

An Assessment of the
Feasibility of Conducting Future
Epidemiological Studies at
USMC Base Camp Lejeune.

http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune/docs/feasibility_assessment_Lejeune.pdf

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ATSDR Science Advisory Panel on Camp Lejeune, 2005

- Panel recommended that ATSDR
 - identify cohorts with potential exposure
 - adults who lived on base
 - adults who worked on base
 - children who lived on base (including pregnancies)
 - address feasibility of issues involved in planning future studies at the base

H.R. 4986: National Defense Authorization for FY 2008 (Section 315)

- Enacted January 28, 2008
- Requires ATSDR to develop a health survey
- Requires the Navy to send health surveys to all individuals possibly exposed to contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune
- Survey should begin one year after enactment

Data Sources Reviewed

- Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)
 - personnel data on active duty and employees
- ATSDR 1999-2002 survey participants
- DOD Education Activity microfiche tapes
 - high school transcripts, other grade level data
- Naval Health Research Center (NHRC)
 - Career History Archival Medical and Personnel System (“CHAMPS”)
- Camp Lejeune family housing records

DMDC Active Duty Personnel Data

- partial last name (before 1977)
- full name (1977 onward)
- social security number
- date of birth
- sex and race/ethnicity
- home state of record
- unit code available starting in June 1975
 - can be used to identify base location
- occupational specialty
- pay grade
- dates and years of service
- marital status

DMDC Active Duty Personnel Data

- 210,222 Marines and Navy personnel stationed at the base anytime, 6/75 – 12/85
 - 198,805 Marines; 11417 Navy
 - 8,214 women (3.9%)
 - 30% married
 - 95% enlisted; 5% commissioned officers
 - 25% African American; 4% Hispanic
 - Average tour length is 3 years
 - 88% under the age of 55 in 2007

DMDC Civilian Employee Personnel Data

- full name (12/81 onward)
 - name not available before 12/81
- social security number
- date of birth
- sex and race/ethnicity
- home state of record
- occupational code and location of occupation (December 1972 onward)
- employee start date (June 1974 onward)
- years of service
- pay grade

DMDC Civilian Employee Personnel Data

- 8,085 civilians employed at the base anytime, 12/72–12/85
 - 3,687 women (45.6%)
 - 21.7% African American
 - Half were employed for 5 years or more
 - 80% aged ≥ 55 years in 2007

ATSDR 1999-2002 Survey

- Telephone survey of parents who
 - had a child born during 1968-1985, and
 - resided on base anytime during the pregnancy
- Conducted to identify potential birth defects and childhood cancers for the current case-control study
- Parents of 12,598 children were interviewed
 - slightly more than half of the respondents were the mother
- About 4,000 of the Marines/Navy personnel in this survey are not in the DMDC database because they left the base before 1975
- Includes dependents (spouse, child) who are not in the DMDC databases

ATSDR 1999-2002 Survey

- Data available
 - Most survey respondents (either the mother or father) provided his/her social security number
 - Full name, date of birth, and address at time of survey are available for both parents and the index child
 - Dates the parents lived on base

DOD Education Activity Records

- 1940s through 1979
 - data cartridges are severely damaged and most cannot be read
 - data prior to 1974 and for 1979 could not be read
- 1980 onward
 - plastic reels can be read
- During 1974-1984, annual graduating class ranged from 78 to 132 students

DOD Education Activity Records

- Available data
 - high school transcripts
 - student's name
 - date of birth
 - gender
 - social security number for some students
 - a parent's name and address on base
 - non-graduates
 - name
 - address
 - date of birth