



**DALHOUSIE
UNIVERSITY**

Health Data Nova Scotia

MASTER Data Dictionary

Insured Patient Registry

Last Revised: November, 2017

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Summary of the MASTER Datasets

Purpose: The MASTER registry contains four data sets which record information regarding the entire population of insured healthcare beneficiaries in Nova Scotia

Data Years:

MASTER:	Fiscal 1996 – 2015	(April 1 to March 31)
ELIGIB:	Fiscal 1997 – 2015	(April 1 to March 31)
POSTAL:	Fiscal 1998 – 2015	(April 1 to March 31)

Source Agency: Medavie Blue Cross

Database Contact: Jordan Farrell – 902.494.3688 – jordan.farrell@nshealth.ca

Type: **MASTER, POSTAL, ELIGIB:** Cumulative administrative records

Target Population: Every individual registered as a beneficiary of provincial MSI healthcare services. These individuals may or may not currently be eligible for insured healthcare services

Security & Access: [Apply for access](#)

Legality: Custodian: [Department of Health and Wellness](#)
Use of data for research purposes must be [PHIA](#) and [PIPEDA](#) Compliant

Variable Summary:

- **MASTER:** Demographic information such as gender and date of birth
- **ELIGIB:** Insured Health Benefits program eligibility start / end dates
- **POSTAL:** Individual Geography (county, postal code, Canada Post Community)

Dataset Details

The datasets are named such that *nn* represents the last two digits of the fiscal year the dataset records. E.g. MASTER14 contains population demographic information up to and including fiscal 2014.

MASTER*nn*

The **MASTER** datasets contain information about the demographics of an individual. Each record in the **MASTER** datasets represent a single Individual. A unique record is identified by encrypted health care number (*msi*). These are cumulative files, every fiscal year we release a new dataset which includes the previous years of data as well as any new or updated records.

ELIGIB*nn*

Each record in the **ELIGIB** datasets represent an individual's period of eligibility for a particular provincial healthcare program. Individuals may be eligible for more than one program, and will have multiple records. A unique record is identified by encrypted health care number (*msi*), insurance program (*program*), and eligibility start date (*fromdate*). These are cumulative files, every fiscal year we release a new dataset which includes the previous years of data as well as any new or updated records.

POSTAL*nn*

Each record in the **POSTAL** dataset represents the start and end dates for Individual residence within postal codes. A unique record is identified by encrypted health care number (*msi*), postal code (*postcode*), and eligibility start date (*fromdate*). These are cumulative files, every fiscal year we release a new dataset which includes the previous years of data as well as any new or updated records.

Definitions

SAS Date Format:

Variables representing dates are stored in the SAS date format. This format is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and the specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers. SAS dates account for all leap year days, and can reliably tell you what day of the week a particular day was going back to Sept. 1752.

SAS dates can be formatted by HDNS to appear as human-readable dates for research projects.

Variables in the MASTER Dataset

Date of Birth

Variable Name	dob
Label	Date of Birth
Definition	Individual's date of birth
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values	
Additional Information	<p>There is a small percentage of error in administrative data to be expected. The minimum date of birth being 01 Jan 1850 is consistent among the MASTER datasets</p> <p>Due to confidentiality reasons date of birth will not be released in full to external researchers because of the potential to identify individuals.</p> <p>Month and Year of birth may be released if required for a research project and approved by the HDNS Data Access Committee. Alternatively, a variable for age at a given index date may be derived by HDNS and released.</p> <p>Date of birth (<i>dob</i>) is stored in the SAS date format, which is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and a specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 1996 - 2015
History	

Province From

Variable Name	PROVFROM
Label	Province From
Definition	The province or country from which the individual moved to Nova Scotia.
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	2
Field Values (Label)	AB (Alberta) BC (British Columbia) MB (Manitoba) NB (New Brunswick) NF (Newfoundland) NS (Nova Scotia) NT (Northwest Territories) NU (Nunavut) OC (Outside Canada) ON (Ontario) PE (P.E.I.) PQ (Quebec) SK (Saskatchewan) US (United States) YT (Yukon)
Additional Information	Province from (<i>provfrom</i>) is only updated if the individual notifies a provider of changes to their correspondence address. Because of this, individuals with no record of having moved to Nova Scotia from elsewhere are assumed to be lifetime residents.
Dates Available	Fiscal 1997 - 2015
History	

