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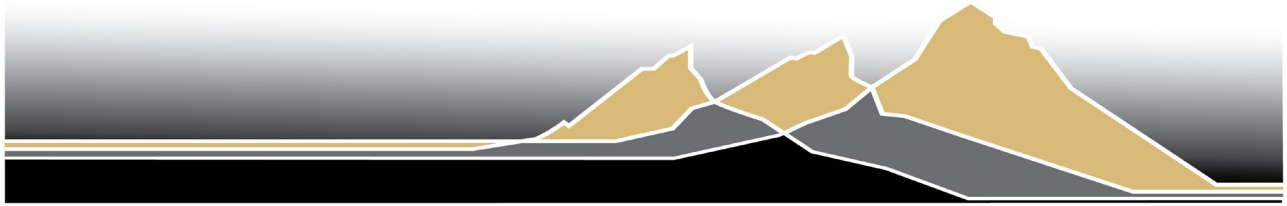## Rocky Mountain Research Data Center
Member of Federal Statistical RDC Network

RMRDC 2023 Newsletter

A report of activities of the Rocky Mountain Research Data Center

2023 was a year of change for the RMRDC. We welcome Catherine Talbot as the new administrator and Haeseong Park as the new graduate research assistant. The RMRDC Consortium now has 11 members with the addition of the University of New Mexico. Several other members have appointed new delegates to the RMRDC Consortium. The FSRDC system implemented the new Standard Application Process (SAP) which offers a portal for data discovery as well as the metadata for restricted-use data collections. In the face of these transitions, the RMRDC was very productive and several new projects are under development.

Catherine Talbot is the New Administrator:

Catherine Talbot joined us in August as the new RMRDC Administrator. She has worked as a Special Sworn Status researcher at the RMRDC since 2021 and is finalizing her PhD in Sociology at CU Boulder. Her areas of expertise include demography, statistical methods, and examining social and environmental factors that shape health outcomes. With a prior decade-long career in hydrogeology and environmental consulting, she draws on these perspectives and experiences in her current research endeavors. She greatly enjoys working with a variety of data sources and collaborating with others. She is enjoying the challenges of her new role and is excited to help our researchers at all stages of their projects.
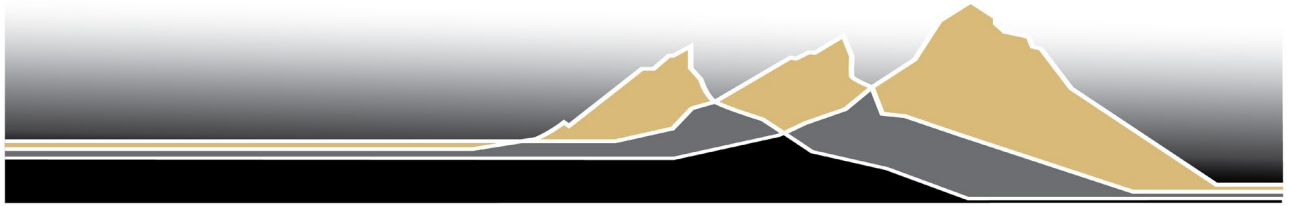
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Haeseong Park is the New Graduate Research Assistant:

Haeseong Park is a 3rd-year PhD student in economics at CU Boulder. She is interested in a number of environmental economics topics for her future RMRDC research. She is our new resident SAS expert, having managed large amounts of SAS data during her master's program in Korea. She will be teaching the SAS lab portion of the RMRDC-sponsored course on Federal Data for Health Research and Policy in the spring semester.

The Newest Member of the RMRDC Consortium is the University of New Mexico.

With its main campus located in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and a minority-serving institution, we are delighted to have the University of New Mexico (UNM) as the newest member of the RMRDC Consortium. There is substantial potential for research involving the RMRDC with very active research departments of Economics, Sociology and Criminology, and Geospatial and Population Studies. Robert Rhatigan is the UNM representative to the RMRDC Consortium and the interim director of Geospatial and Populations Studies as well as the New Mexico State Demographer.
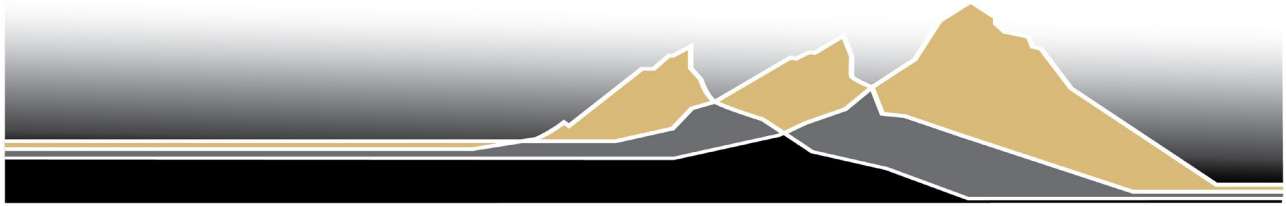
University of Colorado Boulder · THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO · CU Denver · CU Anschutz · UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING · ROCKY MOUNTAIN POISON & DRUG SAFETY · UNIVERSITY OF DENVER · Colorado State University · SCHOOL OF MINES COLORADO 1874 · THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

