



**DATALYSCENTER®**

NCAA® Injury Surveillance Program



**DISC**

Datalys Injury  
Statistics Clearinghouse

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### **Data Request Instructions**

Users Guide and Information Packet

Application Packet

**Authored by:** Datalys Center for Sports Injury Research and Prevention, Inc  
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## INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in the NCAA injury surveillance data. In this packet you will find the instructions, sports, years and variables available as well as the application packet.

Data requests are limited to legitimate scientific inquiries and are reviewed by an external panel of scientists for redundancy (to determine if the same data has already been provided to another researcher), scientific merit (i.e. sound research question), and potential to contribute to the body of knowledge. Requests for marketing data or general descriptive information in lieu of a legitimate research question will not be considered. Panel recommendations are forwarded to the NCAA for final approval.

Two datasets exist. The first dataset represents the 5-year period spanning the 2004/05 to 2008/09 academic years. Several sports have less than 5-years of available data due to the academic year the system began tracking those sports. The second dataset represents the 5-year period spanning the 2009/10-2013/14 academic years.

## DATASET INFORMATION

The dataset files available are for NCAA Injury Surveillance System data for the periods of 2004/05-2008/09 and 2009/10-2013/14. Additional information can be found in "*National Collegiate Athletic Association Injury Surveillance System: Review of Methods for 2004–2005 Through 2013–2014 Data Collection*," which is available in the August 2014 issue of the *Journal of Athletic Training*. (<http://natajournals.org/doi/abs/10.4085/1062-6050-49.3.58>)

## Athletic Injuries

The injuries and illnesses entered by certified athletic trainers included in these data sets are only those classified as athletic injuries. Athletic trainers could enter injuries and illnesses that occurred outside of athletic competition, but these injuries were not included in either dataset. The data include all health conditions that the certified athletic trainers determined to be athletic injuries. In a small number of cases, these include infections and other conditions that some data users may consider to be non-injury.

## Time Loss and Non-Time Loss Injuries

Only injuries that resulted in one or more days of lost participation are included in the 2004/05-2008/09 dataset, i.e., zero-days, time loss injuries are not included in the data sets. The 2009/10-2013/14 dataset includes both time loss and non-time loss injuries. Because of the differences in data collection methods, we recommend that both datasets be analyzed separately.

## Sampling Weights

Post-stratification sample weights are included in the datasets. These allow the researcher to make estimates about the overall population of NCAA athletic injuries. The weights are computed at the school-sport-year level. Researchers need to consider the limitations associated with making national estimates using data collected from volunteer systems.

## DATA REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS

Researchers may apply for subsets of de-identified aggregate data. Generally, these data are considered exempt from Human Subjects Protections; however, researchers are required to provide proof of exemption from their Institutional Review Board (IRB).

The dataset files available are for NCAA Injury Surveillance System data for the periods of 2004/05-2008/09 and 2009/10-2013/14. Data will be available for all the sports listed in the table below. Some sports from the 2004/05-2008/09 dataset do not have data available for all five years. **Due to differences in data collection methods, we recommend analyzing both datasets separately.**

To offset administrative costs, a non-refundable application fee of \$75 is required with your application if you are requesting the 2009/10-2013/14 dataset. The fee is waived for students utilizing the data for their thesis/dissertation, or if primary investigator is from an institution currently providing data to the NCAA Injury Surveillance System.

### **STEP 1:**

Complete the Data Request Form (instructions and application are below). Please return completed application in PDF format to the Datalys Center at [disc@datalyscenter.org](mailto:disc@datalyscenter.org)

### **STEP 2:**

Submit non-refundable \$75 application fee via check written to “Datalys Center for Sports Injury Research and Prevention.” Be sure to include your name and institution on your check, so that we can match your payment to your application. Mail check to “Datalys Center; c/o DISC; 401 West Michigan Street, Suite 500; Indianapolis, IN 46202.” The application process will proceed upon receiving your check.]

### **STEP 3:**

Your completed application will be evaluated by the Independent Review Committee (IRC). The IRC generally meets once a month to review proposals. Expedited requests for review are not possible and incomplete proposals will delay the process. The IRC retains the right to deny any request without explanation.

### **STEP 4:**

If your application is approved by the IRC, the Datalys Center will provide the investigator with the *Data Use License Agreement* for completion as the final step in the process before data sets are released. The *Data Use License Agreement* needs to be read, signed and returned to the Datalys Center along with any applicable fees prior to data being released. Please note that the *Data Use License Agreement* includes a provision requiring proof of IRB approval.

### **STEP 5:**

Upon receiving your *Data Use License Agreement* and application fee, your application will be forwarded to the NCAA for final approval. The NCAA retains the right to deny any request without explanation. The total process for steps 2-5 is anticipated to take 60 to 90 days depending when a request is submitted relative to the next monthly scheduled IRC meeting.

### **STEP 6:**

Codebooks, methods, and datasets are provided once all approvals and paperwork are received.

