
204	2	Spalding (Griffin), GA - Butts, GA
205	4	Moore, NC - Richmond, NC
206	8	Laurens, GA - Dodge, GA
207	4	Robeson, NC - Columbus, NC
208	4	Maury, TN - Giles, TN
209	4	Macon, NC - Jackson, NC
210	4	Madison (Huntsville), AL - Jackson, AL
211	5	Rutherford (Murfreesboro), TN - Warren, TN
212	5	Charleston (Charleston), SC - Colleton, SC
213	3	Sarasota (Sarasota), FL - Charlotte, FL
214	4	Edgecombe, NC - Halifax, NC
215	6	Putnam, TN - Overton, TN
216	3	Stephens, GA - Franklin, GA
217	4	Hamblen (Morristown), TN - Jefferson, TN
218	4	Gaston (Gastonia), NC - Cleveland, NC

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
219	4	Lauderdale (Florence), AL - Colbert, AL
220	2	Newton (Covington), GA - Jasper, GA
221	4	Palm Beach (West Palm Beach), FL - St. Lucie, FL
222	4	Bulloch, GA - Emanuel, GA
223	3	Cumberland, TN - Fentress, TN
224	4	Etowah (Gadsden), AL - Marshall, AL
225	5	Buncombe (Asheville), NC - Henderson, NC
226	5	Anderson (Oak Ridge), TN - Roane, TN
227	4	Pinellas, FL - Hillsborough (Tampa), FL
228	3	Decatur, GA - Seminole, GA
229	3	Catawba (Hickory), NC - Burke, NC
230	2	Wayne, GA - Appling, GA
231	5	Sumner (Hendersonville), TN - Wilson, TN
232	3	Lawrence, TN - Wayne, TN
233	2	Marion (Ocala), FL - Citrus, FL
234	3	Montgomery (Clarksville), TN - Houston, TN
235	3	Cabarrus (Concord), NC - Rowan, NC
236	3	Coffee, GA - Jeff Davis, GA
237	2	Brevard (Palm Bay), FL - Indian River, FL
238	4	Lenoir, NC - Wayne, NC
239	4	Coffee, TN - Franklin, TN
240	3	Avery, NC - Mitchell, NC
241	3	Talladega, AL - Clay, AL
242	5	Craven, NC - Carteret, NC
243	4	Hertford, NC - Chowan, NC
244	2	York (Rock Hill), SC - Chester, SC
245	2	Hardin, TN - McNairy, TN
246	2	Horry, SC - Georgetown, SC
247	2	Marion, AL - Fayette, AL
248	3	Dyer, TN - Lauderdale, TN
249	2	Kershaw, SC - Lancaster, SC
250	2	Washington, GA - Jefferson, GA
251	2	St. Johns (St. Augustine), FL - Putnam, FL
252	2	Greene, TN - Cocke, TN
253	2	Elbert, GA - Wilkes, GA
254	1	Colquitt, GA
256	1	Wilkes, NC
257	1	Osceola (Kissimmee), FL
258	2	Cherokee, NC - Clay, NC
259	1	Butler, AL
260	1	Bedford, TN
261	1	McDowell, NC
262	2	Cumberland (Fayetteville), NC - Sampson, NC
263	1	Scott, TN
264	4	Pasquotank, NC - Camden, NC
266	1	Manatee (Bradenton), FL
267	1	Alamance (Burlington), NC
268	1	Rabun, GA
269	3	Upson, GA - Lamar, GA
270	7	Hamilton (Cincinnati), OH - Butler, OH
271	6	Grand Traverse, MI - Manistee, MI
272	9	Jefferson (Louisville), KY - Shelby, KY
273	6	Vanderburgh (Evansville), IN - Gibson, IN
274	5	Wayne (Detroit), MI - Oakland, MI
275	7	Marion (Indianapolis), IN - Hendricks, IN
276	5	Lucas (Toledo), OH - Monroe, MI

