

Description of Data Elements
Kids' Inpatient Database (KID)
Hospital File
2003

This document contains cumulative descriptions of data elements across years of HCUP data from 1988 to the current data year. Some notes will not apply directly to the 2003 KID.

Not all data elements in the KID Hospital file are available from every state. Run frequencies by state to identify if a data element is unavailable in one or more states.

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AHAID - AHA hospital identifier

General Notes

There are up to three different types of hospital identifiers included in the HCUP databases.

- The data source's own number scheme for identifying hospitals and facilities (DSHOSPID),
- The hospital identifier used by the American Hospital Association (AHAID and IDNUMBER), and
- A unique HCUP hospital identifier (HOSPID).

The hospital entity as defined by the data source may differ from the hospital entity as defined by the AHA. For example, the data source treats two separate facilities as two hospitals, while the AHA Annual Survey treats the two facilities as a single hospital, or vice versa. For consistency across states, HCUP defines hospitals in accordance with the American Hospital Association Annual Survey of Hospitals. During HCUP data processing, the data source's identification of the hospital is reconciled with the identification of the hospital in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. For detailed information about this linking process, see the special report on HCUP Hospital Identifiers.

The hospital identifier (AHAID) contains the 7-digit American Hospital Association (AHA) hospital identifier that the AHA uses on their yearly AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals data files. These files contain information about hospital characteristics and are available for purchase through the AHA.

AHAID is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
AHAID	AHA hospital identifier	7(n)	AHA hospital identifier with a leading 6
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSP_BEDSIZE - Bedsize of hospital

General Notes

HOSP_BEDSIZE is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSP_BEDSIZE	Bedsizes of hospital	1	Small
		2	Medium
		3	Large
		.	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSP_CONTROL - Control/ownership of hospital

General Notes

The hospital's ownership/control category was obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals and includes categories for government nonfederal (public), private not-for-profit (voluntary) and private investor-owned (proprietary). These types of hospitals tend to have different missions and different responses to government regulations and policies.

When the sample size was sufficiently large, hospitals were stratified as public (HOSP_CONTROL=1), voluntary (HOSP_CONTROL=2), and proprietary (HOSP_CONTROL=3). This stratification was used for Southern rural, Southern urban nonteaching, and Western urban nonteaching hospitals. For smaller strata - the Midwestern rural and Western rural hospitals - a collapsed stratification of public versus private was used, with the voluntary and proprietary hospitals combined to form a single "private" category (HOSP_CONTROL=4). For all other combinations of region, location and teaching status, no stratification based on control was advisable given the number of hospitals in these cells (HOSP_CONTROL=0).

The HCUP variable name for the hospital's ownership/control category has changed over time. In the 1997 KID, this same information is stored in the variable H_CONTRL. Beginning with the 2000 KID, the name HOSP_CONTROL is used.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

HOSP_CONTROL is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSP_CONTROL	Control/ownership of hospital	0	Government or private (collapsed category)
		1	Government, nonfederal (public)
		2	Private, not-for-profit (voluntary)
		3	Private, investor-owned (proprietary)
		4	Private (collapsed category)
		.	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSP_LOCATION - Location (urban/rural) of hospital

General Notes

This information was obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. A metropolitan statistical area (MSA) is considered urban, and a non-metropolitan statistical area is rural. Government payment policies often differ according to this designation. Also, rural hospitals are generally smaller and offer fewer services than urban hospitals.

The HCUP variable name for the hospital's location category has changed over time. In the 1997 KID, this same information is stored in the variable H_LOC. Beginning with the 2000 KID, the name HOSP_LOCATION is used. For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

HOSP_LOCATION is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSP_LOCATION	Location (urban/rural) of hospital	0	Rural
		1	Urban
		.	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSP_LOCTEACH - Location/teaching status of hospital

General Notes

The hospital's location and teaching status were obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. A metropolitan statistical area is considered urban, and a non-metropolitan statistical area is rural. Beginning in 1998, a hospital is considered to be a teaching hospital if it has an AMA-approved residency program, is a member of the Council of Teaching Hospitals (COTH) or has a ratio of full-time equivalent interns and residents to beds of .25 or higher. Prior to 1998, a hospital is considered to be a teaching hospital if it has an AMA approved residency program or is a member of the COTH.

Rural hospitals were not split according to teaching status, because rural teaching hospitals were rare.

The HCUP variable name for the hospital's location and teaching status has changed over time. In the 1997 KID, this same information is stored in the variable H_LOCTCH. Beginning with the 2000 KID, the name HOSP_LOCTEACH is used.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

HOSP_LOCTEACH is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSP_LOCTEACH	Location/teaching status of hospital	1	Rural
		2	Urban nonteaching
		3	Urban teaching
		.	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSP_REGION - Region of hospital (definition used prior to 1998)

General Notes

The hospital's census region was obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. Census region is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau.

