### Variable Suppression

[*Suppression allows the data steward to remove from the public file any variables that can reveal the identity of a participant in the survey. When producing a public use file (PUF), the obvious variables to remove are the personally identifiable information (PII) such as name, date of birth, address, or specific date of events. Also, non-PII variables can be suppressed if they can reveal the identity of a respondent by being too extreme or when crossed with other variables. This is the case of some outliers or some specific situation in the dataset, e.g., an extremely high income within a restraint geographic area. Geographic details are usually removed from the public use file when the resulting population size is less than a threshold. Some survey variables are suppressed due to having only two levels with one having a low number of responses. Some continuous variables are suppressed due to it be top-coded, or categorized*.] In this section we discuss several variables to be suppressed due to the increased risk of disclosure.

### Geography

The following geographic variables are on the RUF but will be suppressed from the PUF.

### Sample Design, Variance Estimation, and Weighting

The following table provides the available sampling-related variables, and whether they will be kept on the PUF, or suppressed.

Table. List of Sampling and Weighting Variables for Consideration

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Variable Name | Short Text Description | Include in PUF? |
| XXX | XXX’s label |  |
| YYY | YYY’s label |  |

The following table provides a summary of counts of variables that will be provided on a PUF.

Table. Frequency of types of variables

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Variable Type | Data Type | Categorical vs. Continuous | Total |
| Derived/Created | Numeric | Categorical |  |
|  |  | Continuous |  |
| Edit flag | Numeric | Categorical |  |
| Frame | Character | Categorical |  |
|  |  | Continuous |  |
|  | Numeric | Categorical |  |
|  |  | Continuous |  |
| Imputation Flag | Numeric | Categorical |  |
| Survey | Character | Categorical |  |
|  | Numeric | Categorical |  |
|  |  | Continuous |  |
| Weight | Numeric | Continuous |  |

A list of all survey variables and how each are to be treated (e.g., suppressed, recoded) is provided in the appendix.