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
277	5	Peoria (Peoria), IL - Tazewell, IL
278	4	Brown (Green Bay), WI - Door, WI
279	5	Champaign (Champaign), IL - Coles, IL
280	4	Milwaukee (Milwaukee), WI - Waukesha, WI
281	5	Franklin (Columbus), OH - Delaware, OH
282	5	Wood, WI - Marathon (Wausau), WI
283	4	Gallia, OH - Mason, WV
284	6	Oneida, WI - Gogebic, MI
285	4	Ingham (Lansing), MI - Shiawassee, MI
286	5	Ramsey (St. Paul), MN - Polk, WI
287	4	Cook (Chicago), IL - Du Page, IL
288	4	Cuyahoga (Cleveland), OH - Lake, OH
289	8	St. Louis (Duluth), MN - Douglas, WI
290	6	La Crosse (La Crosse), WI - Monroe, WI
291	4	Winnebago (Rockford), IL - Lee, IL
292	6	Allen (Lima), OH - Mercer, OH
293	5	Marquette, MI - Delta, MI
294	5	Emmet, MI - Cheboygan, MI
295	4	Montgomery (Dayton), OH - Greene, OH
296	4	Muskegon (Muskegon), MI - Mason, MI
297	2	St. Clair (Port Huron), MI - Sanilac, MI
298	5	Eau Claire (Eau Claire), WI - Chippewa, WI
299	4	Madison (Alton), IL - Jersey, IL
300	5	Tippecanoe (Lafayette), IN - Clinton, IN
301	7	Dane (Madison), WI - Sauk, WI
302	4	Dubuque (Dubuque), IA - Stephenson, IL
303	2	Will (Joliet), IL - Grundy, IL
304	6	Allen (Fort Wayne), IN - Whitley, IN
305	4	Macon (Decatur), IL - Shelby, IL
306	5	Winnebago (Oshkosh), WI - Fond du Lac, WI
307	4	Rock Island (Moline), IL - Henry, IL
308	4	Lake (Gary), IN - Porter, IN
309	5	Kent (Grand Rapids), MI - Montcalm, MI
310	6	Knox, IN - Daviess, IN
311	6	Vigo (Terre Haute), IN - Sullivan, IN
312	4	St. Joseph (South Bend), IN - Marshall, IN
313	4	Bartholomew, IN - Jackson, IN
314	2	Washburn, WI - Burnett, WI
315	5	Dickinson, MI - Marinette, WI
316	5	Daviess (Owensboro), KY - Ohio, KY
317	4	Wexford, MI - Osceola, MI
318	8	Sangamon (Springfield), IL - McDonough, IL
319	3	Morgan, IL - Greene, IL
320	2	Ottawa (Holland), MI - Allegan, MI
321	7	Jefferson (Madison), IN - Dearborn, IN
322	3	Saginaw (Saginaw), MI - Huron, MI
323	3	Delaware (Muncie), IN - Randolph, IN
324	2	Knox, IL - Warren, IL
325	4	St. Clair (Belleville), IL - Randolph, IL
326	3	Rock (Janesville), WI - Green, WI
327	3	Berrien (Benton Harbor), MI - Van Buren, MI
328	2	Genesee (Flint), MI - Lapeer, MI
329	2	Lawrence, IN - Orange, IN
330	4	Midland (Midland), MI - Isabella, MI

HSA number	Number of counties in HSA	HSA name
331	4	Williamson, IL - Jackson, IL
332	4	Wells, IN - Jay, IN
333	4	Vermilion, IL - Edgar, IL
334	2	Montgomery, IL - Macoupin, IL
335	2	Jefferson, IL - Wayne, IL
336	4	La Salle, IL - Bureau, IL
337	4	Scioto, OH - Ross, OH
338	3	McLean (Bloomington), IL - De Witt, IL
339	4	Floyd (New Albany), IN - Harrison, IN
340	3	Des Moines, IA - Henry, IA
341	4	Monroe (Bloomington), IN - Greene, IN
342	5	Bay (Bay City), MI - Ogemaw, MI
343	2	Kankakee (Kankakee), IL - Iroquois, IL
344	2	Outagamie (Appleton), WI - Waupaca, WI
345	3	Mahoning (Youngstown), OH - Mercer, PA
346	2	Clark (Springfield), OH - Champaign, OH
347	5	Stark (Canton), OH - Tuscarawas, OH
348	2	Kalamazoo (Kalamazoo), MI - St. Joseph, MI
349	2	Elkhart (Elkhart), IN - Kosciusko, IN
350	3	Crawford, WI - Clayton, IA
351	4	Richland, IL - Clay, IL
352	3	Summit (Akron), OH - Medina, OH
353	6	Adams, IL - Marion, Mo
354	5	Marion, OH - Crawford, OH
355	3	Sheboygan (Sheboygan), WI - Manitowoc, WI
356	4	Williams, OH - Defiance, OH
357	4	Ashland, WI - Price, WI
358	2	Marion, IL - Washington, IL
359	3	Houghton, MI - Baraga, MI
360	2	Jefferson (Steubenville), OH - Harrison, OH
361	3	Clinton, IA - Whiteside, IL
362	2	Henry (New Castle), IN - Hancock, IN
363	2	Effingham, IL - Fayette, IL
364	3	Howard (Kokomo), IN - Cass, IN
365	2	Clark (Jeffersonville), IN - Scott, IN
366	4	Lorain (Lorain), OH - Erie, OH
367	3	Lee, IA - Hancock, IL
368	4	Fairfield (Lancaster), OH - Athens, OH
369	2	Richland (Mansfield), OH - Ashland, OH
370	3	St. Croix, WI - Goodhue, MN
371	4	Alpena, MI - Presque Isle, MI
372	2	Clinton, OH - Highland, OH
373	3	Kane (Aurora), IL - De Kalb, IL
374	2	Barron, WI - Rusk, WI
375	4	Jackson (Jackson), MI - Lenawee, MI
376	2	Miami (Piqua), OH - Shelby, OH
377	6	Muskingum, OH - Guernsey, OH
378	2	La Porte, IN - Starke, IN
379	3	Shawano, WI - Langlade, WI
380	3	Columbiana, OH - Hancock (Weirton), WV
381	2	Calhoun (Battle Creek), MI - Barry, MI
382	2	Racine (Racine), WI - Kenosha, WI
383	2	White, IL - Hamilton, IL
384	4	Saline, IL - Hardin, IL
385	3	Wayne, IN - Fayette, IN
386	2	Hancock, OH - Seneca, OH