Province To

Variable Name	PROVTO
Label	Province To
Definition	Province or country to which the individual moved.
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	2
Field Values (Label)	AB (Alberta) BC (British Columbia) MB (Manitoba) NB (New Brunswick) NF (Newfoundland) NS (Nova Scotia) NT (Northwest Territories) NU (Nunavut) OC (Outside Canada) ON (Ontario) PE (P.E.I.) PQ (Quebec) SK (Saskatchewan) US (United States) YT (Yukon)
Additional Information	Province to (<i>provto</i>) is only updated if the individual notifies a provider of changes to their correspondence address.
Dates Available	Fiscal 1998 - 2015
History	

Sex

Variable Name	SEX
Label	Patient Gender
Definition	The Individual's sex
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	1
Field Values (Label)	F (Female) M (Male)
Additional Information	
Dates Available	Fiscal 1996 - 2015
History	

Health Care Number

Variable Name	msi
Label	Patient MSI Health Card Number (HCN)
Definition	Encrypted MSI health care number
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	24
Field Values	Null Values: “ ”
Additional Information	<p>Individual's msi health care number is not available for release due to confidentiality reasons. It is used internally by HDNS for data linkage.</p> <p>In some cases a valid HCN is not available. As a result the field will either be left blank or filled with a “dummy” HCN. Observations containing a dummy HCN, or a null value are to be excluded from most analysis which focus on the MSI eligible population.</p> <p>Unique IDs can be generated by HDNS for research projects which can be used to link between datasets or count observations of individuals.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 1996 - 2015
History	

Canada Post Community

Variable Name	cpc
Label	Canada Post Community
Definition	Individual's community of correspondence according to Canada Post
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values (Label)	1 (BIRCH GROVE) 3 (CHRISTMAS ISLAND) 4 (DOMINION) 5 (DONKIN) 6 (EAST BAY) 7 (ESKASONI) 8 (GABARUS) 9 (IONA) 10 (LOUISBOURG) 11 (MAIN-A-DIEU) 12 (MARION BRIDGE) 13 (NEW VICTORIA) 15 (PORT MORIEN) 16 (RESERVE MINES) 17 (SYDNEY FORKS) 18 (ALDER POINT) 19 (BRAS D'OR) 20 (CAPE NORTH) 21 (CAPSTICK) 22 (DINGWALL) 23 (ENGLISHTOWN) 24 (FLORENCE) 25 (INGONISH) 26 (INGONISH BEACH) 28 (NEILS HARBOUR) 29 (NEW HAVEN) 30 (ST MARGARET VILLAGE) 31 (ARICHAT) 32 (BADDECK) 33 (BELLE COTE) 34 (BELLE MARCHE) 36 (CHETICAMP) 37 (CLEVELAND) 38 (D'ESCOUSSE) 39 (GRAND ETANG)

40	(GRAND RIVER)
41	(INVERNESS)
42	(JUDIQUÉ)
43	(LA POINTE)
44	(L'ARDOISE)
45	(LITTLE NARROWS)
46	(LOUISDALE)
47	(LOWER L'ARDOISE)
48	(MABOU)
49	(MARGAREE)
50	(MARGAREE CENTRE)
51	(MARGAREE FORKS)
52	(MARGAREE HARBOUR)
53	(MARGAREE VALLEY)
55	(MULGRAVE)
56	(NORTH EAST MARGAREE)
58	(ORANGEDALE)
59	(PETIT DE GRAT)
60	(PETIT ETANG)
61	(PLATEAU)
62	(PLEASANT BAY)
63	(POINT CROSS)
64	(POINT TUPPER)
65	(PORT HASTINGS)
66	(PORT HAWKESBURY)
67	(PORT HOOD)
68	(RIVER BOURGEOIS)
69	(RIVER DENYS)
71	(ST-JOSEPH-DU-MOINE)
72	(ST PETERS)
73	(SAMPSON COVE)
74	(SCOTSVILLE)
76	(SOUTH WEST MARGAREE)
77	(WEST ARICHAT)
78	(WEST BAY)
79	(WEST BAY ROAD)
80	(WHYCOCOMAGH)
81	(AFTON STATION)
82	(ANTIGONISH)
84	(ASPEN)
85	(BOYLSTON)
86	(CANSO)
87	(CROSS ROADS COUNTRY HBR)
88	(FRANKVILLE)
89	(GOLDBORO)
90	(GOSHEN)
91	(GUYSBOROUGH)
92	(HAVRE BOUCHER)
93	(HEATHERTON)
94	(ISAACS HARBOUR)

