

Date: November 12, 1985

To: Terry Leet, Epidemiologist
Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindburgh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63167

From: Adrienne Koranda
Consulting Programmer
Northwestern/Monsanto Health Study

Re: Completed Sample Tape Specifications

The tape being submitted to you today was written with the following characteristics:

IBM standard, labelled 9-track tape
DSN = MEH.NWSTUDY.TAPE.SAMPLE
VOL/SER = MEH
EBCDIC
6250 BPI
LRECL = 100
BLKSIZE = 6200
RECFM = FB

The format of the tape corresponds almost precisely with the codesheet you originally provided. All the variables there named were dumped back out, in the same form, with the exception of the following:

- All missing values for dates, & RACE which were read as numerics, were written back out as ' . ' .
- In the course of calculating birthdate conversions for the century changes, I found that the equations I used managed to convert well enough to do the calculations on age groupings that were necessary. However, when the birthdate itself was written back out for anyone before the turn of the century, the date reads as one day prior to the original! (shrug)!
- VITAL STATUS = unknown is listed as 0 only.
- The following coding changes as per your indication have been written to this tape:
 - ss348050004 - ss35805044
 - ss351070877 - VITAL is 2
 - ss357037125 - VITAL is 2
 - ss333018142 - VITAL is 2
 - ss348168193 - TERMDATE is 060851
 - expcode=S lastname=Ray - VITAL is 2

The tape includes all of the exposed group, plus all of the unexposed active, retired, & transferred groups which you sent me. An additional stratified random sample, based on age, length of employment, and vital status was chosen from the terminated group. All of the above groups are included on the tape in order by socsec#. A final read of the tape you have yielded the crosstab on the following page. The only discrepancy seems to be that my EXPOSED TRANSFERRED population seems to number 57 instead of 56 as you reported. Since I changed no employment statuses, it seemed more expeditious to let you track down the culprit.

DSW 476038.0786

STLCOPCB4042950

	EXPOSED	UNEXPOSED	
ACTIVE	186	153	
TRANSFERRED	57 (1 PLANT)	32	
TERMINATED	356	528 (NEW SAMPLE)	
RETIRED	186	52	
total	785	765	1550

As I understand it, you will next be presenting me with the updated names addresses and phone numbers of the people on this tape. Hope to hear from you soon. Thanks for all your help. Good Luck!