HSA number	Number of counties in HSA	HSA name
387	2	Jefferson, WI - Walworth, WI
388	2	Licking (Newark), OH - Knox, OH
389	3	Grant, IN - Wabash, IN
390	2	Madison (Anderson), IN - Hamilton, IN
391	2	Juneau, WI - Adams, WI
392	3	Crawford, MI - Otsego, MI
394	1	Dubois, IN
395	1	Winneshiek, IA
396	1	Rice, MN
398	1	Logan, OH
399	1	Jackson, WI
400	1	Portage, WI
401	1	Boone (Lebanon), IN
402	1	Montgomery, IN
403	7	Orleans (New Orleans), LA - Jefferson, LA
404	9	Bowie (Texarkana), TX - Miller, AR
405	15	Potter (Amarillo), TX - Moore, TX
406	13	Lubbock (Lubbock), TX - Lamb, TX
407	2	Baxter, AR - Marion, AR
408	8	Harris (Houston), TX - Montgomery, TX
409	5	Forrest, MS - Covington, MS
410	12	Bexar (San Antonio), TX - Guadalupe, TX
411	8	Hinds (Jackson), MS - Rankin, MS
412	7	Lauderdale, MS - Newton, MS
413	6	Jefferson (Beaumont), TX - Orange, TX
414	6	Tulsa (Tulsa), OK - Creek, OK
415	4	El Paso (El Paso), TX - Culberson, TX
416	7	Caddo (Shreveport), LA - Webster, LA
417	5	Oklahoma (Oklahoma City), OK - Pottawatomie, OK
418	5	Lee, MS - Prentiss, MS
419	8	East Baton Rouge (Baton Rouge), LA - Ascension, LA
420	8	Wichita (Wichita Falls), TX - Young, TX
421	8	Sebastian (Fort Smith), AR - Crawford, AR
422	3	Coahoma, MS - Quitman, MS
423	2	Tangipahoa, LA - St. Helena, LA
424	5	Lafayette (Lafayette), LA - Iberia, LA
425	6	Travis (Austin), TX - Williamson, TX
426	12	Tom Green (San Angelo), TX - McCulloch, TX
427	2	Hidalgo (McAllen), TX - Starr, TX
428	9	Taylor (Abilene), TX - Jones, TX
429	7	Garfield (Enid), OK - Kingfisher, OK
430	4	Cleveland (Norman), OK - Garvin, OK
431	3	Warren, MS - Madison, LA
432	9	Pulaski (Little Rock), AR - Saline, AR
433	7	Victoria (Victoria), TX - Lavaca, TX
434	5	Tarrant (Fort Worth), TX - Johnson, TX
435	5	Adams, MS - Concordia, LA
436	4	Grayson (Sherman), TX - Bryan, OK
437	9	Nueces (Corpus Christi), TX - San Patricio, TX
438	4	Lamar, TX - Red River, TX
439	4	Lincoln, LA - Union, LA
440	2	Beckham, OK - Roger Mills, OK
441	4	Smith (Tyler), TX - Henderson, TX
442	2	Pope, AR - Yell, AR

