### Cross-sectional Studies

[*A* *cross-sectional sample survey is based on a representative sample of respondents drawn from a population at one point in time. Cross-sectional studies are the most common types of studies conducted for the IES. Unlike longitudinal studies that look at a group of people over an extended period, cross-sectional studies are used to describe what is happening at the present moment.*

*Disclosure analysis of cross-sectional studies are based on the variables found in the survey data collection and any additional variables from the sampling frame added to the deliverable files. The rules governing public-use and restricted-use data releases apply to these studies. That is, coarsening, suppression, matching, and random swapping may be required for these studies to meet the DRB approval for data release.*

*If supplemental data are collected for the study at any point in time, these data must be factored in with the original data in conducting the disclosure analysis.*

*Often cross-sectional studies are conducted at pre-determined intervals so the design, approach, and variables used, and implementation can often utilize the historical experience. However, same study surveys and variable reliability can often change and these changes must be included in the analysis set forth in the DAP. Generally, though, it is best to maintain some consistency in the analyses from previous administrations*.]