

## Database reference should be made

As a staff person in the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Bureau of Health Information and Policy, with some responsibility for maintaining and developing the Web-based interactive query system Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH), I noted with some interest its use in the recent paper "Monitoring Racial/Ethnic Mortality Disparities in Wisconsin: 1991-2000" by Carty et al. (WMJ. 2006;105(6)26.)

While I was gratified to see this Web site used for a *Wisconsin Medical Journal* article, I was disappointed that no description, reference, or citation for WISH was made in the article.

Please remind other authors who may use this source that each table produced by WISH carries this note: "Suggested citation: Wisconsin Dept. of Health and Family Services, Division of Public Health, Bureau of Health Information and Policy. Wisconsin Interactive Statistics on Health (WISH) data query system, <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/wish/>, Mortality Module, accessed mm/dd/yy."

Indeed, a full reference for an article that focused on mortality data also might note the original data source described on the WISH site: "Resident death certificates, Bureau of Health Information and Policy, Division of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services."

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# Wisconsin Medical Journal

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