How to Export a Modified Analysis Data Set

Guidance for the Patient Safety Component   February 2024

This quick reference guide outlines the basics of exporting an entire analysis data set or a modified analysis data set. In the example outlined below, a dataset containing catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) rate data is modified and exported.

Background

NHSN contains several analysis data sets used as the basis for documenting, organizing, and analyzing data entered into NHSN. Each user who has rights to access NHSN data for a facility or group has his/her own analysis data sets. When running NHSN Analysis Reports, data is pulled from one or more of these NHSN analysis data sets. Users have the option to run default analysis reports, but additionally, each report can be modified using available selection criteria to meet a group or facility's analytical needs. However, users may also wish to use their NHSN generated analysis data sets to create external reports, in conjunction with data automations outside of NHSN, or to perform other analyses with their NHSN data.

Generating New Analysis Data Sets

Generating new data sets is the first step to exporting an entire analysis data set or a modified analysis data set. When analyzing data in NHSN, users are using a copy of the facility or group's data and not the live database of data. Therefore, it's extremely important that users generate data sets before beginning the export process. This ensures that the data contained within the analysis data sets are up-to-date.

Modifying an Analysis Report Data Set for Export

To begin, select "Analysis" on the NHSN home screen. Then, select "Reports" from the dropdown menu to open the Analysis Reports page. Expand the folder of the desired analysis report. This example uses the "bs2_CLAB_RatesICU_SCA" analysis data set, which can be found by navigating through the following folders: *HAI Detailed Reports (Line Lists, Rate Tables, etc.) > Device-Associated (DA) Module > CAUTI > Rate Table—CAUTI Data for ICU-Other/SCA/ONC*. After locating the desired analysis data set, follow the steps below:

1. Select the desired analysis report. This example uses "Rate Table – CAUTI Data for ICU-Other/SCA/ONC". From the dropdown menu, choose "Modify Report". Do not choose "Export Data Set" at this point. Choosing "Export Data Set" exports the complete, unmodified data set.
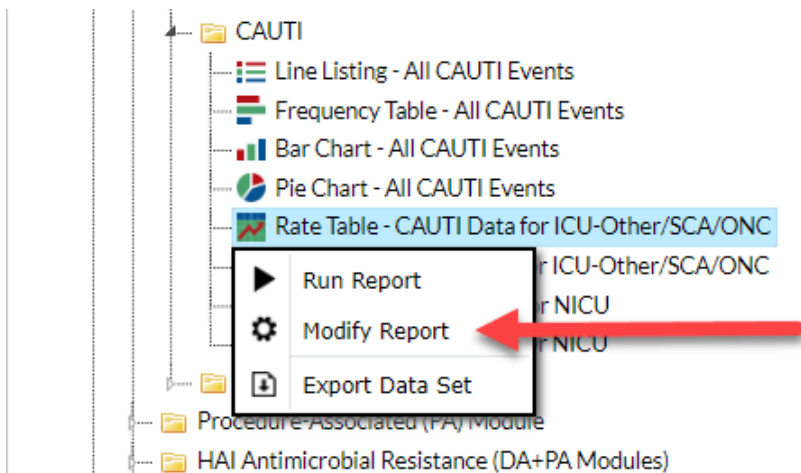

2. On the Modify screen, modify the report using the Time Period, Filters, and Display Options tabs. The Time Period tab allows users to choose a beginning and end date for the data included in the analysis data set. On this tab, month (summaryYM), quarter (summaryYQ), half year (summaryYH), and year (summaryYR) are available to choose as the Date Variable. In this example, the time period has been set to 2023 quarter 1 (Q1).