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>	<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
443	7	Ouachita (Monroe), LA - Richland, LA	499	4	Crittenden (West Memphis), AR - St. Francis, AR
444	5	Ector (Odessa), TX - Ward, TX	500	3	St. Tammany (Slidell), LA - Washington, LA
445	5	Muskogee, OK - Cherokee, OK	501	2	Madison, TX - Leon, TX
446	4	Washington (Fayetteville), AR - Benton, AR	502	3	Grenada, MS - Montgomery, MS
447	4	Nacogdoches, TX - Shelby, TX	503	3	Nolan, TX - Mitchell, TX
448	5	Garland, AR - Hot Spring, AR	504	2	Lawrence, MS - Jefferson Davis, MS
449	4	Angelina, TX - Walker, TX	505	3	Brazoria (Lake Jackson), TX - Wharton, TX
450	6	Rapides (Alexandria), LA - La Salle, LA	506	7	Kerr, TX - Gillespie, TX
451	5	Washington, OK - Montgomery, KS	507	2	Erath, TX - Comanche, TX
452	4	Bell (Killeen), TX - Milam, TX	508	3	Lea, NM - Andrews, TX
453	8	Dallas (Dallas), TX - Collin, TX	509	3	Cherokee, TX - Anderson, TX
454	4	Gregg (Longview), TX - Rusk, TX	510	2	Hays (San Marcos), TX - Caldwell, TX
455	4	Jones, MS - Wayne, MS	511	2	Lincoln, MS - Copiah, MS
456	3	Harrison (Biloxi), MS - Hancock, MS	512	3	Childress, TX - Hall, TX
457	3	White, AR - Cleburne, AR	513	2	Bee, TX - Karnes, TX
458	3	Wilbarger, TX - Hardeman, TX	514	2	Terry, TX - Yoakum, TX
459	3	Lafayette, MS - Calhoun, MS	515	2	Kay (Ponca City), OK - Osage, OK
460	4	Gray, TX - Wheeler, TX	516	3	Val Verde, TX - Maverick, TX
461	4	Lowndes, MS - Clay, MS	517	1	Comal (New Braunfels), TX
462	6	McLennan (Waco), TX - Hill, TX	518	2	Howard, TX - Glasscock, TX
463	2	St. Landry, LA - Evangeline, LA	519	1	Scurry, TX
464	5	Brazos (Bryan), TX - Washington, TX	520	2	Cameron (Brownsville), TX - Willacy, TX
465	4	Titus, TX - Camp, TX	521	1	Jackson, AR
466	3	Pittsburg, OK - Pushmataha, OK	522	1	Johnson, AR
467	3	Lafourche, LA - Terrebonne (Houma), LA	523	1	Claiborne, LA
468	4	Brown, TX - Coleman, TX	524	1	Collingsworth, TX
469	5	Woodward, OK - Ellis, OK	525	1	Wilkinson, MS
470	5	Calcasieu (Lake Charles), LA - Beauregard, LA	526	3	Brewster, TX - Jeff Davis, TX
471	2	Jackson (Pascagoula), MS - George, MS	527	2	Arkansas, AR - Monroe, AR
472	3	Payne, OK - Pawnee, OK	528	1	St. Mary, LA
473	6	Jefferson (Pine Bluff), AR - Bradley, AR	529	2	Okmulgee, OK - Okfuskee, OK
474	4	Carter, OK - Marshall, OK	530	1	Winn, LA
475	2	Custer, OK - Washita, OK	531	1	Dimmit, TX
476	2	Grady, OK - Caddo, OK	532	1	Galveston (Galveston), TX
477	4	Pike, MS - Marion, MS	533	1	Yazoo, MS
478	4	Pontotoc, OK - Seminole, OK	534	1	Polk, AR
479	2	Palo Pinto, TX - Jack, TX	535	1	Beaver, OK
480	2	Chicot, AR - Ashley, AR	536	1	Uvalde, TX
481	3	Hale, TX - Floyd, TX	537	1	Phillips, AR
482	3	Union, MS - Tippah, MS	538	3	Webb (Laredo), TX - Jim Hogg, TX
483	3	Jackson, OK - Greer, OK	539	5	Jasper (Joplin), MO - Newton, MO
484	4	Oktibbeha, MS - Webster, MS	540	9	Hennepin (Minneapolis), MN - Anoka, MN
485	3	Harrison (Marshall), TX - Cass, TX	541	8	St. Louis, MO - St. Louis city, MO
486	3	Union, AR - Columbia, AR	542	9	Douglas (Omaha), NE - Dodge, NE
487	4	Leflore, MS - Bolivar, MS	543	9	Burleigh (Bismarck), ND - McLean, ND
488	3	Washington, MS - Sharkey, MS	544	11	Minnehaha (Sioux Falls), SD - Lake, SD
489	2	Navarro, TX - Freestone, TX	545	8	Linn (Cedar Rapids), IA - Johnson, IA
490	2	Colorado, TX - Fayette, TX	546	11	Polk (Des Moines), IA - Marion, IA
491	2	Deaf Smith, TX - Parmer, TX	547	13	Cass (Fargo), ND - Wilkin, MN
492	5	Midland (Midland), TX - Pecos, TX	548	10	Jackson (Kansas City), MO - Clay, MO
493	4	Comanche (Lawton), OK - Kiowa, OK	549	15	Greene (Springfield), MO - Barry, MO
494	4	Boone, AR - Carroll, AR	550	6	Ward, ND - Bottineau, ND
495	3	Denton (Denton), TX - Cooke, TX	551	5	Ford, KS - Clark, KS
496	2	Ouachita, AR - Dallas, AR	552	8	Olmsted (Rochester), MN - Winona, MN
497	2	Stephens, OK - Jefferson, OK	553	7	Boone (Columbia), MO - Randolph, MO
498	2	Alcorn, MS - Tishomingo, MS	554	9	Shawnee (Topeka), KS - Riley, KS
			555	5	Hall, NE - Hamilton, NE

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
556	6	Cerro Gordo, IA - Kossuth, IA
557	6	Black Hawk (Waterloo), IA - Fayette, IA
558	6	Pennington (Rapid City), SD - Meade, SD
559	4	Holt, NE - Brown, NE
560	9	Woodbury (Sioux City), IA - Buena Vista, IA
561	6	Lancaster (Lincoln), NE - Gage, NE
562	3	Baca, CO - Grant, KS
563	14	Cape Girardeau, MO - Butler, MO
564	4	Adams, NE - Nuckolls, NE
565	6	Ellis, KS - Graham, KS
566	6	Adair, MO - Scotland, MO
567	4	Lyon, KS - Greenwood, KS
568	5	Codington, SD - Grant, SD
569	4	Saline, KS - Ellsworth, KS
570	7	Buffalo, NE - Dawson, NE
571	7	Craighead, AR - Greene, AR
572	7	Brown, SD - Day, SD
573	4	Blue Earth, MN - Watonwan, MN
574	8	Independence, AR - Howell, MO
575	6	Finney, KS - Scott, KS
576	6	Sedgwick (Wichita), KS - Harvey, KS
577	5	Madison, NE - Antelope, NE
578	6	Yankton, SD - Bon Homme, SD
579	3	Williams, ND - Divide, ND
580	8	Scotts Bluff, NE - Goshen, WY
581	8	Cole, MO - Callaway, MO
582	2	Otter Tail, MN - Grant, MN
583	4	Barton, KS - Rush, KS
584	6	Grand Forks (Grand Forks), ND - Polk, MN
585	3	Webster, IA - Humboldt, IA
586	3	Lawrence, SD - Campbell, WY
587	4	Seward, KS - Texas, OK
588	5	Stearns (St. Cloud), MN - Morrison, MN
589	6	Wapello, IA - Mahaska, IA
590	3	Big Stone, MN - Roberts, SD
591	8	Buchanan (St. Joseph), MO - Nodaway, MO
592	5	Kandiyohi, MN - Yellow Medicine, MN
593	6	Lincoln, NE - Perkins, NE
594	8	Custer, NE - Valley, NE
595	5	Gregory, SD - Tripp, SD
596	6	Pottawattamie (Council Bluffs), IA - Shelby, IA
597	2	Beltrami, MN - Clearwater, MN
598	3	Reno, KS - Stafford, KS
599	3	St. Charles (St. Charles), MO - Lincoln, MO
600	4	Beadle, SD - Hand, SD
601	4	Labette, KS - Allen, KS
602	3	Brown, MN - Redwood, MN
603	3	Mille Lacs, MN - Isanti (Cambridge), MN
604	4	Pennington, MN - Kittson, MN
605	4	Stark, ND - Golden Valley, ND
606	5	Story, IA - Hamilton, IA
607	3	Henry, MO - St. Clair, MO
608	3	Douglas, MN - Stevens, MN
609	2	Lyon, MN - Lincoln, MN
610	2	Brookings, SD - Kingsbury, SD
611	2	York, NE - Polk, NE
612	5	Crow Wing, MN - Wadena, MN

