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Abstract: An effective health-care policy is supported by the availability of data in the form of statistical tables for epidemiologists and health-care managers. Creation, analysis and exploitation of these data strongly support the monitoring of trends in mortality and morbidity phenomena and the evaluation of offered health services. This might imply the transformation of statistical tables to more suitable formats. A successful management, manipulation and querying of a statistical table is a complex activity requiring a considerable knowledge of statistical problems.
Computerised support can be precious in this task and this led to the development of several data management systems. In this paper we sketch out the features of ADAMS (Aggregate Data Management System), a system conceived to allow an easy interaction with statistical tables, reshaping and browsing of their descriptive part. ADAMS aims at simplifying the problem of extracting information from a statistical database and performing statistical table manipulation. The following functionalities are provided: definition of a statistical database at descriptive level; storage of data in the database; manipulation of data according to the summarization and reclassification operators; browsing between data and their descriptive part. It also supports different manipulation styles according to different user profiles.