

# Redesigning the National Surveys of Long-Term Care Providers: Challenges with Data Collection Modes and Data Sources

Lauren Harris-Kojetin, PhD  
Chief, Long-Term Care Statistics Branch

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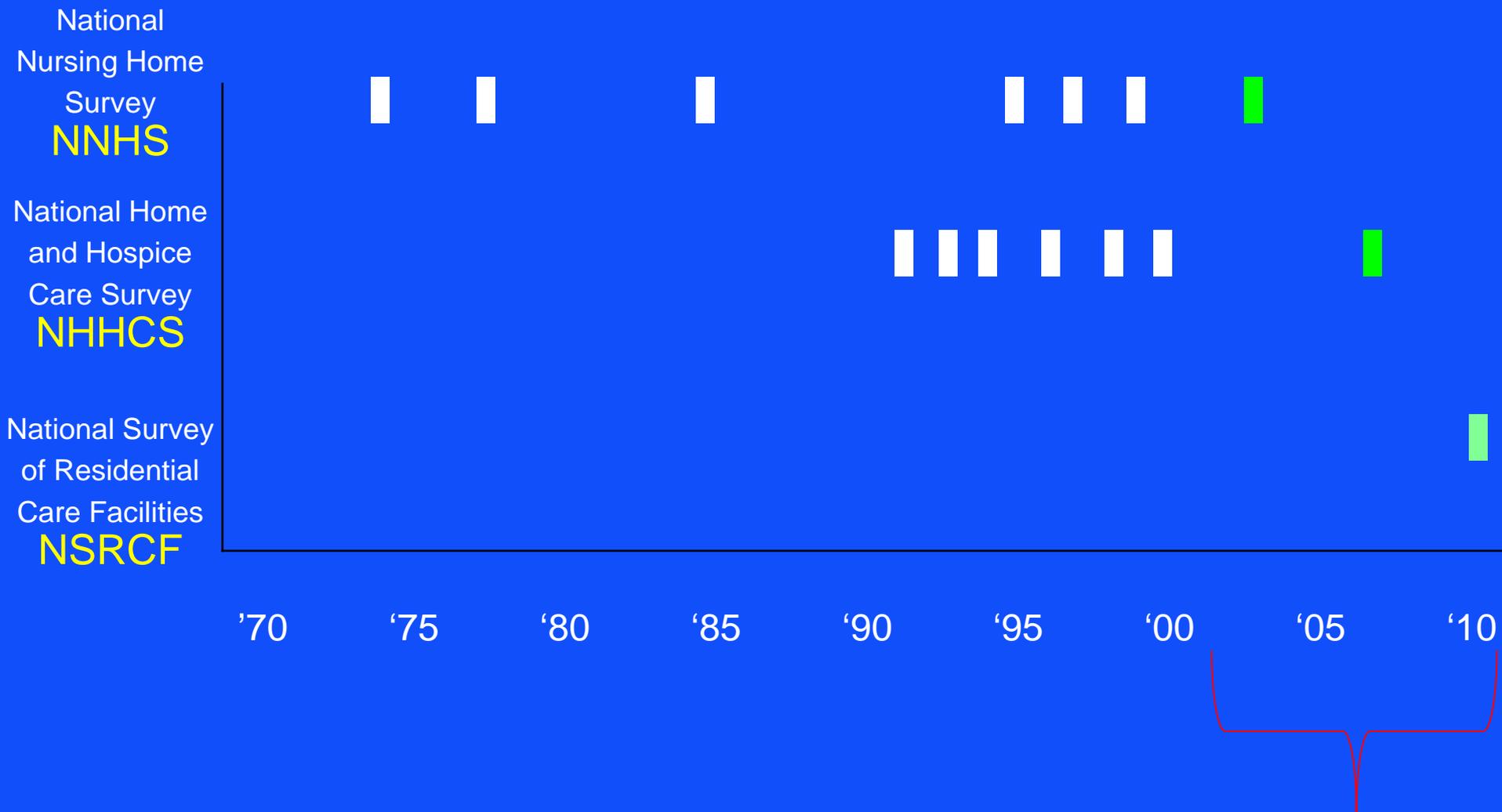


# U.S. National Estimates of Paid, Regulated Long-Term Care (LTC)

- 12,300 home health care agencies serve 1.5 M patients each day—2007 National Home and Hospice Care Survey (NHHCS)
- 3,700 hospices discharge about 1M patients annually—2007 NHHCS
- 31,100 assisted living/residential care facilities serve 733,300 residents each day—2010 National Survey of Residential Care Facilities (NSRCF)
- 4,600 adult day service centers serve over 260,000 participants at any given time—2010 MetLife/Ohio State/NADSA National Study of Adult Day Services
- 16,100 nursing homes serve 1.5 M residents each day—2004 National Nursing Home Survey (NNHS)

# NCHS Individual LTC Provider Surveys: Data Collection, 1973 – 2010

*Separate periodic surveys of different LTC providers*



# National Study of Long-Term Care Providers (NSLTCP): Primary Goals

1. Estimate the U.S. national supply of paid, regulated LTC providers
2. Estimate key policy-relevant characteristics and practices of these providers
3. Estimate the use of these providers
4. Estimate key policy-relevant characteristics of these users

