

DRB Minutes October 2, 2006

1. EZS noise for Economic Census nonemployer and county business pattern tabulations. The examples compare actual values, current suppression patterns and the planned pattern for EZS noise (without complementaries). While the examples give the appearance of some primaries being vulnerable to disclosure by subtraction, they do conform to the p-percent rule. The value obtained by subtraction is p-percent away from the actual value. The values obtained by subtraction are no closer than bounds that can be obtained by auditing tables where the current method, cell suppression, has been applied. There is some danger of giving the appearance of disclosure, but a clear statement in the definition of the primary suppression mark, "D", should adequately counter that. This is similar to labeling of decennial table to warn users that the data have been swapped. The EZS tables presented conform to the boards standards against disclosure.
2. NYCHVS choropleth maps. The maps show a category "no sample". This category should be broadened to include tracts where there are 3 or fewer sample cases. This should be done to support the population based thresholds used elsewhere in the surveys publication. The threshold suggested is for purposes of disclosure and should not be construed as a reliability threshold. The threshold should be applied to the unit referred to, persons, households, housing units etc.
3. ST070 revisited. Last weeks ruling was too restrictive. The tabulation is now significantly different from the original request. The threshold of 50 unweighted cases was likely prompted by the request for industry and occupation counts. In the current version, it should be sufficient to suppress rows in the table involving race. That is, there should be at least 3 members of a given race in the wage-less-than-7.25 universe before the lines for that race can be shown for a particular geography. An additional set of line suppressions (another race category) will likely be needed to prevent complementary disclosure. The threshold is applied to the full universe only, and need not be reapplied for each wage level. These tables may be shown for ACS geography with population 65,000 or more and shall be rounded as all ACS special tabs.
4. CPS variables for relationship. These are very similar to those employed in ACS, with the addition of some distinction between parents. The board approves these additions.
5. AHS matched tables. These tables are approved.
6. Thanks everyone for taking a portion of the interviews to review (item for (b) (6) from some time back). We are looking for names, place names or items likely to specify place (eg roasters on the hill) or name (eg had quintuplets in 1973).