This is an important stratifier because practice patterns have been shown to vary substantially by region. For example, lengths of stay tend to be longer in East Coast hospitals than in West Coast hospitals.

The HCUP variable name for the hospital's census region has changed over time. In the 1997 KID, this same information is stored in the variable H_REGION. Beginning with the 2000 KID, the name HOSP_REGION is used.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSP_REGION	Region of hospital (definition used prior to 1998)	1	Northeast
		2	Midwest
		3	South
		4	West

State Specific Notes

None

HOSP_TEACH - Teaching status of hospital

General Notes

The hospital's teaching status was obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. The missions of teaching hospitals differ from nonteaching hospitals. In addition, financial considerations differ between these two hospital groups. Currently, the Medicare DRG payments are uniformly higher to teaching hospitals than to nonteaching hospitals. A hospital is considered to be a teaching hospital if it has an AMA-approved residency program, is a member of the Council of Teaching Hospitals (COTH) or has a ratio of full-time equivalent interns and residents to beds of .25 or higher.

The HCUP variable name and definition for the hospital's teaching status has changed over time. Beginning with the 2000 KID, the variable name HOSP_TEACH is used, and teaching hospitals include hospitals with a ratio of .25 or higher of full-time equivalent interns and residents to non-nursing home beds. In the 1997 KID, teaching status is stored in the variable H_TCH and does not include the ratio of interns and residents to beds.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

HOSP_TEACH is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSP_TEACH	Teaching status of hospital	0	Nonteaching
		1	Teaching
		.	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSPADDR - Hospital address from AHA Annual Survey

General Notes

HOSPADDR contains the hospital's street address obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals.

During HCUP data processing, the data source's identification of the hospital is reconciled with the identification of the hospital in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. For detailed information about this linking process, see the special report on HCUP Hospital Identifiers.

HOSPADDR is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSPADDR	Hospital address from AHA Annual Survey	30(a)	Hospital's street address
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSPCITY - Hospital city from AHA Annual Survey

General Notes

HOSPCITY contains the hospital's city obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals.

During HCUP data processing, the data source's identification of the hospital is reconciled with the identification of the hospital in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. For detailed information about this linking process, see the special report on HCUP hospital identifiers.

HOSPCITY is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSPCITY	Hospital city from AHA Annual Survey	20(a)	Hospital city
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSPID - HCUP hospital identification number

General Notes

There are up to three different types of hospital identifiers included in the HCUP databases.

- The data source's own number scheme for identifying hospitals and facilities (DSHOSPID),
- The hospital identifier used by the American Hospital Association (AHAID and IDNUMBER), and
- A unique HCUP hospital identifier (HOSPID).

The hospital entity as defined by the data source may differ from the hospital entity as defined by the AHA. For example, the data source treats two separate facilities as two hospitals, while the AHA Annual Survey treats the two facilities as a single hospital, or vice versa. For consistency across states, HCUP defines hospitals in accordance with the American Hospital Association Annual Survey of Hospitals. During HCUP data processing, the data source's identification of the hospital is reconciled with the identification of the hospital in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. For detailed information about this linking process, see the special report on HCUP Hospital Identifiers.

The HCUP hospital identifier (HOSPID) is based on the AHA hospital identifier and is defined as:

- SSnnn, where SS = State FIPS Code, and
- nnn = hospital number unique to state.

The data element HOSPID is available in the Hospital file.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSPID	HCUP hospital identification number	5(n)	HCUP hospital identification number
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSPNAME - Hospital name from AHA Annual Survey

General Notes

HOSPNAME contains the hospital's name obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals.

During HCUP data processing, the data source's identification of the hospital is reconciled with the identification of the hospital in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. For detailed information about this linking process, see the special report on HCUP Hospital Identifiers.

HOSPNAME is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSPNAME	Hospital name from AHA Annual Survey	30(a)	Hospital's name
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSPST - Hospital State postal code

General Notes

HOSPST indicates the hospital's two-character state postal code (e.g., "CA" for California).

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSPST	Hospital State postal code	aa	Hospital State postal code

State Specific Notes

None

HOSPSTCO - Hospital modified FIPS state/county code

General Notes

HOSPSTCO indicates the five-digit state and county modified FIPS code listed for that hospital in the American Hospital Association Annual Survey of Hospitals. Each hospital has only one unique state/county code. If multiple hospital units are in different counties, HOSPSTCO is the county code of the primary facility (as indicated by American Hospital Association Annual Survey information).

HOSPSTCO can be used to link HCUP data to any other data set that uses the modified FIPS county code, such as the Area Resource File and the American Hospital Association Annual Survey of Hospitals. In these modified FIPS county codes, Baltimore City is included in Baltimore County, St. Louis City in St. Louis County, and the independent cities of Virginia in the contiguous counties, Kalawao county, Hawaii is included in Maui County.

