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Subject: Re: Response rate and weights

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 12 Apr 2023 11:48:29 GMT

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

This looks good to me. The state weights are equal to the national weights multiplied by a constant (for each state) so the means should come out the same using state weights or the national weight. The national weight takes into account the different sampling fractions in different states and is definitely what you want to use for national estimates.

The only thing I might do differently would be to use the CR file rather than the IR file. For couples in the MR file, the woman and man have to name each other as partners, leading to better matching. The level of education for the man is reported by the man himself, rather than from the wife, who may introduce some bias, especially if there is a large difference in their levels of education. If you repeat the analysis using the CR file, the man's weight would be preferable because there is a higher level of nonresponse for men.

I would also include parallel analyses of hypergamy (marrying up) and homogamy (the same level). I think what you want to get at is the balance between hypogamy and hypergamy, and that's going to be affected by the amount of detail in the education distribution. For example, if the distribution is very coarse, such as no/any education, then that alone will lead to more homogamy and less of the other two.

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