

Understanding Society User Support - Support #1159

Weights for cross-sectional and longitudinal analyses

03/13/2019 11:33 AM - Luca Bernardi

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|--|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| Status: | Resolved | Start date: | 03/13/2019 |
| Priority: | Urgent | % Done: | 100% |
| Assignee: | Olena Kaminska | | |
| Category: | Weights | | |
| Description | | | |
| Dear Understanding Society Support Team, | | | |
| I am using data from adult main interviews from all waves. I am estimating the effect of depression on party identification. I am analyzing the data both cross-sectionally and longitudinally. However, I am unsure about which weight(s) to use, also given the low number of clinically depressed individuals. Is it correct that in both cases, since I am using data from more than one wave, I should use a longitudinal weight? Also, by reading the User Guide, in Wave 6 there is a change in the definition of the cross-sectional population represented. If this somehow complicates the issue, I have no problem with analyzing data only from Wave 1 to Wave 5. Could you please give me some recommendations? | | | |
| Many thanks and best wishes, Luca | | | |

History

#1 - 03/13/2019 12:01 PM - Olena Kaminska

Luca,

Thank you for your question.

If you are interested in estimates in a particular time point - you should use cross-sectional weights. In other words if you estimate the same model for each wave separately and you include only information from that particular wave in the model - you should use the cross-sectional weight from that wave.

If you are using information from across a few waves - you should use a longitudinal weight from the last wave in your analysis.

The change in definition at wave 6 relates to immigrants: from wave 6 'ui' weights include immigrants since 2009 but 'ub' weights don't include them. This is only relevant if you put together many cross-sectional estimates and compare them over time (e.g. looking at a trend). This does not influence longitudinal analysis. If you want to be sure to have comparable cross-sectional estimates (i.e. those that exclude immigrants since 2009) then you can use 'ub' weights throughout.

Hope this helps,
Olena

#2 - 03/13/2019 01:39 PM - Luca Bernardi

Dear Olena,

Many thanks for replying so quickly. That's very helpful. If I understand correctly, since I am using information from across a few waves, I can apply the "indinub_lw" weight. Is this correct?

Thanks and best wishes,
Luca

#3 - 03/13/2019 04:26 PM - Olena Kaminska

Luca,

Yes, the weight is correct, and it should come from the last wave that you use in your analysis. Note, 'ub_lw' weight is available for analysis from wave 2 onwards.

Olena

#4 - 03/13/2019 04:30 PM - Luca Bernardi

Dear Olena,

Sounds good. Many thanks again.

Luca

#5 - 03/14/2019 01:20 PM - Stephanie Auty

- *Status changed from New to Resolved*

- *% Done changed from 0 to 100*

- *Private changed from Yes to No*