



Archiving Exclusion Criteria

Although the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) seeks to archive a range of datasets from Data Contributors, there are instances where the data may not be suitable or feasible to archive. This is determined on a case-by-case basis.

The bulleted list below describes the circumstances under which the NDACAN will NOT archive data from a prospective Data Contributor:

- Data stemming from a data collection effort that did not undergo review or receive Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, or the approval documentation is not provided with the dataset submission (IRB approval letter and approved Informed Consent template).
- Data collected from participants who signed informed consent forms that explicitly prohibited sharing of their data.
- A primarily qualitative data collection that has not been coded into numeric variables. NDACAN is a quantitative data archive.
- Data that primarily contains audio or video recordings of participants that have not been coded into numeric variables.
- Data containing medical diagnostics that have not been interpreted and coded into numeric variables (i.e., actual MRI images, x-rays, etc.).
- Data where the link between the variables and the original question text cannot be established (i.e., due to missing documentation files/survey instruments, lack of descriptive variable labels, etc.).
- Data and documentation files that are corrupt or in formats that are not able to be opened by NDACAN staff.
- The Data Contributor does not fully participate in or complete the archiving process as outlined on the NDACAN Contribute Data webpages and the document entitled, “*A Contributor’s Guide to Preparing and Archiving Quantitative Data.*”
- Data requiring security measures, infrastructure, or procedures that NDACAN does not currently offer.

- Data not fitting within the scope of the National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect. The scope falls under the major headings of child maltreatment, child abuse, foster care, and child neglect.

In special circumstances, NDACAN may elect to archive datasets for preservation purposes only. This generally mean that the data files will not undergo any processing and the study documents and data files will be converted to archival formats (e.g., pdfs, text data, etc.). In these cases, the dataset package will be preserved on the NDACAN servers but may not be made available to secondary analysts. An example of a special circumstance would be where a dataset contains highly sensitive data, however, standard recoding practices or removal of variables would significantly hamper the research utility of the dataset. At the same time, leaving the variables un-recoded presents an added disclosure risk to study participants. NDACAN may not currently have the security infrastructure to make the data available to secondary analysts, however, it is foreseeable that a means for providing access could be developed in the future. The end result is that NDACAN would archive the data for preservation purposes and may make it available to secondary analysts at some point in the future once the capacity to do so, in a secure manner, is available.