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
613	4	Red Willow, NE - Decatur, KS
614	2	Mississippi, AR - Pemiscot, MO
615	9	Davison, SD - Charles Mix, SD
616	3	Phelps, NE - Furnas, NE
617	2	Greene, IA - Guthrie, IA
618	3	Pratt, KS - Kiowa, KS
619	4	Nobles, MN - Jackson, MN
621	2	Wyandotte (Kansas City), KS - Leavenworth, KS
622	3	Mitchell, KS - Osborne, KS
623	5	Dawes, NE - Sheridan, NE
624	5	Johnson (Overland Park), KS - Douglas, KS
625	3	Clay, IA - Dickinson, IA
626	2	Martin, MN - Emmet, IA
627	4	Phelps, MO - Dent, MO
628	2	Richardson, NE - Pawnee, NE
629	6	Hughes, SD - Haakon, SD
630	3	Crawford, KS - Bourbon, KS
631	2	Roseau, MN - Lake of the Woods, MN
632	3	Stutsman, ND - Foster, ND
633	3	Carroll, IA - Calhoun, IA
634	2	Floyd, IA - Chickasaw, IA
635	2	Marshall, KS - Washington, KS
636	2	Rawlins, KS - Cheyenne, KS
637	3	Phillips, KS - Smith, KS
638	3	Pierce, ND - Rolette, ND
639	2	Vernon, MO - Cedar, MO
640	6	Adams, ND - Bowman, ND
641	2	Scott (Davenport), IA - Muscatine, IA
642	2	Cloud, KS - Republic, KS
643	2	Greeley, KS - Wichita, KS
644	3	Page, IA - Fremont, IA
645	2	Lucas, IA - Wayne, IA
646	2	Freeborn, MN - Faribault, MN
647	2	Montgomery, IA - Adams, IA
648	5	Walworth, SD - Potter, SD
649	2	Appanoose, IA - Davis, IA
650	3	Dickinson, KS - Geary, KS
651	3	Platte, NE - Nance, NE
652	2	O'Brien, IA - Osceola, IA
654	3	Chase, NE - Dundy, NE
655	3	Ramsey, ND - Eddy, ND
656	4	Pettis, MO - Saline, MO
657	2	Livingston, MO - Carroll, MO
658	2	Fillmore, NE - Thayer, NE
659	3	Thomas, KS - Sherman, KS
660	2	Otoe, NE - Johnson, NE
661	2	Harper, KS - Kingman, KS
662	1	Clay, KS
663	1	Madison, MO
664	1	Stevens, KS
665	1	Mitchell, IA
666	3	Audrain, MO - Monroe, MO
667	1	Russell, KS
668	1	Cherry, NE
669	1	Barber, KS
670	1	Grant, ND
671	1	Atchison, KS

