

## Understanding Society User Support - Support #579

### attrition question

06/11/2016 03:49 PM - zoe young

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	06/11/2016
<b>Priority:</b>	Immediate	<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Assignee:</b>	zoe young		
<b>Category:</b>			
<b>Description</b>			
<p>Hi I have merged 3 variables from wave3 to wave 5 they are : c_cgwr_i_dv, c_cgvc_dv, and c_cgna_dv. I want to obtain the mean for these variables but only for those who are present in wave 5. I created 2 dummy variables where wave 5 =1 is present in wave 5 and wave 3=1 if present in wave 3. when i ran a cross tab it showed that the entire sample that were in wave 3 were in wave 5. Can someone confirm this as it seems strange that no attrition occurred between wave 3 and 5?</p>			
Thanks Zoe			

### History

#### #1 - 06/11/2016 04:37 PM - Alita Nandi

- Status changed from New to In Progress
- Assignee set to zoe young
- % Done changed from 0 to 50
- Private changed from Yes to No

Assuming you are Stata, some common minor mistakes that could have led to this problem:

(i) You coded the dummy variables=0 as default, so the dummy variables = 0 even for individuals not present in either wave instead of being "."

(ii) You did not do (i) but when looking at the cross-tab of wave3 wave5 dummies you did not use the missing option, that is, you typed

```
tab wave3 wave5
```

Instead of

```
tab wave3 wave5, missing
```

There is attrition between Waves 3 and 5 and there are new entrants in Wave 5 who were not present in Wave 3.

Best wishes,  
Alita

#### #2 - 06/27/2016 04:11 PM - Victoria Nolan

- Status changed from In Progress to Closed
- % Done changed from 50 to 100