**Addressing Commonly Encountered Problems in UI Wage Data Files**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **The Problem** | **How It Appears** | **What to Do** |
| Duplicate records | Exact or partial duplicates by SSN, quarter, employer ID, and earnings. Could be two earnings amounts, or two employer IDs, in a quarter. | Verify that records are duplicates—could be two different jobs or a data error. If this is an error, then delete one. |
| Outliers | Out-of-range values (extremely high or extremely low earnings). Could be shared SSN. | If possible, determine cause, then “treat”(impute) or delete. |
| Wrong identifiers collected at intake for some sample members | No data, when expected.  Could also be a shared SSN issue. | Decide:  (1) Can you live with the problem?  (2) Can you improve the match (by submitting corrected identifiers)? |
| UI agency did not match all sample members | Record counts are too low. Could be a programming bug with the UI agency’s algorithm that incorrectly imported identifiers or incorrectly filtered out records. | Request a new file. |