HOSPSTCO is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSPSTCO	Hospital modified FIPS state/county code	5(n)	Hospital modified FIPS State/County code
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

HOSPZIP - Hospital zip code from AHA Annual Survey

General Notes

HOSPZIP contains the hospital's zip code obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals.

During HCUP data processing, the data source's identification of the hospital is reconciled with the identification of the hospital in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. For detailed information about this linking process, see the special report on HCUP Hospital Identifiers.

HOSPZIP is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
HOSPZIP	Hospital zip code from AHA Annual Survey	5(n)	Hospital's zip code
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

IDNUMBER - Modified AHA hospital identifier

General Notes

There are up to three different types of hospital identifiers included in the HCUP databases.

- The data source's own number scheme for identifying hospitals and facilities (DSHOSPID),
- The hospital identifier used by the American Hospital Association (AHAID and IDNUMBER), and
- A unique HCUP hospital identifier (HOSPID).

The hospital entity as defined by the data source may differ from the hospital entity as defined by the AHA. For example, the data source treats two separate facilities as two hospitals, while the AHA Annual Survey treats the two facilities as a single hospital, or vice versa. For consistency across states, HCUP defines hospitals in accordance with the American Hospital Association Annual Survey of Hospitals. During HCUP data processing, the data source's identification of the hospital is reconciled with the identification of the hospital in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. For detailed information about this linking process, see the special report on HCUP Hospital Identifiers.

IDNUMBER contains the last 6 digits of the original 7-digit AHA hospital identifier because the leading "6" has been removed. The data element AHAID retains the original 7-digit value in the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals data files. These files contain information about hospital characteristics and are available for purchase through the AHA.

IDNUMBER is missing if the data source that contributed discharge data to the KID prohibits the release of hospital identifiers.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
IDNUMBER	Modified AHA hospital identifier	6(n)	AHA Hospital identifier without a leading 6
		Blank	Missing

State Specific Notes

None

KID_STRATUM - Stratum used to post-stratify hospital

General Notes

KID_STRATUM is a four-digit stratum identifier used to post-stratify hospitals for the calculation of universe weights.

The hospital's census region, control category, location, teaching status, and bedsize were obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals.

- A metropolitan statistical area is considered urban, and a non-metro statistical area is rural.
- Teaching hospitals have an AMA-approved residency program or have membership in the Council of Teaching Hospitals.
- Bedsize assesses the number of short-term acute beds in a hospital.

The hospital's bedsize category is nested within location and teaching status.

Location and Teaching Status	Bedsize		
	Small	Medium	Large
Rural	1-49	50-99	100+
Urban, nonteaching	1-99	100-199	200+
Urban, teaching	1-299	300-499	500+

Some strata were combined for sampling and weight calculations. Consequently, a given hospital's actual value for a stratifier may differ from those indicated by the value of KID_STRATUM. Each hospital's actual values of stratifiers are contained in separate variables:

Stratifier	Variable
Region	H_REGION
Ownership/Control	H_CONTRL
Location/Teaching	H_LOCTCH
Bedsize	H_BEDSZ

Collapse KID_STRATUM for Small Cell Size. If fewer than two frame hospitals, less than 30 uncomplicated births, less than 30 complicated births, and less than 30 non-birth pediatric discharges were contained in a stratum, then adjacent stratum were combined.

Children's Hospitals. KID_STRATUM was set to 9999 for children's hospitals. The AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals and information from the National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI) were used to identify children's hospitals. AHRQ was consulted about the resolution of any inconsistencies in the coding of hospital type.

Uniform Values			
Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
KID_STRATUM	Stratum used to post-stratify hospital	n	1st Digit = 1 Geographic: Northeast (1), Midwest (2), South (3), West (4)
		n	2nd Digit = 2 Control: Government, nonfederal (1), Private, not-for-profit (2), Private, investor-owned (3), Private, either not-for-profit or investor-owned (4)
		n	3rd Digit = 3 Location / Teaching: Rural (1), Urban nonteaching (2), Urban teaching (3)
		n	4th Digit = 4 Bedsize: Small (1), Medium (2), Large (3)
		9999	Children's Hospital

State Specific Notes

None

N_BRTH_U - Number of universe births in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

N_BRTH_U contains the number of births obtained from the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals and summed by KID_STRATUM.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
N_BRTH_U	Number of universe births in KID_STRATUM	7(n)	Number of universe births in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

N_DISC_U - Number of universe discharges in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

N_DISC_U contains the total number of discharges in the universe of AHA community hospitals for the strata in KID_STRATUM.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
N_DISC_U	Number of universe discharges in KID_STRATUM	7(n)	Number of universe discharges in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

N_HOSP_U - Number of universe hospitals in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

N_HOSP_U contains the total number of hospitals in the universe of AHA community hospitals for the strata in KID_STRATUM.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
N_HOSP_U	Number of universe hospitals in KID_STRATUM	3(n)	Number of universe hospitals in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

NACHTYPE - NACHRI hospital type

General Notes

NACHTYPE is assigned based on information provided by National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI). There are some hospitals that were not included in the information from NACHRI that are identified by the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals as children's hospitals. These hospitals will have NACHTYPE = 0 (indicating no information from NACHRI) but KID_STRATUM = 9999 (indicating a children's hospital).

