

Hospital Discharge Public Use Data Fact Sheet

Date: 06-01-26

Contact: hdd.admin@odhsoha.oregon.gov

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is included in the public use discharge data files?

A: Record layouts are on page 3 of this document.

Q: Who reports in the public use discharge files?

A: The inpatient discharge data reports discharges (hospitalizations) from 58 acute care hospitals and 1 specialty psychiatric hospital in Oregon. Excluded are Veterans Administration hospitals, rehabilitative care hospitals, long term care facilities, and most psychiatric hospitals.

To be considered an inpatient discharge, the patient must have been admitted to the hospital under order of a physician. Inpatient admissions that resulted from emergency department visits are included here.

The emergency department discharge data reports emergency department discharges and observation stays from 58 emergency departments in Oregon. Emergency department visits that resulted in an inpatient admission are not included here.

Q: What is the cost for data?

A: The cost for completing a public records request for hospital inpatient and emergency department discharge public use files is \$75 per hour. Oregon Health Authority staff will provide a cost estimate before fulfilling public use file requests.

Q: Do you take credit cards?

A: We will soon be able to accept payment via credit card. Please email hdd.admin@odhsoha.oregon.gov for more information. We also accept payment in the form of a check. Please make checks out to Oregon Health Authority.

Q: Why do the public use datasets not contain full zip codes?

A: The state of Oregon does not provide full zip codes in public use datasets. These datasets comply with the [Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule's Safe Harbor](#) definition of de-identified. As a result, the Office of Health Analytics has replaced the full zip codes with the first 3 digits of the patient's zip code when the population of the region the 3 digits cover is greater than 20,000. For regions with a population below 20,000, the zip code is entirely censored and replaced with '000'. The first 3 digits still form a defined geographical area but are much larger than the full zip code and contain greater populations. These are factors that help ensure patient confidentiality. The link above goes into great detail as to the decision-making process for removing zip codes.

Q: Where can I get full zip codes?

A: If your analysis requires full zip codes, we refer you to the [Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project](#) (HCUP). HCUP is a federal-state-industry partnership that maintains state discharge databases. HCUP data may only be used by the data recipient for research which may include analysis and aggregate statistical reporting. HCUP data cannot be used (1) for commercial or competitive purposes involving those individual establishments; or (2) to determine the rights, benefits, or privileges of individual establishments. Record-level datasets from Oregon (and other states) can be purchased at the HCUP website. HCUP places restrictions on the use of the datasets and requires signed data use agreements to be in place prior to receiving data.

For more information on purchasing HCUP data, please visit the [HCUP Request Data page](#).

Q: Can I get custom datasets from Oregon?

A: The Oregon Health Authority provides custom datasets for academic research and county public health use when discharge data from HCUP is not suitable. For more information and to indicate interest in requesting discharge data, please visit the [Health Analytics Data Request page](#). If you have additional questions about the available data, please email hdd.admin@odhsoha.oregon.gov.

Oregon De-Identified Public Dataset Record Layouts

Inpatient

FIELD #	FIELD NAME	DEFINITION	DATA TYPE	LENGTH
1	REC_NUM	Unique record identifier (does not identify patients)	NUMBER	8
2	FACILITY_ID	De-identified hospital facility identifier*	TEXT	8
3	GENDER	Patient reported gender at admission	TEXT	1
4	AGE	Patient age in years at admission**	TEXT	3
5	PATIENT_ZIP_INDICATOR	Patient zip code of residence***	TEXT	3
6	LENGTH_OF_STAY	Length of stay in days from admission date to discharge date	NUMBER	8
7	TOTAL_CHARGES	Total charges for all revenue codes	NUMBER	8
8	PAYER_PRIMARY	NUBC coding from primary payer (details in Codebook)	TEXT	3
9	PRIMARY_DIAGNOSIS	ICD-10 code for principal diagnosis****	TEXT	8
10	MSDRG	MSDRG code for principal diagnosis****	TEXT	3
11	PROCEDURE_PRINCIPAL	ICD-10 code for principal procedure****	TEXT	8
12	DISCHARGE_STATUS	NUBC coding for patient disposition at discharge (details in Codebook)	TEXT	2

Emergency Department

FIELD #	FIELD NAME	DEFINITION	DATA TYPE	LENGTH
1	REC_NUM	Unique record identifier (does not identify patients)	NUMBER	8
2	FACILITY_ID	De-identified hospital facility identifier*	TEXT	8
3	GENDER	Patient reported gender at admission	TEXT	1
4	AGE	Patient age in years at admission**	TEXT	3
5	PATIENT_ZIP_INDICATOR	Patient zip code of residence***	TEXT	3
6	LENGTH_OF_STAY	Length of stay in days from admission date to discharge date	NUMBER	8
7	TOTAL_CHARGES	Total charges for all revenue codes	NUMBER	8
8	PAYER_PRIMARY	NUBC coding from primary payer (details in Codebook)	TEXT	3
9	PRIMARY_DIAGNOSIS	ICD-10 code for principal diagnosis****	TEXT	8
10	PROCEDURE_PRINCIPAL	CPT/HCPCS code for principal procedure****	TEXT	8
11	DISCHARGE_STATUS	NUBC coding for patient disposition at discharge (details in Codebook)	TEXT	2

* It is not possible to identify specific hospitals from FACILITY_ID. In other words, while each hospital has a unique FACILITY_ID in these files, there is no way to crosswalk FACILITY_ID to a hospital's name.

** AGE suppresses values over 90 years of age and replaces the value with a "90+" category.

*** PATIENT_ZIP_INDICATOR represents the geographic region formed by the first three digits of the patient's zip code, for areas with a population greater than 20,000.

**** Look-up resources for ICD-10 diagnosis, ICD-10 procedure, and CPT/HCPCS codes are available online.

Questions? Contact hdd.admin@odhsoha.oregon.gov.