



August 9, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR: Documentation

From: Mahdi S. Sundukchi and Heather L. Haas
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 Demographic Statistical Methods Division

Subject: SIPP 1996: Longitudinal Weight Adjustment Factor (WGT-19)

I. Purpose

In the SIPP 1996 Panel, the 1997, 1998 and 1999 Calendar year weights sum to totals that exceeded the estimated March population controls of 1997, 1998 and 1999 respectively.

II. Problems

- The longitudinal population controls for March 1997, 1998 and 1999 are much higher than the corresponding cross sectional controls. Table 1 presents the March population controls and total weights for the cross sectional and longitudinal files. The longitudinal weights had been raked to controls that have a few million more than there should be.

Table 1: Cross sectional and Longitudinal Controls and Total Weights

Year	Cross sectional Weights	Cross sectional Controls	Longitudinal Weights	Longitudinal Controls
1996	264,253,890	264,253,887	264,253,060	264,253,065
1997	266,686,380	266,686,381	273,121,470	271,795,838
1998	268,918,330	268,918,332	273,326,040	273,326,042
1999	271,651,620	271,651,620	276,667,620	276,667,618

Resolution: Scalar adjustment factors for each calendar year have been calculated and should be applied to every person’s weight included in Calendar years 1997-1999 estimates in order to correct the problem. These factors are listed below. Given the effect of the problem is random and not particular to any certain group, the scalar adjustment was determined to be sufficient in resolving the problem. Table 2 presents the adjustment factor for each calendar year:

Table 2: Adjustment Factor for each Calendar year

Year	Adjustment Factor
1997	0.9812
1998	0.9839
1999	0.9819

- In the longitudinal 1997 Calendar year weighting, there are some cases in which people received non zero weights when they should have received zero weights. For most of these cases, the sample person is not present in any month of the year 1997. The sum of weights for these cases is approximately 1.3 million.

Resolution: Assign a value of zero to the 1997 Calendar year weight for all persons who are not present in March of 1997. These cases should be considered not in sample for the 1997 Calendar year.

III. References and Contact Person:

Please contact Mahdi Sundukchi or Heather Haas in room 3089 or via e-mail if you have any questions about this weighting adjustment.

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