

Understanding Society User Support - Support #636

Inclusion of BHPS and Ethnic Minority boost samples,

10/03/2016 03:49 PM - Ben Clark

Status:	Closed	Start date:	10/03/2016
Priority:	Normal	% Done:	100%
Assignee:	Ben Clark		
Category:	Survey design		
Description			
Good afternoon,			
I am undertaking a cross-sectional analysis of a restricted sample from Understanding Society, namely: employed people, living in England, that filled in the self-completion questionnaire.			
Is it advisable to include either or both of the following components in my analysis sample?			
The BHPS sample The Ethnic Minority Boost sample			
Many thanks in anticipation, Ben			

History

#1 - 10/04/2016 10:42 AM - Alita Nandi

- Status changed from New to In Progress
- Assignee changed from Victoria Nolan to Ben Clark
- % Done changed from 0 to 90
- Private changed from Yes to No

Hi Ben,

You want to know whether you should include the EMB and BHPS samples along with the General Population Sample (GPS) in your analysis. That depends on your research question and whether you are planning on using weights.

If you are using weights: Due to the complex survey design and multiple survey instruments, a large number of weights would be needed for all the different types of analysis that can be done. So, decision was taken to produce those weights which would allow most type of analyses that users are likely to do. For example, from onwards Wave 3, if you are doing cross-sectionally analysis then you will need to use all 3 samples as weights are provided for cross-sectional analysis using all 3 samples. Depending on your analysis plan and the types of weights available you will be able to decide which samples you should use. Please look at the relevant section in the User Guide on weights. There are some useful tables that tell you which weights to use based on the sample, type of analysis, survey instrument that you plan to use.

If you are not using weights, you should read the section on weights in the User Guide to know the assumptions you are making by not using weights. If you are ok with making those assumptions, then you could use GPS only if you are not interested in ethnic group differences, but you should use GPS+EMB if you are. For cross-sectional analysis using the BHPS will boost sample sizes. Please also read the section in the User Guide about the composition of the different samples to understand the coverage of each sample and (variable) selection probabilities across the samples. This will help you decide.

Best wishes,
Alita

#2 - 10/13/2016 02:51 PM - Victoria Nolan

- Status changed from In Progress to Closed
- % Done changed from 90 to 100