

AGing Integrated Database (AGID)

AGID is an on-line query system using AoA's performance measurement data and surveys, supplemented by information from the Census Bureau. AGID users can produce customized tables by selecting data elements and further results based on geographic locations or demographic stratifiers.

Lead Agency:

Administration on Aging
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Agency Mission:

The mission of the Administration on Aging (AoA) is to help elderly individuals maintain their dignity and independence in their homes and communities for as long as possible. AoA does this by serving as the Federal agency responsible for advancing the concerns and interests of older people, and by working with and through a nationwide network of 29,000 community-based organizations, known as the Aging Services Network, to promote the development of comprehensive and coordinated systems of care at the community-level that respond to the needs and preferences of older people and their family caregivers.

Principal investigator:

Saadia Greenberg
Director
Office of Evaluation
U.S. Administration on Aging
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Partner agency:

Social & Scientific Systems, Inc.

General Description:

AGID is an on-line query system that provides dynamic access to AoA-related program performance results, AoA-supported surveys and Census population data. The purpose of the system is to allow users to produce customized tables in a step-by-step process and output the results in print or spreadsheet form. AGID users have the ability to select only those data elements applicable to their needs, and to further refine their results based on geographic locations (such as individual states or AoA regions) or demographic stratifiers

that are meaningful to their application. In addition, the results from user queries can be downloaded in spreadsheet form and, in turn, post-processed for graphical displays or more in-depth analyses.

The system is based on aggregate statistics reports to speed up data access and protect individual records. Since there are many thousands of data elements available in the original databases, only the analytically relevant variables were carried over to AGID. If there is a query that the user would like to see but AGID does not support, the user can submit a request using the “Submit Feedback” link on the AGID homepage and the user will receive a prompt response. Although there are constructed variables and some restructuring of the database files, most of the data elements appearing in the system are in the form as reported by the states or survey participants.

The databases that are currently available in the system are listed below:

AoA Databases: State Program Reports (SPR) 2000-2006; National Ombudsman Reporting System (NORS) 2000-2006; National Surveys of Older Americans Act (OAA) Participants 2003-2005; National Survey of Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) 2005/2006.

Census Databases: American Community Survey (ACS) Data which includes State-Level ACS Data 2004-2006; Population Estimates Data which includes State-Level Population Data 2000-2006 and County-Level Population Data 2006.

A unique feature of the AGID system is the ability to build your own customized database. The user has the option of selecting a single database in generating database-specific tables or combining data elements from multiple databases to build a customized table. The user is able to build state-level tables with data from multiple databases. AGID can be accessed at www.data.aoa.gov.

Excellence What makes this project exceptional?

AGID provides dynamic access to aging population statistics, program performance reports, and surveys of OAA program participants. The system allows users to produce customized reports and statistics from multiple databases. It is user-friendly in that it provides a step-by-step process and output the results in print or spreadsheet form.

Significance How is this research relevant to older persons, populations and/or an aging society?

AGID is significant because it improves the handling of data and provides multiple data sources related to aging. This enables the State and local decision makers to examine trends, compare themselves to others, and develop the best senior programs available to them. It can be used for the following analyses: compare to Census, compare to national averages, compare to other States, develop benchmarks, develop per capita ratio, compare over time, examine cost per unit, and examine usage per client.

Effectiveness What is the impact and/or application of this research to older persons?

AGID improves data reporting, comparison, analysis, and timeliness.

Innovativeness Why is this research exciting or newsworthy?

AGID is available to everyone. This database provides detailed information not previously available to the public and data can be queried from various sources. The system constantly adds new data and features.