95	(LARRYS RIVER)
96	(LITTLE DOVER)
97	(MONASTERY)
98	(ST ANDREWS)
99	(BICKERTON WEST)
100	(BLACK POINT)
101	(BLANDFORD)
102	(BLOCKHOUSE)
103	(BOUTILIER'S POINT)
104	(BROOKLYN)
105	(CHESTER)
106	(CHESTER BASIN)
107	(EASTERN PASSAGE)
108	(FISHERMANS HARBOUR)
109	(HEAD OF CHEZZETCOOK)
110	(HEAD OF JEDDORE)
111	(HD ST MARGARETS BAY)
112	(HERRING COVE)
113	(HUBBARDS)
114	(ITALY CROSS)
115	(JEDDORE OYSTER PONDS)
116	(KETCH HARBOUR)
117	(LAKE CHARLOTTE)
118	(LAKESIDE)
119	(LISCOMB)
120	(LITTLE TANCOOK)
121	(LUNENBURG)
122	(MAHONE BAY)
123	(MARIE JOSEPH)
124	(MILL VILLAGE)
125	(MOOSELAND)
126	(MOSERS RIVER)
127	(MUSQUODOBOIT HARBOUR)
128	(NEW ROSS)
129	(PEGGYS COVE)
130	(PETITE-RIVIERE-BRIDGE)
131	(PORT DUFFERIN)
132	(PORTERS LAKE)
133	(PORT MEDWAY)
134	(PROSPECT)
135	(RIVERPORT)
136	(ROSE BAY)
137	(SAMBRO)
138	(SEABRIGHT)
139	(SHEARWATER)
140	(SHEET HARBOUR)
141	(SHERBROOKE)
143	(TANCOOK ISLAND)
144	(TANGIER)
145	(TANTALLON)

146	(TERENCE BAY)
147	(WEST DOVER)
148	(WESTERN SHORE)
149	(BARNEYS RIVER STATION)
150	(EUREKA)
151	(HOPEWELL)
152	(MALAGASH)
153	(MERIGOMISH)
154	(PICTOU)
155	(PICTOU ISLAND)
156	(PORT HOWE)
157	(PUGWASH)
158	(PUGWASH JUNCTION)
159	(RIVER JOHN)
160	(SALT SPRINGS)
161	(SCOTSBURN)
162	(STELLARTON)
163	(SUNNY BRAE)
164	(TATAMAGOUCHE)
165	(THORBURN)
167	(TRENTON)
169	(WALLACE)
170	(WEST RIVER STATION)
171	(WESTVILLE)
172	(JOGGINS)
173	(MACCAN)
174	(NAPPAN)
175	(NORTHPORT)
176	(RIVER HEBERT)
177	(RIVER HEBERT EAST)
178	(ADVOCATE HARBOUR)
179	(BASS RIVER)
180	(BELMONT)
181	(COLLINGWOOD CORNER)
182	(DEBERT)
183	(DILIGENT RIVER)
184	(ECONOMY)
185	(FIVE ISLANDS)
186	(GREAT VILLAGE)
187	(LONDONDERRY)
188	(LOWER FIVE ISLANDS)
189	(OXFORD)
190	(OXFORD JUNCTION)
191	(PARRSBORO)
192	(PORT GREVILLE)
193	(RIVER PHILIP)
194	(SOUTHAMPTON)
195	(SPRINGHILL)
197	(WENTWORTH)
198	(WESTCHESTER STATION)

199	(BEAVER BANK)
201	(BROOKFIELD)
202	(CENTRE BURLINGTON)
203	(CHEVERIE)
204	(CURRYS CORNER)
205	(DENSMORES MILLS)
206	(ELDERBANK)
207	(ELLERSHOUSE)
208	(ELMSDALE)
209	(ENFIELD)
210	(KENNETCOOK)
211	(LANTZ)
212	(LOWER SACKVILLE)
213	(MAITLAND)
214	(MEAGHERS GRANT)
215	(MICMAC)
216	(MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT)
217	(MILFORD STATION)
218	(MOUNT UNIACKE)
219	(NEWPORT)
220	(NEWPORT STATION)
221	(NOEL)
222	(ST CROIX)
223	(SCOTCH VILLAGE)
224	(SHUBENACADIE)
225	(STEWIACKE)
226	(SUMMERVILLE)
227	(UPPER KENNETCOOK)
228	(UPPER MUSQUODOBOIT)
229	(UPPER RAWDON)
230	(UPPER STEWIACKE)
231	(WALTON)
232	(WAVERLEY)
233	(WINDSOR)
236	(AUBURN)
237	(AVONPORT)
238	(AYLESFORD)
239	(BERWICK)
240	(CAMBRIDGE STATION)
241	(CANNING)
242	(CENTREVILLE)
244	(FALMOUTH)
245	(GRAND PRE)
246	(GREENWOOD)
247	(HANTSPORT)
248	(KINGSTON)
250	(PORT WILLIAMS)
251	(WATERVILLE)
252	(WILMOT STATION)
253	(WOLFBURG)