## Form Instructions

- Date of Application: Date submitted to the Datalys Center.
- Institution: List the institution name of the PI.
- NCAA-ISP Participant: Check the appropriate button (will be verified).
- Primary Investigator (PI): List only the name of the lead investigator.
- Credentials: Provide the lead investigators credentials (MD, PhD, etc).
- Title: Lead Investigator's Title (assistant professor, etc).
- Department: Lead investigator's department (orthopedics, etc).
- Street Address: Mailing street address of PI.
- City, State and Zip code: City, state and zip of PI.
- Email: Work email of PI (do not provide gmail or other non-work related email).
- Office Phone: PI's office phone.
- Purpose of Your Request: Check button (limited to peer-reviewed manuscripts and dissertations).
- Student Status: Check the appropriate box indicating your academic status  
If this is a student project, you must provide the following:
  - Mentor's Name: Provide full name of mentor
  - Mentor's Institution: Provide full institution name
  - Mentor's Title: Mentor's title (assistant professor, etc)
  - Mentor's Email: Provide the mentor's work email
  - Mentor's Phone Number: Provide the mentor's office phone number
- Human Subjects' Protections Approval: Check appropriate button
- Project Funding: Check the appropriate box indicating if project is funded, if yes, by whom.
- Collaborators: Provide the name, title, institution and role of each investigator
- Project Title: Identify the preliminary title of the proposed manuscript or dissertation.
- Project Synopsis: Briefly describe your proposed project, purpose, approach, expected outcomes.
- Specific Aims: Provide a list of specific aims (note over-reaching or broad aims should be avoided).
- Significance & Expected Outcomes: Describe how project will contribute to the body of knowledge.
- Statistical Analyses: Describe the statistical analyses you plan to perform
- Sports, Years & Variables: Identify the sports, years and variables requested from the lists provided below.
- Signature:

## AVAILABLE SPORTS AND YEARS

<b>Sports Available for 10 Years</b>	<b>Years available in 2004/05 – 2008/09 dataset</b>	<b>Years available in 2009/10 – 2013/14 dataset</b>
Men's Football	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Field Hockey	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Soccer	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Soccer	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Volleyball	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Basketball	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Basketball	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Wrestling	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Gymnastics	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Ice Hockey	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Ice Hockey	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Lacrosse	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Lacrosse	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Baseball	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Softball	2004/05 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14

<b>Sports Available for 9 Years</b>	<b>Years available in 2004/05 – 2008/09 dataset</b>	<b>Years available in 2009/10 – 2013/14 dataset</b>
Men's Cross Country	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Cross Country	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Indoor Track	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Indoor Track	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Outdoor Track	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Outdoor Track	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Men's Tennis	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Tennis	2005/06 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14

<b>Sports Available for 8 Years</b>	<b>Years available in 2004/05 – 2008/09 dataset</b>	<b>Years available in 2009/10 – 2013/14 dataset</b>
Men's Swimming and Diving	2006/07 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14
Women's Swimming and Diving	2006/07 – 2008/09	2009/10 – 2013/14

## VARIABLES FOR REQUEST FROM EXPOSURE AND INJURY CODEBOOKS

### EXPOSURE VARIABLES

Variable Label	2004/05 - 2008/09 Variable Name	2009/10 - 2013/14 Variable Name	Notes
Academic Year (20xx-xx)	ACADEMIC_YR	YEAR	
Sport Code	SPORTCODE	SPORT	
Exposure Unique Identifier	EXP_KEY	RECORD_UID_EXP	
Primary Division	DIVISION	PRIMARY_DIV	
Football Division	DIVISION_FB	SPORT_SUBDIVISION	Only for Football requests
Season Segment	SEASONCODE	SEASON	
Event Type	EVENT_TYPE	EVENT_TYPE	
Home game vs. away game	HOME_GAME		Not available in 2009/10 - 2013/14 dataset
Practice Type	PRACTICE_TYPE		Not available in 2009/10 - 2013/14 dataset
Participation Count	ATHLETE_COUNT	NUM_ATHLETES	
Surface	SURFACE_TYPE	SURFACE	
Football Equipment	EQUIPMENT_FB		Not available in 2009/10 - 2013/14 dataset; Only for Football requests
Sampling Weight (post-stratified by Division and Year)	WT_FIN	WGT_FINAL	

### INJURY VARIABLES

Variable Label	2004/05 - 2008/09 Variable Name	2009/10 - 2013/14 Variable Name	Notes
Academic Year (20xx-xx)	ACADEMIC_YR	YEAR	
Exposure Key (links to exposure file)	EXP_KEY	RECORD_UID_EXP	
Injury Key	INJ_DX_KEY	RECORD_UID_INJ	
Date of injury			Not available in 2004/05 - 2008/09 dataset; Due to the de-identified nature of the NCAA ISP, we cannot provide the specific injury date, but rather a count variable that indicates number of days since an arbitrary start-of-season date
Multiple injuries to Same Body Part Key	MULTIPLE_INJURIES	INJURY_IDENTIFIER	
Sport Division	PRIMARYDIV	PRIMARY_DIV	
Sport Code	SPORTCODE	SPORT	
Football Division (ONLY FOR FOOTBALL REQUESTS)	DIVISION_FB	SPORT_SUBDIVISION	
Season Segment	SEASON	SEASON	
Event Type	EVENT_TYPE	EVENT_TYPE	