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>	<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
672	1	Sioux, IA	729	4	Malheur, OR - Washington, ID
673	1	Linn, MO	730	2	Cassia, ID - Minidoka, ID
674	1	McPherson, KS	731	6	Alamosa, CO - Rio Grande, CO
675	1	Wilson, KS	732	3	Dona Ana (Las Cruces), NM - Luna, NM
676	1	Taney, MO	733	2	Sheridan, MT - Daniels, MT
678	2	Atchison, MO - Holt, MO	734	5	Kootenai, ID - Bonner, ID
679	2	Marshall, IA - Tama, IA	735	2	Moffat, CO - Routt, CO
680	2	Dickey, ND - La Moure, ND	736	6	King (Seattle), WA - Snohomish, WA
681	1	Crawford, IA	737	4	Stanislaus (Modesto), CA - Merced, CA
682	1	Ness, KS	738	3	Coos, OR - Del Norte, CA
683	2	Grundy, MO - Mercer, MO	739	2	Yakima (Yakima), WA - Kittitas, WA
684	2	McIntosh, ND - Logan, ND	740	8	San Juan, NM - La Plata, CO
685	1	Camden, MO	741	4	Laramie (Cheyenne), WY - Cheyenne, NE
686	1	Poweshiek, IA	742	3	Silver Bow, MT - Deer Lodge, MT
687	1	Nemaha, NE	743	2	Klamath, OR - Lake, OR
688	11	Denver (Denver), CO - Jefferson, CO	744	5	Weber (Ogden), UT - Davis, UT
689	8	Multnomah (Portland), OR - Clackamas, OR	745	5	Otero, CO - Prowers, CO
690	3	Yuba, CA - Sutter (Yuba City), CA	746	3	Solano (Vallejo), CA - Napa, CA
691	8	Yellowstone (Billings), MT - Carbon, MT	747	4	Chelan, WA - Okanogan, WA
692	7	Cascade (Great Falls), MT - Glacier, MT	748	6	Wasco, OR - Hood River, OR
693	5	Bernalillo (Albuquerque), NM - Valencia, NM	749	2	Park, WY - Big Horn, WY
694	6	Nez Perce, ID - Asotin, WA	750	3	San Joaquin (Stockton), CA - Amador, CA
695	4	Twin Falls, ID - Jerome, ID	751	3	Santa Clara (San Jose), CA - Monterey, CA
696	5	Bannock, ID - Bingham, ID	752	3	Jackson (Medford), OR - Josephine, OR
697	3	Butte (Chico), CA - Tehama, CA	753	2	Nevada, CA - Sierra, CA
698	6	Spokane (Spokane), WA - Stevens, WA	754	5	El Paso (Colorado Springs), CO - Kit Carson, CO
699	5	Maricopa (Phoenix), AZ - Yavapai, AZ	755	2	Iron, UT - Beaver, UT
700	5	Pima (Tucson), AZ - Cochise, AZ	756	2	Park, MT - Sweet Grass, MT
701	10	Washoe (Reno), NV- Ormsby, NV	757	2	San Francisco (San Francisco), CA - San Mateo, CA
702	2	Benton (Kennewick), WA - Franklin, WA	758	5	Thurston (Olympia), WA - Lewis, WA
703	6	Utah (Provo), UT - Sevier, UT	759	3	Union, OR - Baker, OR
704	4	Pueblo (Pueblo), CO - Colfax, NM	760	4	Weld (Greeley), CO - Morgan, CO
705	3	Marion (Salem), OR - Yamhill, OR	761	6	Delta, CO - Montrose, CO
707	8	Clark (Las Vegas), NV - Washington, UT	763	3	Logan, CO - Phillips, CO
708	6	Salt Lake (Salt Lake City), UT - Uintah, UT	764	2	Sonoma (Santa Rosa), CA - Marin, CA
709	4	Sacramento (Sacramento), CA - Placer, CA	765	2	McKinley, NM - Apache, AZ
710	3	Shasta (Redding), CA - Modoc, CA	766	2	Alameda (Oakland), CA - Contra Costa, CA
711	6	Mesa, CO - Garfield, CO	767	4	Richland, MT - Dawson, MT
712	4	Hill, MT - Phillips, MT	768	2	San Bernardino, CA - Riverside (Riverside), CA
713	6	Missoula, MT - Ravalli, MT	769	2	Otero, NM - Lincoln, NM
714	6	Custer, MT - Fallon, MT	770	2	Sheridan, WY - Johnson, WY
715	3	Cache, UT - Franklin, ID	771	3	Albany, WY - Carbon, WY
716	7	Ada (Boise), ID - Canyon, ID	772	2	Chaves, NM - Eddy, NM
717	4	Walla Walla, WA - Umatilla, OR	773	2	Gallatin, MT - Madison, MT
718	3	Fresno (Fresno), CA - Kings, CA	774	2	San Diego (San Diego), CA - Imperial, CA
719	5	Deschutes, OR - Crook, OR	775	3	Teton, WY - Lincoln, WY
720	3	Elko, NV - Lander, NV	777	3	Fremont, WY - Hot Springs, WY
721	3	Lewis and Clark, MT - Broadwater, MT	778	2	Meagher, MT - Wheatland, MT
722	8	Bonneville, ID - Madison, ID	779	2	Roosevelt, MT - Valley, MT
723	2	Los Angeles (Los Angeles), CA - Orange, CA	780	2	Plumas, CA - Lassen, CA
724	4	Santa Fe (Santa Fe), NM - Rio Arriba, NM	781	2	Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara), CA - San Luis Obispo, CA
725	4	Curry, NM - Quay, NM	782	2	Lane (Eugene), OR - Douglas, OR
726	2	Natrona (Casper), WY - Converse, WY	783	2	Lincoln, OR - Tillamook, OR
727	2	Linn, OR - Benton, OR	784	2	Latah, ID - Whitman, WA
728	2	Flathead, MT - Lincoln, MT			

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
785	2	Clallam, WA - Jefferson, WA
786	2	Chaffee, CO - Lake, CO
787	1	Yuma (Yuma), AZ
788	1	Powell, MT
789	1	Tulare (Visalia), CA
790	1	Ventura (Oxnard), CA
792	1	Uinta, WY
793	3	Grant, NM - Catron, NM
794	1	Pierce (Tacoma), WA
795	1	Boulder (Boulder), CO
796	1	Larimer (Fort Collins), CO
797	1	Platte, WY
799	2	Sweetwater, WY - Daggett, UT
800	1	Humboldt, CA
801	4	San Miguel, NM - Guadalupe, NM
802	1	Santa Cruz (Santa Cruz), CA
803	1	Mohave, AZ
804	1	Weston, WY
805	1	White Pine, NV
806	1	Grant, OR

<i>HSA number</i>	<i>Number of counties in HSA</i>	<i>HSA name</i>
807	1	Kern (Bakersfield), CA
808	2	Blaine, ID - Camas, ID
809	2	Carbon, UT - Emery, UT
810	2	Fergus, MT - Petroleum, MT
811	1	Mendocino, CA
812	2	Fremont, CO - Custer, CO
813	1	Lemhi, ID
814	1	Union, NM
815	1	Whatcom (Bellingham), WA
816	2	Inyo, CA - Mono, CA
817	3	Ketchikan Gateway, AK - Wrangell - Petersburg, AK
818	4	Juneau, AK - Sitka, AK
819	3	Fairbanks North Star, AK - Southeast Fairbanks, AK
820	15	Anchorage (Anchorage), AK - Kenai Peninsula, AK
821	3	Honolulu (Honolulu), HI - Maui, HI
822	1	Kauai, HI
823	1	Hawaii, HI