255	(WOLFVILLE)
256	(BARSS CORNER)
258	(LAHAVE)
259	(NEW GERMANY)
260	(PLEASANTVILLE)
261	(SPRINGFIELD)
262	(ANNAPOLIS ROYAL)
263	(BEAR RIVER)
264	(BRIDGETOWN)
265	(CLEMENTSPORT)
266	(CLEMENTSVALE)
267	(CORNWALLIS PARK)
268	(DEEP BROOK)
269	(GRANVILLE FERRY)
270	(HAMPTON)
271	(LAWRENCETOWN)
272	(MARGARETSVILLE)
273	(MIDDLETON)
274	(PARADISE)
275	(SMITHS COVE)
276	(ALLENDALE)
277	(CALEDONIA)
279	(GREENFIELD)
280	(HUNTS POINT)
281	(INGOMAR)
282	(JORDAN FALLS)
283	(LIVERPOOL)
284	(LOCKEPORT)
285	(LYDGATE)
286	(MAITLAND BRIDGE)
287	(MILTON)
288	(OSBORNE HARBOUR)
289	(PORT JOLI)
290	(PORT MOUTON)
291	(SABLE RIVER)
292	(SHELBURNE)
293	(SOUTH BROOKFIELD)
294	(DIGBY)
295	(FREEPORT)
296	(LITTLE RIVER)
297	(SANDY COVE)
298	(TIVERTON)
299	(WESTPORT)
302	(ARCADIA)
303	(BACCARO)
304	(BARRINGTON)
305	(BARRINGTON PASSAGE)
306	(BARTON)
307	(BELLIVEAUS COVE)
308	(CAPE NEGRO)

309	(CARLETON)
310	(CHURCH POINT)
311	(CLAM POINT)
312	(CLARKS HARBOUR)
313	(CLYDE RIVER)
314	(CROWELL)
315	(EAST BACCARO)
317	(GLENWOOD)
318	(HEBRON)
319	(KEMPTVILLE)
320	(LITTLE BROOK)
321	(LOWER EAST PUBNICO)
322	(LOWER WEDGEPORT)
323	(LOWER WEST PUBNICO)
324	(LOWER WOODS HARBOUR)
325	(MCGRAY)
326	(MAVILLETTE)
327	(METEGHAN)
328	(METEGHAN CENTRE)
329	(METEGHAN RIVER)
330	(MIDDLE WEST PUBNICO)
332	(NORTH EAST POINT)
333	(PLYMPTON)
334	(PORT CLYDE)
335	(PORT LA TOUR)
336	(PORT MAITLAND)
337	(PUBNICO)
338	(STE-ANNE-DU-RUISSEAU)
339	(SALMON RIVER)
340	(SAULNIERVILLE)
342	(SHAG HARBOUR)
343	(SMITHVILLE)
344	(SOUTH OHIO)
347	(STONY ISLAND)
348	(THE HAWK)
349	(THOMASVILLE)
350	(TUSKET)
351	(UPPER PORT LA TOUR)
352	(WEDGEPORT)
354	(WEST PUBNICO)
355	(WEYMOUTH)
356	(GLACE BAY)
358	(SCOTCHTOWN)
359	(NEW WATERFORD)
360	(NEW WATERFORD)
361	(SCOTCHTOWN)
362	(SYDNEY)
363	(SYDNEY)
364	(HOWIE CENTRE)
365	(SYDNEY)

367	(SYDNEY)
368	(SYDNEY MINES)
369	(SYDNEY MINES)
370	(NORTH SYDNEY)
371	(NORTH SYDNEY)
372	(NORTH SYDNEY)
373	(ANTIGONISH)
375	(NEW GLASGOW)
377	(NEW GLASGOW)
378	(TRURO)
379	(TRURO)
380	(TRURO)
381	(TRURO)
383	(WELLINGTON)
384	(WINDSOR JUNCTION)
385	(FLETCHERS LAKE)
386	(OAKFIELD)
387	(GRAND LAKE)
388	(OLDHAM)
389	(DARTMOUTH)
390	(DARTMOUTH)
391	(DARTMOUTH)
392	(DARTMOUTH)
393	(NORTH PRESTON)
394	(CHERRY BROOK)
396	(HALIFAX)
397	(HALIFAX)
399	(HALIFAX)
401	(HALIFAX)
403	(HALIFAX)
405	(TIMBERLEA)
406	(BEECHVILLE)
407	(TIMBERLEA)
408	(BEDFORD)
409	(BEDFORD)
410	(BEDFORD)
411	(HAMMONDS PLAINS)
412	(HAMMONDS PLAINS)
413	(MIDDLE SACKVILLE)
414	(UPPER SACKVILLE)
416	(KINSAC)
417	(AMHERST)
418	(AMHERST)
419	(KENTVILLE)
420	(KENTVILLE)
421	(KENTVILLE)
423	(NEW MINAS)
424	(COLDBROOK)
425	(COLDBROOK)
426	(BRIDGEWATER)

