

Implications of the limited availability and usefulness of publicly shared health data in Ecuador

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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

1. **Supplementary text 1.** Article 215 of the Ecuadorian Organic Health Law of 2006
2. **Supplementary table 1.** Data available on the Ecuadorian Ministry of Public Health open data webpage.
3. **Supplementary table 2.** Gazettes of the Ecuadorian Ministry of Public Health National Directorate of Epidemiological Surveillance

Supplementary text 1. Article 215 of the Ecuadorian Organic Health Law of 2006 (reference 5):

“The National Health Authority, with the participation of the members of the National Health System, shall implement the common information system to know the health situation, identify risks to people and the environment, dimension the available resources and the production of services, guide political and managerial decisions and articulate citizen participation at all levels, among others. This system will take into account pluricultural, multiethnic and gender approaches, regional and population specificities, as well as the political-administrative division of the country.”

Supplementary table 1. Data available on the Ecuadorian Ministry of Public Health Open Data webpage (date accessed December 2023 from url: <https://www.salud.gob.ec/datos-abiertos>. csv=comma separated values; rar= Roshal Archive Compressed file; ods=OpenDocument spreadsheet; xlsx=Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.

Data	Period	Format	Number of Observations (rows)	Number of Available Variables (columns)	Description of Variables	Notes
Emergencies	2020	.xlsx, .csv	184	4	Province and canton, number of visits (classified as >24 or <24 hours)	- Geographic variables lack official numeric codes (e.g., Manabí = 14; Alausí = 1316). - The total number of cantons in Ecuador is 224. With 184 rows it is possible that some cantons are not considered.
COVID-19 Cases	2020-2023	.rar, .ods, .csv	>1,048,576	26	Date of notification, date of consultation, province and canton, socio-demographic, and patient's status	- Excel can only open the maximum numbers of rows allowed. - Other programs are needed to display the data.
Outpatient visits	2021	.rar, .ods, .csv	>1,048,576	27	Date of notification, date of consultation, province and canton, socio-demographic, and patient's status	- Excel can only open the maximum numbers of rows allowed. - Other programs are needed to display the data.
COVID-19 vaccination	2021	.xlsx, .csv	233,765	8	Date of vaccination, zone, province, sex, age group, name and number of vaccination	- Data only through June 2021. - Age in categories - Follow-up only until the second dose. - Only province available as geographic unit
Laboratory	2020	.xlsx, .csv	491	33	Date, province and canton, type of service, different tests (e.g., X-ray, physical therapy).	- Date represented only by year. - Geographic units without code.
Anesthetic administration and surgical interventions	2020	.xlsx, .csv	109	8	Date, province and canton, number of anesthetic administrations and surgical interventions.	- Date represented only by year. - Geographic units without code.
Regular immunization schedule	2020	.xlsx, .csv	221	27	Date, province and canton, type of	- Date represented only by year.

					vaccine, dose number.	- Geographic units without code.
Nutritional information	2020	.xls, .csv	221	5	Date, province and canton, chronic child malnutrition diagnosis, consultation number.	- Date represented only by the. - Geographic units without code. - Limited information on prevalence of chronic malnutrition in children.

Supplementary table 2. Last available update of a sample of gazettes of the Ecuadorian Ministry of Public Health National Directorate of Epidemiological Surveillance (date of consultation December 2023).

Database Name	Last update (year)	Availability (url)
Antimicrobial Resistance	2018	https://www.salud.gob.ec/gacetass-iass-y-ram
Healthcare-Associated infections	2021	https://www.salud.gob.ec/boletin-iass-y-ram
Outbreak Notification	Week 34 - 2022	https://www.salud.gob.ec/brotes
Food- and Water-Borne Diseases Gazette	Week 14 - 2023	https://www.salud.gob.ec/enfermedades-transmitidas-por-agua-o-alimentos-2023
Zoonotic Diseases Gazette	Week 42 - 2023	https://www.salud.gob.ec/enfermedades-zoonoticas-2023/
Respiratory Diseases Gazette - Pneumonia	Week 42 - 2023	https://www.salud.gob.ec/gaceta-enfermedades-respiratorias-2023/
Vector-borne diseases Gazette	Week 43 - 2023	https://www.salud.gob.ec/gacetass-vectoriales