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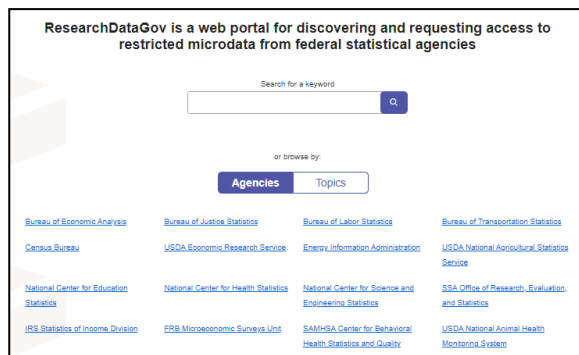## Welcome, New Delegates to the Consortium:

University of Colorado Boulder: Rick Mansfield (Department of Economics)
University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus : Glen Mays (Health Systems, Management and Policy)
Colorado School of Mines: Ben Gilbert (Department of Economics and Business)
University of Texas, El Paso: Caitlyn Muniz (Department of Criminal Justice)

Proposals Now Submitted through the New Standard Application Process (SAP):
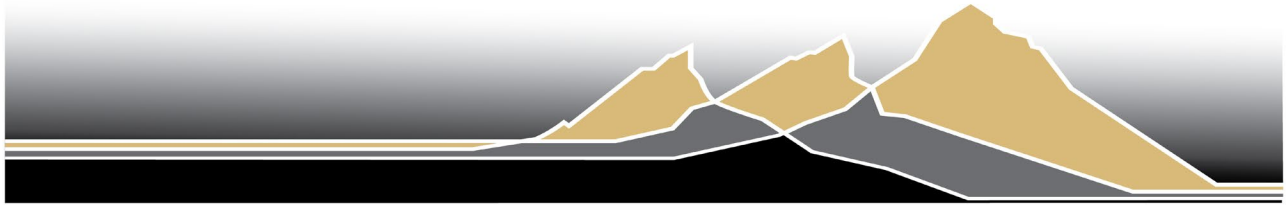

The SAP portal is the new web-based data catalog and is the common application platform for requesting access to restricted data from 16 different federal agencies. On researchdatagov.org, users can search for data by agency, topic, or keyword. To submit proposals via the SAP, users will need to create an account. We highly advise contacting your Administrator (catherine.b.talbot@census.gov) or RMRDC Director (jani.little@colorado.edu) before initiating a proposal through the SAP. We can provide one-on-one feedback on datasets, provide you with a user-friendly template to work on your proposal offline and assist in crafting your proposal. A PDF example of this template is available on the RMRDC website here.

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RMRDC-Sponsored Graduate Course "Federal Data for Health Research and Policy" Being Offered in Spring 2024:

Restricted-use data offer ways to investigate health research questions that are more nuanced and informative than most other available data sources. This course is designed to teach graduate students about federal data collections and how they are being used to address basic and policy-related health research questions. This course will approach health topics through analysis of published research papers that utilize public and restricted versions of the federal datasets. It will taught entirely with remote access. **Instructors**: Jani Little, RMRDC Director; Laura Argys, Prof. Econ, CU Denver; Catherine Talbot, RMRDC Administrator; Haeseong Park, RMRDC GRA. Contact jani.little@colorado.edu for more information.

Colorado State Health Department's RMRDC Project Expands to include California and New York State Health Departments:
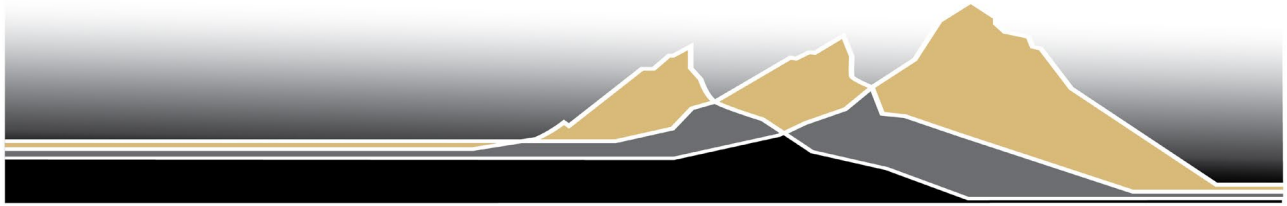
Colorado, California, and New York public health departments have sponsored oversamples of each state's public health regions in the 2020-2024 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH). This project leverages these oversamples to produce prevalence estimates of the physical, mental, and emotional health of each state's children by substate regions. The results of these estimates will be used by local public health agencies to focus resources for public health interventions, awareness campaigns, and healthcare services where they are needed most to support the health of young people in each state.

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New Approved Projects (PI, Affiliation, and Title):

- **Anders Van Sandt, University of Wyoming**: "Exploring the Impact of Comprehensive Health Care Access on Health Outcomes Across the U.S."
- **Soumak Basumallik, PhD Candidate, Department of Economics, University of Colorado Denver**: "Did ACA Reduce Disparities in Preventive Healthcare between Hispanics and Non-Hispanic Whites?"
- **Sophia Newcomer, University of Montana** (in collaboration with University of Colorado Anschutz): "Population-level assessment of early childhood vaccination timeliness, parental vaccine hesitancy, and immunization schedule adherence in the United States, including rural-urban disparities."
- **Lori Hunter, University of Colorado Boulder**: "Environmental Extremes and Rural Health."
- **Franz Fuchs, Wyoming Department of Health**: "Health Insurance Payer Mix Map of Wyoming."

Visit the RMRDC website for more information:

https://www.colorado.edu/rocky-mountain-research-data-center/