427	(YARMOUTH)
428	(YARMOUTH)
429	(YARMOUTH)
432	(SYDNEY FORKS)
433	(ENFIELD)
434	(FALL RIVER)
435	(FALL RIVER)
436	(HALIFAX)
437	(HAMMONDS PLAINS)
438	(HAMMONDS PLAINS)
439	(LAKEVIEW)
440	(LAKEVIEW)
441	(MINESVILLE)
442	(HUBLEY)
443	(SOUTH BAR)
444	(COLE HARBOUR)
445	(DUTCH BROOK)
448	(VICTORIA MINES)
449	(LUCASVILLE)
450	(WESTPHAL)
451	(LAWRENCETOWN)
452	(RIVER RYAN)
453	(UPPER TANTALLON)
454	(EAST PRESTON)
456	(PRIME BROOK)
458	(HATCHET LAKE)
459	(WHITES LAKE)
461	(SHAD BAY)
462	(GOODWOOD)
464	(BAYSIDE)
466	(COLE HARBOUR)
467	(PROSPECT BAY)
469	(BROOKSIDE)
471	(BLIND BAY)
473	(DARTMOUTH)
474	(STILLWATER LAKE)
475	(STILLWATER LAKE)
478	(UPPER HAMMONDS PLAINS)
479	(LUCASVILLE)
480	(ZZMISTAKE)
482	(LAKE ECHO)
483	(HARRIETSFIELD)
484	(PORTUGUESE COVE)
485	(WILLIAMSWOOD)
486	(SAMBRO CREEK)
488	(WEST PENNANT)
489	(SAMBRO HEAD)
490	(EAST PENNANT)
491	(BIBLE HILL)
492	(BEAR COVE)

493	(COXHEATH)
494	(DUNCANS COVE)
495	(FERGUSONS COVE)
496	(SYDNEY RIVER)
497	(MCGRATHS COVE)
498	(HALIBUT BAY)
504	(WEST PORTERS LAKE)
505	(HUBLEY)
506	(LEWIS LAKE)
507	(TIMBERLEA)
508	(NEW MINAS)
513	(EAST LAWRENCETOWN)
514	(NEW GLASGOW)
521	(CATALONE)
522	(POINT EDWARD)
523	(LOCH LOMOND)
524	(BATESTON)
525	(HOMEVILLE)
526	(TOWER ROAD)
527	(ALBERT BRIDGE)
528	(GRAND MIRA SOUTH)
529	(SANDFIELD)
530	(BIG RIDGE)
531	(BALLS CREEK)
532	(GRAND MIRA NORTH)
533	(EDWARDSVILLE)
534	(MILLVILLE)
535	(LITTLE BRAS D'OR)
536	(GROVES POINT)
537	(GEORGES RIVER)
538	(POINT ACONI)
539	(MILL CREEK)
540	(LITTLE LORRAINE)
541	(IRISHVALE)
542	(FRENCH ROAD)
544	(BROUGHTON)
545	(SCOTCH LAKE)
546	(ROCK ELM)
547	(BOISDALE)
548	(BEAVER COVE)
549	(CATALONE GUT)
550	(BIG POND)
551	(MIRA GUT)
552	(FORTRESS OF LOUISBOURG)
553	(HILLSIDE BOULARDERIE)
555	(BIG BRAS D'OR)
556	(GRAND NARROWS)
557	(JUNIPER MOUNTAIN)
558	(CASTLE BAY)
559	(SOUTH HEAD)

