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National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES/NPI)



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September 2025

DOI

<https://doi.org/10.60592/bjwk-8n62>

SOURCE Centers for

Medicare & Medicaid
Services

[Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services](#) CMS has developed the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) to assign unique identifiers to health care providers. The National Provider Identifier (NPI) has been the standard identifier for all HIPAA-covered entities (health care providers) since May 23, 2007. Small health plans were required to obtain and use an NPI by May 23, 2008.

These files contain all of the FOIA-disclosable data for active and deactivated providers in NPPES.

The [source NPPES data dissemination](#) is available from NPPES.

Older, such as pre-2011, copies of the NPPES data dissemination gratefully accepted. Please contact data@nber.org. We do have some of these files [here](#) but they are not yet converted to .dta or .sas7bdat formats.

Jean Roth set up the processed versions of the source NPPES data dissemination to make the files easier to use. The SAS and Stata files are about 32 Gb. CMS releases the source NPPES data in a limited number of formats in order to keep costs low. The first line of the source file contains variable descriptions. These can be difficult for statistical packages to read because many stat packages have a 32-character maximum variable length. The source file has long descriptions with numbers at the end, so, "my_long_variable_description_number_1" to "my_long_variable_description_number_50" can all get cut off to "my_long_variable_description_num" .

In the SAS and Stata datasets, the header information is preserved as the variable label and variable names with less than 32 characters which preserve the sequence number, if applicable, are assigned.

The source data file has nearly 5 million records. Excel 2010 supports a maximum of 1,048,576 rows, so it cannot be used to read in the whole source file at once. Some [instructions](#) on reading the file into Access and selecting variables and rows are available.

The main NPI data file and core data file include ZIP Codes. A [ZIP Code distance database](#) is also available.

Updates and changes.

File downloads

- Source Zip Files: [Monthly](#), [Weekly](#): Raw zip files for 2017-2024
- Full npi data set, and smaller, reshaped database style files, separating repeated values from core variables. Not all files are available for all years. See bellow for types of files available.
 - CSV: [Monthly](#):
- The following crosswalks are available:
 - [NPI to Medicare Crosswalk**](#)
 - [NPI to Medicaid Crosswalk**](#)
 - [NPI to UPIN crosswalk](#)
 - [NPI to state license crosswalk](#)
 - [NPI to DEA number crosswalk](#)

Latest data: September 2025

- [SAS](#)
- [Stata](#)
- [CSV](#)
- [Source](#)
- [Documentation](#)
- [Code Values](#)
- [Application Form & Instructions](#)
- [Desc](#)

The NPI data above has been reshaped into a database style below so that non-repeated fields are in the core file, and repeated files are in their own long, skinny files. The files can be linked by the NPI field. The core file is less than 1/5 the size of the full NPI data files above to make it easier to work with.

Data for previous years can be accessed using the URL: <https://data.nber.org/npi/YYYY/> where YYYY stands for the year of data you wish to access. Note that some years contain incomplete/missing data.

| Description | SAS | Stata | CSV | Desc |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Core, Non-Repeated Variables | core | core | core | desc |
| Healthcare Provider Taxonomy Code Variables | ptaxcode | ptaxcode | ptaxcode | desc |
| Provider License Variables | plicnum | plicnum | plicnum | desc |
| Other Provider Identifier Variables** | othpid | othpid | othpid | desc |

** One limitation of these crosswalks is that the provider had to include the other provider identifier in their [NPI application](#) in order for that provider identifier to appear in the NPPES database.

The data is also available in two-variable files of [NPI + one other database variable pairs](#) for greater ease of use.

Contact data@nber.org with questions, comments, or suggestions.

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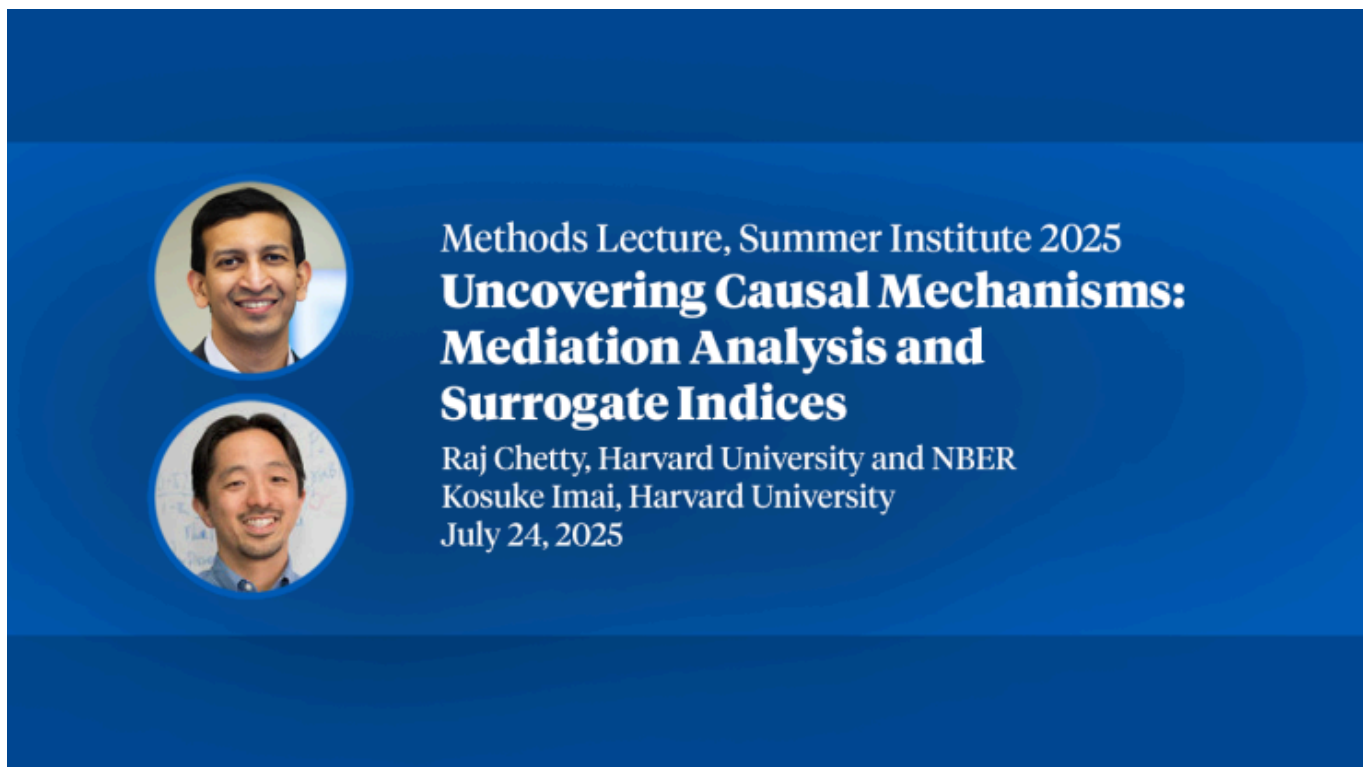
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