



Press Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL HEALTH SURVEY UNDERWAY IN TWIN FALLS COUNTY

The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), the most comprehensive survey of the health and nutritional status of the U.S. population is coming to Twin Falls, ID beginning on March 20, 2014.

“This is a great opportunity for the people of Twin Falls County to join others from across the nation in identifying health care needs,” says Rene LeBlanc, South Central Public Health District Director. “We would encourage everyone who is invited to take part in the NHANES to help improve present health issues while shaping the future of health care.”

Why Should *Every Eligible* Resident Participate in NHANES?

- All participants receive a free and confidential health and nutrition evaluation.
- Individuals who agree to participate will receive compensation for their time and travel expenses of up to \$125.
- Your participation can help develop and evolve national health programs and policies.
- *If you are selected, You* will help make a difference in our nation’s health!

Each year, 5000 lucky residents across the nation have the chance to participate in the latest National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



“NHANES serves as the nation’s ‘health check-up,’ going into communities to collect health information throughout the country,” said CDC Director Thomas Frieden. “The survey is a unique resource for health information, and without it we would lack important knowledge about major health conditions.”

“We recognize the contributions that NHANES makes to evidence-based health care and we’re honored to participate by hosting this site.” Dr. Jeff Fox, CSI President.

For the past 50 years, NHANES has had a prominent role in improving the health of all people living in the U.S. Public health officials, legislators, and physicians use the information gathered in NHANES to develop sound health policies, direct and design health programs and services, and expand the health knowledge for the nation. NHANES findings provide critical health-related information on a number of issues such as obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. In addition, NHANES data are used to produce national references and are used to create standardized growth charts for pediatricians across the country.

Everyone in the U.S., from babies yet to be born to the elderly, has benefited from the information gathered by NHANES. The comprehensive data collected by NHANES has a far reaching and significant impact on everything from the quality of the air we breathe, to the vaccinations you get from your doctor, to the emergence of low-fat and “light” foods on the shelves of your grocery store. Now, an NHANES team of health professionals, nutritionists and health technicians is heading toward Twin Falls county and wants everyone who is lucky enough to be selected for the survey to agree to participate.



Residents will **have an invitation-only opportunity** to participate in NHANES.

Individuals selected for the NHANES program represent the U.S. population covering all ages, races, and ethnicities. Respondents first participate in a health interview conducted in the respondent's home followed by a health examination that takes place in one of three mobile examination centers.

No medical care is provided directly in the mobile examination center, but a report on physical findings is given to each participant along with an explanation from survey medical staff. The various tests and procedures performed depend on the age and gender of the participant. All information collected in the survey is kept strictly confidential and privacy is protected by public law.