APPENDIX II. STATISTICAL MODELING

Traditionally, the variance for an age-adjusted death rate is computed as a weighted average of age-specific binomial variances (49). However, this estimator has been shown to often underestimate (127) and occasionally overestimate (128) the true variance of the rate. Empirical Bayes methods have been proposed to “stabilize” rates with large variances (129, 130), but these methods tend to overshrink the individual rates to some overall rate, possibly masking interesting spatial patterns (131). Mixed effects regression models were used to improve the variance estimates for the rates, and to provide predicted rates by age and region, estimates not available except from a model-based procedure. This appendix provides the technical details of the models used to produce the maps and graphs in this atlas.

Information from certificates of all deaths that occurred during 1988–92 was summarized to produce stratified numbers of deaths by cause of death (table 1), sex, race (see “Data sources” section), age (0–4, 5–14, 25–34 through 75–84, and 85 years and over), and HSA (31) for analysis. Corresponding person years at risk were computed by multiplying the stratified 1990 Census population by 5. Thus, rates presented in this atlas may be interpreted as “average annual rates” over the 5-year period.

Notation. Because separate analyses were conducted for each cause, sex, and race combination, subscripts for these factors are suppressed in this section. For each of these analyses, let

$$\begin{aligned} d_{ij} &= \text{number of deaths in HSA } i, \text{ age group } j, \\ n_{ij} &= \text{the corresponding population at risk.} \end{aligned}$$

Because deaths are rare relative to the large populations at risk, we may assume that

$$d_{ij} \sim \text{Poisson}(n_{ij}\lambda_{ij}) \quad (1)$$

where λ_{ij} is the age-specific death rate for age j ($j=1, \dots, J$), HSA i ($i=1, \dots, I$). Then the maximum likelihood estimator of λ_{ij} is $\hat{\lambda}_{ij} = r_{ij} = d_{ij} / n_{ij}$, the observed age-specific rate for HSA i and age j . For the atlas data, $J=10$ and $I=798$ (data for Alaska and Hawaii were not modeled).

Age-adjusted rates. The observed age-adjusted rate for HSA i is computed using the direct method as a weighted average of the age-specific rates for HSA i :

$$R_i = \sum_{j=1}^J r_{ij} c_j = \hat{\lambda}_i' C \quad (2)$$

with expected value $E(R_i) = \lambda_i' C$, where

$\lambda_i = (\lambda_{i1}, \lambda_{i2}, \dots, \lambda_{iJ})'$, and C is a vector of weights consisting of age-specific proportions of the standard population ($\sum c_j = 1$). All rates in this atlas have been adjusted to the U.S. standard million population using the age groups and weights in table 2.

Dispersion of rates. In order to make inferences about either the age-specific (r_{ij}) or age-adjusted rates (R_i), accurate estimates of their variances are needed. In the absence of repeated data samples, the analyst needs to rely on either a computationally intensive nonparametric method, such as Gibb’s sampling, or a theoretically justifiable variance estimator. A common solution is to assume homogeneity of rates across all geographic areas, that is, $\lambda_{ij} = \lambda_j$ for all i . This is not a valid assumption for U.S. mortality data (131), and leads to the appearance of overdispersion of rates.

Potential sources of overdispersion in these data are heterogeneity of the underlying rates across geographic areas, exclusion of important explanatory variables from the rate model, and correlations among the age-adjusted rates. For example, rates may be spatially correlated because of unmeasured environmental, lifestyle, or other regional effects. To account for possible overdispersion, the distributional assumptions about d_{ij} (equation 1) were generalized to:

$$\begin{aligned} E(d_{ij}) &= n_{ij}\lambda_{ij} \\ \text{Var}(d_{ij}) &= \phi n_{ij}\lambda_{ij} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Then asymptotically, $\text{Var}(r_{ij}) = \phi \lambda_{ij} / n_{ij}$ and

$$\text{Var}(R_i) = \phi \sum_{j=1}^J c_j^2 \frac{\hat{\lambda}_{ij}}{n_{ij}} = \phi C' \text{Diag} \left(\frac{\hat{\lambda}_{ij}}{n_{ij}} \right) C \quad (4a)$$

Because death is a rare event, this Poisson-derived variance is well approximated by the binomial form of the variance:

$$\text{Var}(R_i) \approx \phi C' \text{Diag} \left(\frac{\hat{\lambda}_{ij}(1 - \hat{\lambda}_{ij})}{n_{ij}} \right) C \quad (4b)$$

which is just the traditional variance for an age-adjusted rate (49) multiplied by the dispersion factor ϕ .