Home game vs. away game	GAME_TYPE		Not available in 2009/10 - 2013/14 dataset
Practice Type	PRAC_TYPE		Not available in 2009/10 - 2013/14 dataset
Injury Event Type	INJ_EVENT_TYPE	INJEV_SEGEVENT	
Injured athletes' year in school		CLASS_YEAR	Not available in 2004/05 - 2008/09 dataset
Player Activity at Time of Injury	ACTIVITY	INJEV_ACTIVITY	
Athlete's Position at Time of Competition Injury	GAME_POSITION	INJEV_PLAYER_POSITION	
Location on Field or Court at Time of Competition Injury	GAME_FIELD_LOC	INJEV_LOCATION	
Basic Injury Mechanism	INJ_MECH_BASIC	INJEV_BASIC_MECHANISM	
Specific Injury Mechanism	INJ_MECH_SPEC	INJEV_SPECIFIC_MECHANISM	
Days Lost from Participation	TIMELOSS	TIMELOSS	
Outcome	OUTCOME	OUTCOME	
Body Part or System Affected	BODYPART_SYSTEM	BODYPART_OR_SYSTEM_CODE	
Specific Injury	SPEC_INJURY_CODE	INJURY_OR_ILLNESS_CODE	
Type of Injury	TYPE_INJ	INJ_ILL_GROUP_CODE	
Side of Body	SIDE	SIDE	
Injury Recurrence	RECUR	NEW_INJURY	
Chronic Injury	CHRONIC	CHRONIC_INJURY	
Surgery Resulted from this Injury	SURGERY	SURGERY	
Person completing injury assessment		INJURY_ASSESSMENT	Not available in 2004/05 - 2008/09 dataset
Emergency transport utilized		EMERGENCY_TRANSPORT	Not available in 2004/05 - 2008/09 dataset
Concussion symptomatology		See list to right	Not available in 2004/05 - 2008/09 dataset; Includes: Amnesia, Difficulty concentrating, Feeling disoriented, Dizziness, Headache, Hyperexcitable, Irritable, Loss of consciousness, Nausea, Tinnitus, Balance issues, Visual impairment, Sensitivity to light, Sensitivity to noise, Insomnia, Drowsiness
Concussion symptom resolution time		C_CONCUSSION_TIME	Not available in 2004/05 - 2008/09 dataset; Categorical (not count) data for when ALL symptoms resolve
Sampling Weight	WT_FIN	WGT_FINAL	Post-stratified by Division and Year



## DATA REQUEST APPLICATION FORM

Please complete this form in its entirety. Incomplete forms will not be processed. This application should only be completed by scientific investigators requesting access to de-identified, line item exposure and injury data from the NCAA’s Injury Surveillance Programs. Requests must have a legitimate scientific research question.

Access to the data is a 2-step process. Approval by Datalys Center Independent Review Committee (IRC) does not guarantee requests will be approved by the NCAA. Requests may take several months to process depending on volume and when the application was received. Applications submitted by investigators from NCAA Injury Surveillance Program participating institutions will receive priority processing, but must meet the same criteria for approval.

### Primary Investigator (PI) Information

1. Date of Application:

2. Institution:

3. NCAA-ISP Participant: YES NO

4. Primary Investigator:

5. Credentials:

6. Primary Investigator’s Title:

7. Department:

8. Street Address:

9. City, State, Zip:

10. Email:

11. Office Phone:



## Proposal Information

**12. Purpose of Request:** PEER-REVIEWED MANUSCRIPT      DISSERTATION      OTHER

*If OTHER, describe:*

**13. Student Status:** DOCTORAL STUDENT      MEDICAL STUDENT      MASTERS STUDENT      NA

*If this is a student project, you must provide the following:*

- a. **Mentor's Name:**
- b. **Mentor's Institution:**
- c. **Mentor's Title:**
- d. **Mentor's Email:**
- e. **Mentor's Phone Number:**

**14. Human Subjects' Protections Approval:** APPROVED      IN REVIEW      NA

*Data will not be released without proof of human subjects' protections approval or exemption from the PI's Institutional Review Board. If approved or in review, attach letter from IRB in PDF format along with this application. Applications in IRB review will be considered but data will not be released until proof of approval or exemption is provided.*

**15. Project Funding:** YES      NO

*If funded, identify the funding agency:*

**16: Collaborators (Name, Title, Institution, and Role on Project):**

**17. Project Title:**

**18. Project Synopsis** *(limited to 3500 characters):*

**19. Specific Aims** *(limited to 3500 characters):*

**20. Significance and Expected Outcomes** *(limited to 3500 characters):*

**21. Statistical Analyses** *(limited to 3500 characters):*

**22. Sports, Years and Variables** (limited to 3500 characters):

*You may request and entire dataset (e.g. Football for 2004/05 – 2008/09 or a subset Football 2005/06)*

**23. Signature:** I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that the information provided in this document is accurate, truthful and verify that all collaborators have current human subjects' protections training on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of \_\_\_\_\_.