3. Use the Filters tab to modify the report to meet specific requirements. Users can add groups and rules by pressing the green "Add group" and "Add rule" buttons on the Filters tab.
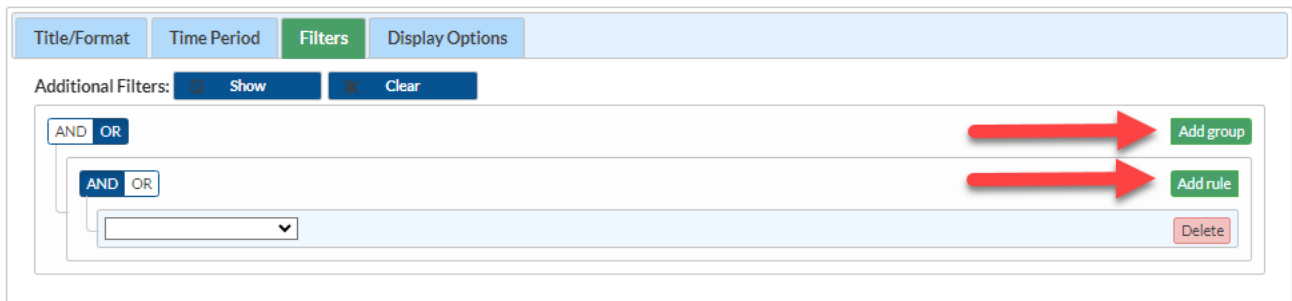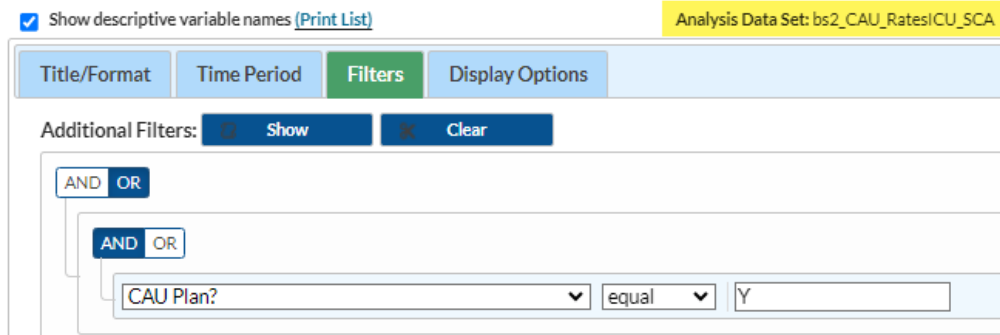

Rules that can be applied using the "Add group" button are available in a dropdown menu. After selecting "Add group", choose which rules you would like to apply to the data set. This will filter the data included in the analysis data set. Check the "Show descriptive variable names" box above the Modify screen tabs to show more descriptive names for the variables.
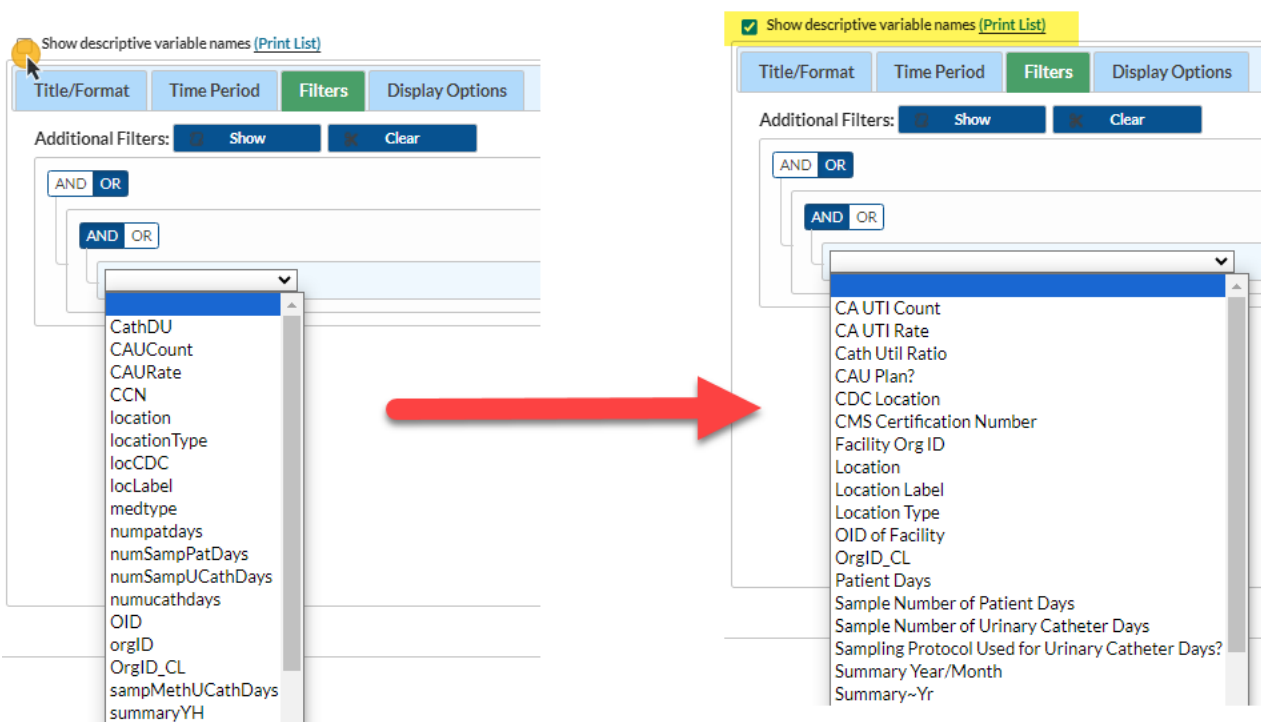
The Filters tab can be very useful when a facility wants to limit an analysis data set based on a set of known criteria. For this example, if a facility would like to limit the analysis data set so that it only includes in-plan data, the facility would use the Filters tab to set "utiplan" (or "CAUPlan?") equal to "Y".