# NSLTCP Provider Types and Data Sources

## PROVIDER TYPES

Hospices

Nursing  
Homes

Home  
Health Care  
Agencies

Residential  
Care  
Facilities

Adult Day  
Services  
Centers

## DATA SOURCES

Administrative records

Survey data

# NSLTCP Core Domains

- About providers
  - Basic characteristics
  - Services
  - Staffing
  - Practices
- About users—Aggregate-level distributions
  - Demographics
  - Physical functioning
  - Cognitive functioning

# NSLTCP Basic Data Collection Protocol

Advance notification letter

1<sup>st</sup> questionnaire mailing

Postcard

2<sup>nd</sup> questionnaire mailing

3<sup>rd</sup> questionnaire mailing

CATI follow-up

- Include mail questionnaire and web completion information in all three mailings
- Seeking 65% response rate (nonresponse bias assessment)
- Among all completes (working assumption): 65% by mail, 15% by web, 20% by CATI

# Challenges in Data Collection Mode and Source

- Aiming for comparability across providers when using administrative data for some providers and survey data for others
- Moving from in-person interviewer to self-administered survey mode

# Administrative Data—Implications for Survey Content

- Use administrative data from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Provider information
  - Online Survey, Certification and Reporting (OSCAR)

# Administrative Data and Question Wording: Chain Affiliation

- Nursing home OSCAR question wording:  
Multi-facility organization
  - Check yes if the facility is owned or leased by a multi-facility organization, otherwise check no.  
A multi-facility organization is an organization that owns two or more long-term care facilities. The owner may be an individual or a corporation. Leasing of facilities by corporate chains is included in this definition.

# Administrative Data and Question Wording: Chain Affiliation (2)

- Home health OSCAR question wording:

Indicate if the agency is a subunit of another agency.

Subunit means a semi-autonomous organization that-

- (1) Serves patients in a geographic area different from that of the parent agency; and

- (2) Must independently meet the conditions of participation for HHAs because it is too far from the parent agency to share administration, supervision, and services on a daily basis.

Parent home health agency means the agency that develops and maintains administrative controls of subunits and/or branch offices.

# Administrative Data and Question Wording: Chain Affiliation (3)

- NSRCF question wording:

Is this facility owned by a chain, group, or multi-facility system?

A chain means more than one facility under common ownership or management. This may include facilities within-state or across multiple states.

- Proposed NSLTCP survey wording:

Is this center owned by an organization that owns or manages two or more adult day services center?

The owner or manager may be an individual, an organization or a corporate chain.

# Change in Survey Mode from In-person to Self-Administered

- Response rates
  - In general and for chain-affiliated providers
- Data quality
  - Help respondent focus on sampled provider/location
  - Provide toll-free number for questions
  - Alert respondents that they may need to do research to answer some questions
- Determining eligibility

# Change in Survey Mode from In-person to Self-Administered (2)

- Possible experiments under consideration
  - Non-financial incentive—personalized report
  - Pre-calls to verify correct mailing information
  - Use postcard reminder to alert about telephone follow-up
  - How to drive respondents to complete by web when we have no e-mail addresses?
    - Provide web only first (give url and login information via FedEx) then offer mail completion option later in field period
  - Financial incentive?

# Change in Survey Mode from In-person to Self-Administered (3)

- Individually sampled users within providers versus distributions of user characteristics aggregated at the provider-level

- Traditional NCHS approach:

For a sampled resident, ask whether or not s/he receives any assistance in transferring in and out of bed or a chair.

- Proposed NSLTCP survey wording:

How many residents currently receive any assistance in transferring in and out of bed or a chair?



SEARCH

## National Study of Long-Term Care Providers



### National Study of Long-Term Care Providers

About NSLTCP

Listserv

[NCHS Home](#) > [Surveys and Data Collection Systems](#) > [National Health Care Surveys](#)

The National Center for Health Statistics is launching a new National Study of Long-Term Care Providers (NSLTCP). NSLTCP will replace the previously conducted [National Nursing Home Survey](#), [National Home and Hospice Care Survey](#), and most recently, [National Survey of Residential Care Facilities](#). NSLTCP will provide nationally representative statistical information about the supply and use of paid, regulated long-term care (LTC) providers in the United States. This study, which will be conducted every other year, is intended to enable efficient and timely monitoring of the diverse and evolving field of LTC and to help address the nation's information needs to inform future LTC policy.

For more information and announcements:

- [Sign up for the Long-Term Care Listserv](#)
- [Leave a message at 301-458-4747](#)

### What's New

#### Announcement

National Study of Long-Term Care Providers [Newsletter](#)  [PDF - 159 KB]

For more information and announcements

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### Contact Us:

 Long-Term Care Statistics Branch  
National Center for Health Statistics  
3311 Toledo Road  
Hyattsville, MD 20782

 1-800-232-4636  
(301) 458-4747

Lauren Harris-Kojetin  
National Center for Health Statistics  
[fti3@cdc.gov](mailto:fti3@cdc.gov)  
301-458-4369