



**Hello** I am Charles Rothwell, the head of the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), part of the CDC (the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and I am John H. Thompson, the head of the U.S. Census Bureau. Our agencies are working together to conduct a major survey about the nation's health and we need your help.

**Aloha**

**Talofa lava**

**Mālō e lelei**

**la Orana**

**Tālofa**

**Fakaalofa atu**

**Malo ni**

**Noa'ia**

**Kia Ora**

**Kaoha**

**Kia orana**

**ʻĀfa ʻĀdai**

**Yokwe**

**Ran anim**

**Kaselehlie**

**Lotu wo**

**Mogethin**

**Alii**

**Mauri**

**Mo yoran**

**Bula vinaka**

**Halo**

**Halo ola keta**

**Bonjour**

**Kwe'**

The survey is called the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). In the next few days, a Census Bureau interviewer will visit you to ask for your participation. We ask that you take some time to answer our questions.

Please know that everything you tell us will be kept strictly private. Your answers are used to help understand and solve the health problems of your community and anticipate future health issues. Quality health information is necessary to make good decisions and sound policies. In this way, taking part in the survey indirectly benefits all NHPI Americans – children and adults, parents and grandparents.

Some interviews take about five minutes. Most interviews will take about an hour to do all the parts, depending on the size and health of your family. We hope you will want to take part in the survey – it is your choice. Your participation is voluntary. You may choose not to answer any question and, of course, you can stop at any time. No penalties or loss of benefits will come from refusing.

Strict federal laws protect your information. Question 5 on the back of this letter describes these laws and who may see your personal information.

Please contact the Census Bureau, toll-free, at 1-800-992-3530, press 5, if you have questions about the survey or to schedule an interview. About a week after the interview, some households will be asked a few extra questions for quality purposes.

Please visit our survey website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhis.htm> for more information about the NHIS.

We are very grateful for your help. We know your time and privacy are valuable. Thank you for your cooperation.

REGIONAL OFFICE  
US CENSUS BUREAU  
15350 SHERMAN WAY STE 400  
VAN NUYS CA 91406-4203  
**1-800-992-3530, press 5**

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NATIONAL HEALTH INTERVIEW SURVEY(NHIS)

## 1. HOW WAS I CHOSEN FOR THE SURVEY?

Your household participated in the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

## 2. WHY NOT INTERVIEW AT THE HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET? WHY IS MY PARTICIPATION IMPORTANT?

It is important that the people living at the address selected be in the survey. Due to the scientific methods used to pick addresses, we cannot exchange one address for another. If we did that, the survey results would not describe the entire country.

## 3. I AM NOT SICK—WHY SHOULD I TAKE PART IN A HEALTH SURVEY?

This is a survey of the Nation's health. We want to know how many people are sick and why they are sick, but it is also important to know how many people are healthy and why they are healthy. Everyone's answers are important.

## 4. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO ASK ME?

The NHIS covers a wide range of topics like doctor visits, medical conditions, health insurance, physical activity, and injuries. We also ask questions that help us better understand the health information you give us. For example, we ask about race, income, and permission to combine your answers with information from other places, like medical records. Most people have no difficulty with any of the questions in the NHIS. However, others find some questions to be sensitive. You do not have to answer any questions you don't want to.

## 5. WHO WILL SEE MY ANSWERS?

Strict laws prevent us from releasing information that could identify you or your family to anyone else without your consent. Congress authorized the NHIS data collection in Section 306 of the Public Health Service Act (42 United States Code 242k). The federal laws that require all information we collect to be held in strict confidence are Section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act [42 United States Code 242m (d)], the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (PL 107-347), and Title 13, United States Code, Section 8. Section 9 of this law requires us to keep all information about you and your household strictly confidential. We may use this information only for statistical purposes. If any federal employee, contractor, or agent gives out confidential information not authorized by law, he or she can be fired, fined and/or imprisoned.

## 6. WHO LOOKS OUT FOR THE INTERESTS OF SURVEY PARTICIPANTS?

Every year, the Research Ethics Review Board (ERB) of the National Center for Health Statistics reviews survey content and methods to protect study participants. You may call the ERB if you want to ask about your rights as a participant in this research study. The tollfree number is 1-800-223-8118. Please leave a brief message with your name and phone number. Say you are calling about Protocol # 2009-16. Your call will be returned promptly.

Thank You

Mahalo

Fa'afetai tele

Mālō 'aupito

Mauru' uru

Fakafetai

Fakaue lahi

Faka fetai

Fāiāk se'ea

Kia Ora

Kotoa nui

Meitaki maata

Si Yu'us Mā'āse'

Kommol tata

Kinisou

Kalahngan

Kulo

Kamagar

Sulang

Ko rab'a

Tubwa

Vinaka vakalovu

Tank iu

Tank yiu

Tenkyu tru

Merci

Wela'lin