

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 36

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIDS/STD DATA ARCHIVE PHASE II

The AIDS/STD Data Archive, a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II project, which was a follow-on to Project No. 33, made available for public use the best social research data dealing with HIV/AIDS and other STDs. The archive was comprised of three types of machine-readable materials: outstanding data sets, measurement instruments, and search & retrieval software that enabled a user to retrieve those portions of the data sets and measurement instruments that were relevant to a particular research or policy question. Each data set in the collection was archived using standardized conventions similar to those that Sociometrics developed for other social science data archives. Each data set was made available with: 1) A User's Guide to the machine-readable files; 2) A raw data file made available in both ASCII or EBCDIC formats and in machine-readable media for PCs and mainframe computers; and 3) Machine-readable SPSS and SAS program statements that fully document the variables and values in the data file.

In addition to data sets, the archive contained a collection of prototypical measurement instruments (e.g., self-administered questionnaires, scales, interview protocols). A two-part Instrument Compendium was made publicly available in both machine-readable and printed formats. Part 1 presented items and scales organized around a range of important research constructs. Part 2 contained the entire data collection instrument employed in each of the studies in the Archive of Data Sets.

At the end of the project, the entire collection of data, instruments, and user's guides was put on a single CD-ROM. The CD-ROM contained search and retrieval software that enabled a user to retrieve those portions of the data sets and measurement instruments of interest.

All of the AIDS/STD Archive's products were made available in a variety of media (mainframe tape; tape cartridge; floppy diskette; CD-ROM) for a variety of computers (mainframes; PC microcomputer; Macintosh microcomputer; SUN workstation).

Sponsor:	National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch Center for Population Research 6100 Executive Blvd., Room 8B-13 Bethesda, MD 20892 (301) 496-1174	
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Staff:	J.J. Card, K.L. Muller, E.A. McKean, S. Mizuno, E.C. Peterson	