L.A. HealthDataNow!

General Description
L.A. HealthDataNow! is a product of collaborative efforts among programs within the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH). "This query system allows public health statistics and information to be generated on demand and accessed online by the general public." [1]

Background
"The L.A. HealthDataNow! project was established by epidemiologists of the LACDPH to close the gap on data accessibility. Utilizing tools commonly used by analysts, programs can not only provide their data in an automated and flexible manner, but they can also incorporate automated statistical analysis into the query system. Ultimately, the goal of this project is to extend this query system to all DPH programs that have similar interests to make their public health data more accessible." [2]

Data Collection
Data collection methods vary depending on the dataset. Data from different programs and surveys are added to the database on an ongoing basis. "However, there can be a considerable lag time between events occurring and data being processed. For example, mortality data for a given year is usually not cleaned up and ready for analysis until one to two years later." [3]

Data Coverage
Data coverage varies by dataset. Currently, all datasets in the system include Countywide, Service Planning Areas (SPAs), and Health Districts. Years of data available also vary by dataset.

"Datasets will be added to L.A. HealthDataNow! on an ongoing basis. If you can't find the information you are looking for, contact the Unit of the Department of Public Health that deals with… specific health topic(s), and they may be able to provide … summary statistics." [4]

Accessibility
All datasets included in the repository are accessible through queries. In order to access individual datasets, the administrator of the respective dataset must be contacted. The L.A.HealthDataNow! website provides contact links per dataset.

Data Link
https://dqs.publichealth.lacounty.gov/queries.aspx

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[1] https://dqs.publichealth.lacounty.gov/default.aspx
[2] https://dqs.publichealth.lacounty.gov/about.aspx
[3] https://dqs.publichealth.lacounty.gov/faq.aspx
[4] https://dqs.publichealth.lacounty.gov/faq.aspx

Funding
The L.A.HealthDataNow! website is a collaborative effort among programs within the LACDPH.

Comments
As of March 26, 2014, the datasets available in the query system were Life Expectancy, Mortality, and data from the Los Angeles County Health Survey.[5]

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[5] https://dqs.publichealth.lacounty.gov/queries.aspx