



Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development®

6.0 DATA RELEASE: OVERVIEW, CURATION, & RESOURCES

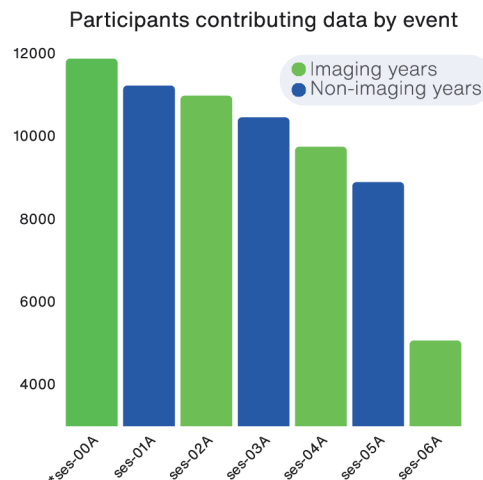
The Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development Study 6.0 data release was made available in June 2025. The new release expands on the previous data resource by updating cumulative visit data and including new time points.

In pursuit of increased transparency and dataset utility, this year's release cycle also includes improvements in standardization, novel data access applications and analytic tools, as well as expanded documentation.

The dataset is available through the NIH Brain Development Cohorts (NBDC) Data Hub.

6.0 Data release sample

Core study: The ABCD 6.0 Data Release includes data from 11,868 participants, complete through the 4-year follow-up and nearly complete for the 5-year. The 5.5- and 6-year follow-ups were ongoing at the data freeze (Jan 15, 2024) and include only participants who had assented by then.



ses-00A represents the baseline visit
ses=session; A=annual; M=mid-year (not displayed)

Substudies: The release includes data from several substudies (e.g., Social Development, Endocannabinoids, Hurricane Irma, COVID-19, MR Spectroscopy). Some substudy events are aligned with main study events; others are on separate schedules.

Curation standards

Table-level standards

- Unique participant/session IDs (BIDS-compliant)
- Timestamps and participant age for temporal alignment

Variable-level standards

- Standardized labels, units, links to documentation, historic names added to data dictionary
 - Variable types: administrative, item, derived item, summary score
 - Measurement levels: nominal, ordinal, interval, ratio
- Consistent categorical coding for non-responses and binary variables

Categorical coding

0	No / None / False
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1	Yes / True
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Binary responses are standardized.

444	Not applicable
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555	Not administered
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666	Quantity not sufficient
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777	Decline to answer
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888	Not asked due to branching logic
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999	Don't know
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Standardized non-response codes allow missing data to be reliably identified for exclusion or analysis.

Naming convention

6.0 introduces a fully re-curated tabulated dataset with a standardized naming convention, improving consistency, & data structure.

Key Components

(separated by single underscores)

dm_s_tab_item

Domain: prefix indicating the core protocol domain or which substudy the variable belongs to (e.g., ph for Physical Health)

Source: single-letter indicating who provided data (e.g., y = youth)

Table: name of the measure or instrument (e.g. anthro)

Item: 3-digit number (e.g., 001), or a keyword (e.g., mean, dtt)

Subcomponents

(separated by additional underscores)

dm_s_tab_kw_kw_item
dm_s_tab_item_subitem
dm_s_tab_item_v01
dm_s_tab_item_1

Keyword(s): groupings of items (e.g., subscales)

Subitem(s): branched variables

Version(s): subsequent versioning of items or subitems

Longitudinal marker: items altered slightly from initial administration

docs.abcdstudy.org/latest/documentation/curation/naming

Summary scores

The code for all summary scores computed by the ABCD data center is available in the **ABCDscores R package**.

- Provides algorithms and code for **transparency** and **reproducibility**
- Links each data release to its corresponding code version
- Includes computation for 1690 summary scores included in 6.0
- **Flexible** framework lets researchers compute provided scores or modify parameters to create custom ones



ABCDscores
software.nbdc-
datahub.org/ABCDscores



File structure

Tabulated data

- Curated database tables that represent the main assessment domains of the study, including:
 - Survey measures, biospecimens, task scores, ROI based imaging scores, etc.

File-based data

- Concatenated or individual-level* files of raw and processed data, including:
 - Imaging, genetics, wearable sensors, neurocognitive tasks, etc.

*Individual-level file-based data has been updated to follow the Brain Imaging Data Structure (BIDS) standard, with a few ABCD-specific modifications.

bids.neuroimaging.io

Data documentation

Provides detailed information about the ABCD data resource, including:

- Data quality and responsible use warnings
- Details on release instruments and variables
- Release-specific notes and known issues
- General help and support resources
- Overview of data structure, including tabulated and file-based data types and directory organization



ABCD Data Documentation
docs.abcdstudy.org



Data access & resources

The NBDC Data Hub offers integrated access to ABCD & HBCD Study data.

Utilize multiple applications to explore the study databases prior to obtaining a use certification. After certification use the same applications to download data.

For more information on data access and download visit the NBDC Data Hub website.



NBDC Data Hub
nbdc-datahub.org