560	(NEW HARRIS)
561	(ROSS FERRY)
562	(JAMESVILLE)
563	(FRAMBOISE INTERVALE)
564	(GARDINER MINES)
565	(BIG BEACH)
566	(IRONVILLE)
567	(HUNTINGTON)
568	(MIDDLE CAPE)
569	(PORT CALEDONIA)
570	(BARRACHOIS)
571	(LINGAN)
572	(KEMPT HEAD)
573	(LITTLE POND)
574	(BOULARDERIE CENTRE)
575	(BLACK ROCK)
576	(NEW CAMPBELLTON)
577	(SHENACADIE)
578	(ST ANDREWS CHANNEL)
579	(MCKINNONS HARBOUR)
580	(FRENCHVALE)
583	(GRASS COVE)
584	(UPPER GRAND MIRA)
586	(HIGHLAND HILL)
587	(LONG ISLAND)
588	(STIRLING)
589	(WASHABUCK CENTRE)
590	(FOURCHU)
591	(ENON)
592	(BENACADIE)
593	(CAPE DAUPHIN)
594	(ROUND ISLAND)
595	(GABARUS LAKE)
596	(FRAMBOISE)
597	(BEN EOIN)
598	(LEITCHES CREEK)
599	(IRISH COVE)
601	(NORTHSIDE EAST BAY)
602	(UPPER WASHABUCK)
603	(BLACK BROOK)
604	(MIRA ROAD)
605	(BEECHMONT)
606	(SOUTHSIDE BOULARDARIE)
607	(BIG POND CENTRE)
608	(BARRA GLEN)
609	(GILLIS POINT)
610	(OTTAWA BROOK)
611	(LOWER WASHABUCK)
612	(ST COLUMBA)
613	(RED POINT)

614	(MACADAMS LAKE)
615	(ISLANDVIEW)
616	(UPPER NORTH SYDNEY)
617	(LAKE UIST)
618	(UPPER LEITCHES CREEK)
619	(GILLIS LAKE)
620	(DALEM LAKE)
621	(TROY)
622	(WAGMATCOOK)
623	(CRAIGMORE)
624	(MELVILLE)
626	(NORTH WEST ARM)
627	(CRANDALL ROAD)
628	(CREIGNISH)
629	(MACKDALE)
630	(SUGAR CAMP)
631	(QUEENSVILLE)
632	(LEXINGTON)
633	(NEWTOWN)
634	(LONG POINT)
635	(PLEASANT HILL)
636	(ASKILTON)
637	(PORT MALCOLM)
638	(EAST GORE)
639	(BELNAN)
640	(DUTCH SETTLEMENT)
642	(NINE MILE RIVER)
643	(UPPER NINE MILE RIVER)
644	(BARR SETTLEMENT)
645	(CARIBOU MARSH)
646	(GOFFS)
647	(UNKNOWN)
648	(GLEN HAVEN)
649	(GLEN MARGARET)
650	(HACKETTS COVE)
651	(INDIAN HARBOUR)
652	(EAST DOVER)
653	(INGRAMPORT)
654	(FRENCH VILLAGE)
655	(MEMBERTOU)
656	(COW BAY)
657	(MONTAGUE GOLD MINES)
658	(PIPERS COVE)
659	(BIG BRAS D'OR)
660	(BOULARDERIE EAST)
661	(BRIDGEWATER)
662	(WESTMOUNT)

	663 (POINT TUPPER) 664 (KENTVILLE) 665 (WOLFVILLE) 666 (BIG LAKE)
Additional Information	
Dates Available	Fiscal 2000 - 2015
History	

Individual's County

Variable Name	pcounty
Label	Most Recent Patient County
Definition	Individual's most recent county or city of residence based on postal code recorded with last interaction with the healthcare system
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	2
Field Values (Label)	00 (Unknown) 01 (Annapolis) 02 (Antigonish) 03 (Cape Breton) 04 (Colchester) 05 (Cumberland) 06 (Digby) 07 (Guysborough) 08 (Halifax County) 09 (Hants) 10 (Inverness) 11 (Kings) 12 (Lunenburg) 13 (Pictou) 14 (Queens) 15 (Richmond) 16 (Shelburne) 17 (Victoria) 18 (Yarmouth) 19 (City of Halifax) 20 (City of Dartmouth) 21 (Sydney) 33 (Sackville, N.B.) 88 (County not on file) 99 (Out-of-Province)
Additional Information	
Dates Available	Fiscal 1996 - 2015
History	

Postal Code

Variable Name	postcode
Label	Most Recent Postal Code
Definition	Postal code of the individual's most recent correspondence address given to the provider.
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	6
Field Values	Null Values: " "
Additional Information	Only the first three digits are available for release. Full postal code may be released only if deemed necessary for the research project by the HDNS Data Access Committee.
Dates Available	Fiscal 1996 - 2015
History	

MSI Expiration Date

Variable Name	expdate
Label	
Definition	The expiration date of an individual's health card (msi).
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values	
Additional Information	The msi expiration date (expdate) is stored in the SAS date format, which is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and a specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers.
Dates Available	Fiscal 2015
History	