Generalized linear model. In order to share information across areas to achieve stability of parameter estimates, the place- and age-specific rates were modeled as a function of age. That is,

$$\ln(r_{ij}) = f(a_j, \beta_i) + \varepsilon_{ij} \quad (5)$$

where a_j is the midpoint of age group j rescaled by dividing by 10 (that is, $a_j = 0.25, 1, 2, \dots, 9$), and β_i is the vector of parameters to be estimated; 0.000001 was added to each r_{ij} to avoid taking logarithms of zero. Because of the irregularity of the dependence of death rates on age for external causes of death, it was necessary to use cubic and linear spline forms for $f(a_j, \beta_i)$. Specifically,

$$f(a_j, \beta_i) = \ln \lambda_{ij} = X_j \beta_i \quad (6)$$

For the linear model

$$X_j = (1, a_j, \delta_1(a_j - k_1), \delta_2(a_j - k_2), \delta_3(a_j - k_3)) \quad (7a)$$

and for the cubic model

$$X_j = (1, a_j, a_j^2, a_j^3, \delta_1(a_j - k_1)^3) \quad (7b)$$

where $\delta_m = 1$ if $a_j > k_m$, 0 otherwise, and $\{k_1, k_2, k_3\}$ is the set of spline knots predetermined as optimal for U.S. age-specific rates for each cause, race, and sex. Thus this model reduced the number of parameters to be estimated from 10 (λ_i) to 5 (β_i) for each HSA.

Random effects. Further reduction in the parameter space and stability of estimates were achieved by allowing the intercept and, for whites, initial slope parameter estimates to vary by HSA within region in a hierarchical random effects model. That is,

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_i &= \beta_k + b_i \text{ for HSA } i \in \text{region } k \\ b_i &= \begin{cases} (b_{0i}, b_{1i}, 0, 0, 0)' & \text{for whites} \\ (b_{0i}, 0, 0, 0, 0)' & \text{for blacks} \end{cases} \\ \beta_k & \text{ fixed and } b_i \sim N(0, D_k) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where D_k is the covariance matrix for the random HSA effects. Because of computational constraints, all

regional effects were considered fixed, not themselves random effects within an overall U.S. effect. Predicted age-specific rates derived from these regional estimates, $e^{X_j \hat{\beta}_k}$, are plotted along with their 95-percent confidence limits for each cause, race, and sex (see figure 1c). This model accommodates age-by-HSA interactions through the HSA random effects within region and age-by-region interactions through the individual fixed regional effects.

Computational methods. From equation 4a, it can be shown that asymptotically

$$\text{Var}(\ln(r_{ij})) \approx \phi / (n_{ij} \lambda_{ij}) \quad (9)$$

Therefore, a generalized linear model analysis of $\ln(r_{ij})$ using inverse standard error weights of $(n_{ij} \lambda_{ij})^{1/2}$ will yield an estimate of the dispersion parameter ϕ directly as the residual variance:

$$\hat{\phi} = \sum_{i,j} \left[\ln(r_{ij}) - E(\ln(r_{ij}) | \beta_i) \right]^2 / (IJ - p) \quad (10)$$

where p is the number of parameters estimated for the model.

An EM algorithm can be used to estimate the parameters, by iterating between computing the weights $(n_{ij} \lambda_{ij})^{1/2} = [E(d_{ij} | \lambda_{ij})]^{1/2}$ from each $\hat{\beta}_i$, and then recomputing $\hat{\beta}_i$ using these new weights. Initial weights were created by substituting d_{ij} for $E(d_{ij} | \lambda_{ij})$ unless $d_{ij} < 3$, when an expected number of deaths was computed using marginal regional rates. Parameters were estimated by repeated applications of SAS PROC MIXED (132).

Analysis of sample data demonstrated convergence of the parameter estimates within five iterations. In fact, except for very sparsely populated areas, the results of the first PROC MIXED model using the initial weights were within 5 percent of the final rate estimates. Therefore, because of the computational difficulty of iterating the random effects model for each of the 72 cause-, race-, sex-specific datasets, the results of the initial iteration were used as input to the smoothing algorithm.

Smoothing algorithm. Predicted age-specific rates for each HSA were smoothed using a weighted headbanging algorithm (52), with weights equal to the inverse of the rates' estimated standard errors. For the sample data, this choice of weights caused rates for sparsely populated HSA's to be smoothed to

essentially the same relative values whether results of the first or last iteration were used. These smoothed, modeled age-specific rates were then mapped for each cause, race, and sex as an adjunct to the maps of age-adjusted rates (see figures 1d, 1e).

Variance estimation. An analysis of simulated data showed less than a 1-percent bias in estimating $\hat{\beta}_i$ using these methods, but a large bias in estimating ϕ . Therefore, a robust sandwich estimator was used to compute the dispersion parameter (133):

$$\hat{\phi} = \sum_{i,j} \frac{[d_{ij} - E(d_{ij} | \beta_i)]^2}{E(d_{ij} | \beta_i)} / (IJ - p) \quad (11)$$

Observations with absolute standardized residuals more extreme than 5 were excluded from equation 11. This estimator was also proposed by McCullagh and Nelder (134) as a residual sum of squares estimator of dispersion.

Several forms of the random effects variance matrix D_k were examined using PROC MIXED, several of which included spatial correlation among HSA's as a function of distance between population centroids. However, after accounting for broad spatial patterns through the fixed regional effects, the covariance parameters converged to zero. Similarly, examination of the residuals showed little remaining spatial autocorrelation. Thus the final models used for the atlas data included only diagonal variance matrices.

The robust dispersion estimate (equation 11) was used to adjust the traditional variance for each age-adjusted rate (as in equation 4b) for purposes of determining reliability (figure 1a) and significance (figure 1b) of the rates for mapping. When applied to simulated data, this method resulted in 94.5-percent coverage of the true rates by nominal 95-percent confidence intervals. Goodness-of-fit plots and statistics indicate that these methods fit the observed mortality data well (48).