Understanding Society User Support - Support #2325

Joining and weighting youth, adults and households

01/28/2026 12:01 PM - Akansha Naraindas

Status:	In Progress	**Start date:**	01/28/2026
Priority:	Normal	**% Done:**	20%
Assignee:	Understanding Society User Support Team		
Category:	Weights		

Description

Hi,

I have a somewhat complex merge and would appreciate some guidance on weighting. My analysis examines how household-level food insecurity at Wave 13 relates to dieting behaviour and appearance concerns among youth at Wave 15. I am also including parent-level covariates from the Wave 13 individual questionnaire and youth-level covariates from the Wave 13 youth data.

Given that the outcomes are measured at the youth level in Wave 15, am I correct in assuming that the appropriate weights would be the Wave 15 youth longitudinal weights? I am not using data from Wave 14.

Additionally, should the weights be applied after merging all relevant datasets into a single analysis file, or should they be applied prior to merging?

Many thanks for your help,

History

#1 - 01/28/2026 01:33 PM - Akansha Naraindas

i now realise there arent any youth longitudinal weights, i do not think id have the capabilities to create my own weight given my time constraints. Could you please suggest another alternative? would i be able to use the cross sectional youth weight? or perhaps the household longitudinal weight as that is the exposure

#2 - 01/28/2026 05:10 PM - Understanding Society User Support Team

- Category set to Weights

- Status changed from New to In Progress

- % Done changed from 0 to 20

- Private changed from Yes to No

Hi Akansha,

Please have a look at these past similar queries to see if these answer your question:

https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/371
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/498
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/563
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/592
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/663
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/670
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/675
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/682
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/963
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/1091
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/1448
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/1472
https://iserredex.essex.ac.uk/support/issues/2296

Let us know if these queries help.

Regard,
Understanding Society User Support

#3 - 01/28/2026 06:02 PM - Akansha Naraindas

Thanks very much for this. I looked through the previous queries and it seems that when a custom weight is not created, the longitudinal enumeration

weight (psnenus_lw) is usually recommended. Would this be suitable for analyses focused on youth outcomes? I understand that it adjusts for attrition across waves, but I am unsure whether it is designed specifically for youth samples? in practice, do researchers typically use this weight for youth-focused analyses?

Attrition is something i want to account for issue in this study, and I believe psnenus_lw accounts for general dropout over time. However, I am not sure whether it captures the structural missingness in the youth files as participants age out of eligibility?

Finally, if psnenus_lw is used, should it be applied to the final merged dataset after linking the household, adult, and youth files?