Variables in the ELIGIB Dataset

Eligibility Status

Variable Name	ESTAT
Label	Eligibility Status
Definition	Individual's insurance eligibility status
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	3
Field Values (Label)	001 (Canadian Citizen) 002 (Landed Immigrant) 003 (Applied for Immigrant Status) 004 (Student Authorization) 005 (Student Auth. Ministers Permit) 007 (Employment Authorization) 008 (Empl. Auth. Ministers Permit) 009 (Empl. Auth. Religious) 010 (Temporary Absent) 011 (Temporary Absent Student) 012 (Temporary Absent Sabbatical) 013 (Temporary Absent Yearly) 014 (Ward of Social Services) 015 (Family of Student Auth.) 016 (Family of Employment Auth.) 017 (Family of NATO Exchange) 018 (Extended Coverage) 031 (Newborn Pre-Registration) 033 (Armed Forces/RCMP) 044 (NATO Exchange) 068 (POS NSDAP Eligibility) 200 (Pending Coverage) 201 (Applied for Coverage) 210 (Veteran) 211 (Status Indian) 212 (Veteran and Status Indian)
Additional Information	
Dates Available	Fiscal 1997 - 2015
History	

Eligibility Start Date

Variable Name	FROMDATE
Label	Eligibility Start Date
Definition	Individual's insurance eligibility start date for a particular program
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values	
Additional Information	The eligibility start date (<i>fromdate</i>) is stored in the SAS date format, which is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and a specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers.
Dates Available	Fiscal 1997 - 2015
History	

Program

Variable Name	PROGRAM
Label	Program
Definition	Program in which the individual is registered
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	5
Field Values (Label)	<p>AP (School for the Blind)</p> <p>BTO (Boarding, Transportation and Ostomy)</p> <p>CM (Challenged Mentally)</p> <p>CP (Cleft Palate)</p> <p>DE (Denticare)</p> <p>HD (Home Dialysis)</p> <p>MC (Medicare)</p> <p>MX (Maxillofacial)</p> <p>NSDAP (NS Diabetes Assistance Program (Under 65))</p> <p>PCS (Pharm. Cancer Society)</p> <p>PCSG (Pharm. Cancer Society Gov.)</p> <p>PCSS (Pharm. Cancer Society Spec.)</p> <p>PDA (Diabetic Association)</p> <p>PFB (Family Benefits)</p> <p>PHCDC (Palliative Home Care Drug Coverage)</p> <p>PIA (Income Assistance)</p> <p>PIAX (Income Assist. No Copay)</p> <p>PLTC (Pharmacare Long Term Care (Under 65))</p> <p>PMSI (Pharmacare Non-GIS)</p> <p>PMSIG (Pharmacare GIS)</p> <p>PMSIX (Pharmacare No Copay)</p> <p>PNSFP (Nova Scotia Family Pharmacare Program)</p> <p>SC (Special Consideration)</p>
Additional Information	Individuals may be registered in more than one program at the same time. Each program in which the individual is registered will be a new observation.
Dates Available	Fiscal 1997 - 2015
History	

Eligibility End Date

Variable Name	TODATE
Label	Eligibility End Date W/ Expiration
Definition	End date of the Individual's insurance eligibility. Ongoing eligibility has been delimited by HCN expiration date.
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values	
Additional Information	<p>Eligibility dates in the year 3000+ do not have a set expiration date as of the most recent year of data, this means that the individual is currently eligible for Nova Scotia provincial healthcare insurance.</p> <p>Where individuals have ongoing (3000+) eligibility their HCN expiration date is used when available.</p> <p>The eligibility end date (<i>todate</i>) is stored in the SAS date format, which is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and a specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 2014 - 2015
History	

Eligibility End Date With Ongoing

Variable Name	OLDTODATE
Label	Eligibility End Date W/ Ongoing
Definition	End date of the Individual's insurance eligibility. Records with ongoing eligibility are unmodified.
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values	
Additional Information	<p>Eligibility dates in the year 3000+ do not have a set expiration date as of the most recent year of data, this means that the individual is currently eligible for Nova Scotia provincial healthcare insurance.</p> <p>The eligibility end date (<i>todate</i>) is stored in the SAS date format, which is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and a specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 1997 - 2015
History	

