As part of the on-going HCUP quality management program, we discovered duplicated records in the 2006–2012 South Carolina State Emergency Department Databases (SEDD). The purpose of this notification is to provide a description of the issue and instructions on how to identify and remove the duplicated records.

Data Issue

The 2006–2012 South Carolina SEDD included duplicated ED records with very similar, if not identical information. The duplication was inadvertently caused during the creation of the HCUP SEDD and therefore impacted all types of emergency department records. The duplicated records were not specific to certain hospitals or types of conditions with one exception. In data year 2012 only, there were duplicated ED visits that also involved observation services.

How to Identify and Remove the Duplicate Records

The table below lists the number of records in each year of the South Carolina SEDD, the number of duplicated records, and how to identify and remove the duplicated records for each data year.

	South Carolina SEDD		
Data Year	Total number of SEDD records	Number of duplicated records	How to identify and remove duplicated records
2006	1,686,258	42,742	Delete records with STATE_AS=1
2007	1,776,451	65,292	Delete records with STATE_AS=1
2008	1,798,615	62,154	Delete records with STATE_AS=1
2009	1,930,611	62,475	Delete records with STATE_AS=1
2010	1,909,548	65,818	Delete records with STATE_AS=1
2011	1,970,338	67,521	Delete records with STATE_AS=1
2012	2,148,204	125,744	Delete records with STATE_AS=1 (71,416 records) and delete records with STATE_OS=1 (54,328 records)

We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused your organization. If you have any questions, please contact the HCUP Central Distributor (866-556-4287 toll-free or HCUPDistributor@AHRQ.gov).

Sincerely,

The HCUP Central Distributor Team