There were five instances in which the NACHRI hospital type disagreed with the AHA Annual Survey of Hospitals. In these cases, we examined the data and consulted with AHRQ to determine whether or not to set KID_STRATUM to 9999. However, we did not change the NACHTYPE value.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
NACHTYPE	NACHRI hospital type	0	Not identified as a Children's Hospital by NACHRI
		1	Children's General Hospital
		2	Children's Specialty Hospital
		3	Children's unit in a general hospital

State Specific Notes

None

PEDS_DISC - Number of discharges, 20 years old or younger, from this hospital in the SID

General Notes

PEDS_DISC contains the total number of discharges that are age 20 years or younger from this hospital in the HCUP State Inpatient Databases (SID).

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
PEDS_DISC	Number of discharges, 20 years old or younger, from this hospital in the SID	0	Not identified as a Children's Hospital by NACHRI

State Specific Notes

None

PEDS_PCT - Percentage of hospital discharges, 20 years old or younger

General Notes

PEDS_PCT contains the percentage of discharges that are age 20 years or younger from this hospital in the HCUP State Inpatient Databases (SID). PEDS_DISC contains the number of discharges that are age 20 years or younger from this hospital in the (SID).

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
PEDS_PCT	Percentage of hospital discharges, 20 years old or younger	0	Not identified as a Children's Hospital by NACHRI

State Specific Notes

None

S_BRTH_U - Number of sample births in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

S_BRTH_U contains the total number of sampled births (HOSPBIRTH = 1) in the KID_STRATUM.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
S_BRTH_U	Number of sample births in KID_STRATUM	6(n)	Number of sample births in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

S_CHLD_U - Number of sample pediatric non-births in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

S_CHLD_U contains the total number of sampled pediatric non-births (HOSPBIRTH = 0) sampled in the KID_STRATUM.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
S_CHLD_U	Number of sample pediatric non-births in KID_STRATUM	6(n)	Number of sample pediatric non-births in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

S_CMPB_U - Number of sample complicated births in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

S_CMPB contains the number of complicated births (HOSPBIRTH = 1 and UNCBIRTH = 0) sampled in the hospital.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
S_CMPB_U	Number of sample complicated births in KID_STRATUM	6(n)	Number of sample complicated births in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

S_DISC_U - Number of sample discharges in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

S_DISC_U contains the number of sampled discharges in the strata in KID_STRATUM.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
S_DISC_U	Number of sample discharges in KID_STRATUM	6(n)	Number of sample discharges in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

S_HOSP_U - Number of sample hospitals in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

S_HOSP_U contains the number of sampled hospitals in the strata in KID_STRATUM.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
S_HOSP_U	Number of sample hospitals in KID_STRATUM	nn	Number of sample hospitals in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

S_UNCB_U - Number of sample uncomplicated births in KID_STRATUM

General Notes

S_UNCB_U contains the total number of sampled uncomplicated births (HOSPBIRTH = 1 and UNCBIRTH = 1) in the KID_STRATUM.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
S_UNCB_U	Number of sample uncomplicated births in KID_STRATUM	6(n)	Number of sample uncomplicated births in KID_STRATUM

State Specific Notes

None

TOTAL_DISC - Total hospital discharges

General Notes

TOTAL_DISC includes the total number of discharges from this hospital in the KID. Prior to 1998, this data element is named TOTDSCHG.

For detailed information about the KID sampling design, see the year-specific report on the Design of the HCUP Kids' Inpatient Database.

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
TOTAL_DISC	Total hospital discharges	5(n)	Total hospital discharges

State Specific Notes

None

YEAR - Calendar year

General Notes

The discharge year (YEAR) is always coded. In the 1988-1997 HCUP databases, YEAR is two-digits (e.g., if the discharge year is 1990, then YEAR = 90). Beginning in the 1998 HCUP databases, YEAR is four-digits (e.g., 1998).

Uniform Values

Variable	Description	Value	Value Description
YEAR	Calendar year	yy	2-digit calendar year in 1988-1997 data
		yyyy	4-digit calendar year beginning with 1998 data

State Specific Notes

None