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Subject: Re: Response rate and weights

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 03 Apr 2023 19:01:50 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

You still need to use weights in all analyses in order to have unbiased estimates of coefficients. Weights compensate for the over-sampling of some sub-populations and the under-sampling of some other sub-populations. If you do not use weights, all statistics will be biased toward the over-sampled sub-populations and away from the under-sampled sub-populations. The merging has not altered the need to use weights.

As I have said elsewhere, some people, mainly economists, do not like weights, and they can be very dogmatic about that position. I am not being dogmatic. I just put a high value on having unbiased estimates.

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