Termination Status

Variable Name	TSTAT
Label	Termination Status
Definition	Termination status of Individual eligibility
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	3
Field Values (Label)	030 (Terminated Eligibility) 031 (Newborn Pre-registration) 033 (Armed Forces/RCMP) 034 (Deceased (Vital Stats)) 035 (Deceased (Family Notified)) 036 (Out of Prov. (New Prov Notify)) 037 (Out of Prov. (Pay Claim)) 038 (Out of Prov. (Correspondence)) 039 (Out of Prov. (Phone)) 040 (Temporary Absent) 043 (Adopted) 044 (NATO Exchange) 045 (Renewal Notice Not Returned) 046 (Terminated Student Auth.) 047 (Terminated Employment Auth.) 048 (Terminated Over Age) 050 (Registered Twice) 065 (Opt Out) 069 (NSDAP Terminated Eligibility) 210 (Veteran) 211 (Status Indian) 212 (Veteran and Status Indian) 230 (Termination) 265 (Opt Out) 266 (No Contact) 267 (No Payment)
Additional Information	<p>Records in which an individual's eligibility has expired will have a termination status (<i>tstat</i>) value. If a record's termination status is null then the individual is still eligible for provincial healthcare.</p> <p>When a Nova Scotia child is adopted, their health care number is terminated (<i>tstat</i>='043') and a new health care number is issued. There is no way to link the old and the new health care numbers.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 1997 - 2015

History

Health Care Number

Variable Name	msi
Label	Patient MSI Health Card Number (HCN)
Definition	Encrypted MSI health care number
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	24
Field Values	Null Values: “ ”
Additional Information	<p>Individual's msi health care number is not available for release due to confidentiality reasons. It is used internally by HDNS for data linkage.</p> <p>In some cases a valid HCN is not available. As a result the field will either be left blank or filled with a “dummy” HCN. Observations containing a dummy HCN, or a null value are to be excluded from most analysis which focus on the MSI eligible population.</p> <p>Unique IDs can be generated by HDNS for research projects which can be used to link between datasets or count observations of individuals.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 1997 - 2015
History	

Application Indicator

Variable Name	app_flag
Label	Application Indicator
Definition	Indicates if the individual is still in the application process
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	1
Field Values (Label)	Y (Yes) N (No)
Additional Information	
Dates Available	Fiscal 2013 - 2015
History	

Eligibility Indicator

Variable Name	elig_flag
Label	Eligibility Indicator
Definition	Indicates if this individual is eligible or not
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	1
Field Values (Label)	Y (Yes) N (No)
Additional Information	
Dates Available	Fiscal 2013 -2015
History	

Variables in the POSTAL Dataset

From Date

Variable Name	fromdate
Label	Effective From Date
Definition	Effective date of residence in recorded postal code area
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values	
Additional Information	The effective date of residence (<i>fromdate</i>) is stored in the SAS date format, which is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and a specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers.
Dates Available	Fiscal 1998 - 2015
History	

Health Care Number

Variable Name	msi
Label	Patient MSI Health Card Number (HCN)
Definition	Encrypted MSI health care number
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	24
Field Values	Null Values: “ ”
Additional Information	<p>Individual's msi health care number is not available for release due to confidentiality reasons. It is used internally by HDNS for data linkage.</p> <p>In some cases a valid HCN is not available. As a result the field will either be left blank or filled with a “dummy” HCN. Observations containing a dummy HCN, or a null value are to be excluded from most analysis which focus on the MSI eligible population.</p> <p>Unique IDs can be generated by HDNS for research projects which can be used to link between datasets or count observations of individuals.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 1998 - 2015
History	

Postal Code

Variable Name	postcode
Label	Postal Code
Definition	Postal code of the individual's most recent correspondence address given to the provider.
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	6
Field Values	Null Values: " "
Additional Information	Only the first three digits are available for release. Full postal code may be released only if deemed necessary for the research project by the HDNS Data Access Committee.
Dates Available	Fiscal 1998 - 2015
History	

To Date

Variable Name	todate
Label	Effective To Date
Definition	Effective end date of residence in recorded postal code area
Data Type	NUM
Data Element Length	4
Field Values	
Additional Information	<p>Residency dates in the year 3000+ do not have a set expiration date as of the most recent year of data, this means that the individual currently resides at the area indicated by postal code (<i>postcode</i>).</p> <p>The effective end date of residence (<i>todate</i>) is stored in the SAS date format, which is a value that represents the number of days between January 1, 1960, and a specified date. Dates before January 1, 1960, are negative numbers; dates after are positive numbers.</p>
Dates Available	Fiscal 1998 - 2015
History	

Discontinued Variables

From ELIGIB:

Year of Data

Variable Name	Source
Label	Year of Data
Definition	
Data Type	CHAR
Data Element Length	2
Field Values	
Additional Information	
Dates Available	Fiscal 1998 - 2006
History	

End of Document.