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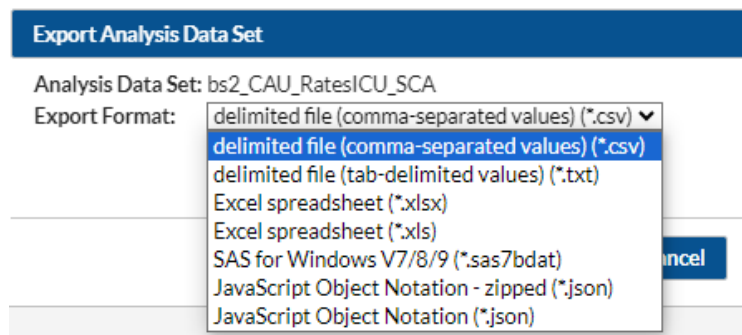National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

4. After all modifications have been made, select "Export" at the bottom right-hand corner of the Modify screen. All modifications made to the report will be applied to the exported analysis data set.

5. In the Export Analysis Data Set window, choose "Export Analysis Data Set using Modifications." Alternatively, choosing "Export Entire Analysis Data Set" will export the entire unmodified data set.
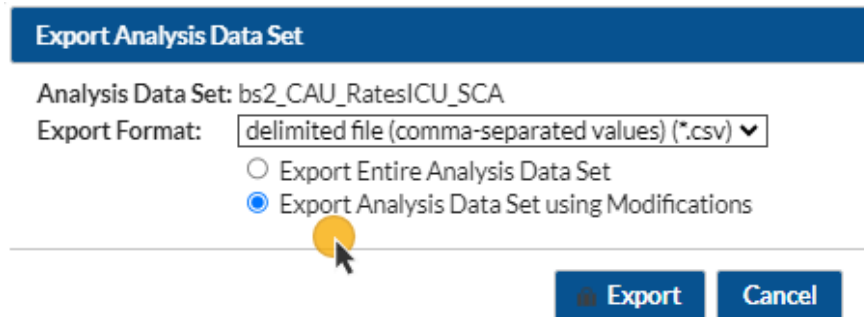
The export format for the analysis data set can also be selected in this window.

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Additional Resources

NHSN Analysis Quick Reference Guides

http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PS-Analysis-resources/reference-guides.html

NHSN Analysis Trainings

http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/Training/analysis/index.html

NHSN Help Desk

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