# Use of Single Years of Age in the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) Weighting to Improve Drug Prevalence Estimates 

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#### Abstract

In the weighting process for the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), several age groups (i.e., 12 to 17,18 to 25,26 to 34,35 to 49,50 to 64 , and 65 or older) are currently used in the nonresponse and poststratification adjustments. Using 2004 to 2006 NSDUH data, we found that the response rate decreases as age increases in the 12 to 25 age range. Also, the prevalence rates for illicit drug, alcohol, and tobacco use increase almost linearly between ages 12 and 21, reaching a peak at age 21 . Because the response rates and drug use prevalence rates change dramatically between the ages of 12 and 21 , use of single years of age instead of age groups for both the nonresponse and poststratification adjustments should reduce nonresponse bias and the variance of estimates. This paper explores the use of single years of age between 12 and 25 in the 2006 NSDUH weighting process and discusses the prevalence rates and standard errors produced using the new set of weights.


Key Words: Age, weighting, NSDUH, drug use prevalence, nonresponse, poststratification

## 1. Introduction to NSDUH

The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) provides national, State, and substate data on substance use and mental health in the civilian, noninstitutionalized U.S. population aged 12 or older. The survey is sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and is planned and managed by SAMHSA's Office of Applied Studies (OAS). Data collection and analysis are currently conducted under contract with RTI International, ${ }^{1}$ Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

Since 1999, NSDUH has employed a 50 -State design with an independent, multistage area probability sample for each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia. For the 50State design, 8 States are designated as large sample States (California, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas) with target sample sizes of 3,600 per year. For the remaining 42 States and the District of Columbia, the target sample size

[^0]is 900 per year. Approximately 140,000 household screenings and 67,500 interviews are completed annually. Most of the questions are administered with audio computer-assisted self-interviewing (ACASI). ACASI is designed to provide the respondent with a highly private and confidential mode for responding to questions in order to increase the level of honest reporting of illicit drug use and other sensitive behaviors. Less sensitive items are administered by interviewers using computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI).

### 1.1 NSDUH Sample Design for 2005 to 2009

A coordinated 5-year sample design was developed for the 2005 to 2009 NSDUHs. States are partitioned into State sampling (SS) regions: 12 SS regions for each of 43 small States and the District of Columbia, and 48 SS regions for the 8 large States listed above. A total of 900 SS regions are defined across the United States.

NSDUH has a four-stage design. The first stage of selection consists of selecting 48 census tracts per SS region. Segments are formed within a selected tract by aggregating adjacent census blocks. One segment is selected within each sampled tract (second-stage selection). After segments are selected and assigned, field enumeration is used to construct a list of all eligible dwelling units (DUs) within a segment. DU samples are selected from the list (third-stage selection) of eligible DUs. Using the roster information obtained from eligible members of the selected DU, 0,1 , or 2 persons are selected for the survey (fourth-stage selection). Sampling rates are predetermined for each State and age group.

### 1.2 NSDUH Weighting

The NSDUH sample weights are calculated for each respondent as a two-part process: (1) producing the design-based weights and (2) applying adjustment factors to obtain the final weights.

The design-based weights reflect the four-stage sample design. There are four components to the design weights: Inverse of Probability of Selecting Census Tracts, Inverse of Probability of Selecting Segments, Inverse of Probability of Selecting DUs, and Inverse of Probability of Selecting Persons among DUs. These design-based weights then are adjusted for nonresponse (NR) and poststratification (PS) to reduce the bias and variance of estimates. Five separate adjustment factors are applied to the design-based weights: DU NR Adjustment, DU PS Adjustment, Selected Person PS Adjustment, Person NR Adjustment, and Person PS Adjustment. The final analysis weights are the product of all of the weight components.

The Generalized Exponential Model (GEM; Folsom \& Singh, 2000) is used for all of the adjustment steps listed above. GEM is a flexible weighting routine that includes as special cases the well-known weighting-class-adjustment method (Little, 1986), the raking-ratio method (Deming \& Stephen, 1940), bounded logit calibration (Deville \& Särndal, 1992; Sautory, 1991), and logistic and exponential model approaches (Folsom, 1991; Folsom \& Witt, 1994). It has a built-in feature that controls the adjustment factor to prevent the adjusted weights from being too extreme, and it provides a comprehensive weighting methodology for NR, PS, and extreme weight adjustments. The variables initially selected in the person-level NR model are either good predictors of response propensity or correlated with survey outcomes. The variables in the person-level PS model are determined by the analysis domains of interest and the availability of population estimates. For the NR model, several person characteristic variables, geographic characteristic variables, DU characteristics, and some segment-level variables
are included. Also included are two-way and three-way interactions. For the PS model, several demographic variables, States, and quarters (as well as interactions of these) are included. Fitting one national model is computationally intensive and prohibitive, so nine model groups corresponding to the U.S. Census Bureau's divisions ${ }^{2}$ are used. For details on the NSDUH weighting process and the different variables used in the NR and PR adjustments, see Chen et al. (2008).

## 2. Motivation to Use Single Years of Age in the Weight Adjustment

In the NSDUH weighting process, five age groups ( 12 to 17,18 to 25,26 to 34,35 to 49 , and 50 or older) are used in the person NR adjustment. In the person PS, the 50 or older age group is further split into the 50 to 64 and the 65 or older age groups. Age is a strong predictor of both response propensity and drug use prevalence. Sections 2.1 and 2.2 give the justification (using 2004 to 2006 NSDUH data) for using single years of age in the weighting calibration process.

### 2.1 Response Rates and Age

Figure 1 shows the relationship between age and response rates for the 2004 to 2006 NSDUHs. In general, as age increased, the response rate decreased. Also, a sharp decrease in response rates was observed in the age range from 12 to 25 . Between 25 and 65 , the response rates stayed relatively flat, then gradually decreased until age 75 . After age 75, another sharp drop was observed. However, the decrease in the response rates between the ages of 12 to 25 is of most interest in the NSDUH sample. The response rate dropped linearly from almost 90 percent for ages 12 to 14 to just over 75 percent for ages 23 to 25 .


Figure 1: Interview response rates, by age: 2004, 2005, and 2006 NSDUHs (persons aged 80 or older are combined with persons aged 80)

[^1]
### 2.2 Substance Use and Age

Past research has reported strong correlations between drug use prevalence and age in the younger age groups (Chen \& Kandel, 1995; Kandel \& Logan, 1984; Odom, Aldworth, \& Wright, 2005; Perkonigg, Lieb, \& Wittchen, 1998). Using 2004 to 2006 NSDUH data, we examined prevalence rates for many drug use outcome variables for the respondents in the 12 to 25 age range. Figure 2 shows the prevalence rates by age for three outcomes using 2006 NSDUH data. For past year alcohol use (ALCYR), the prevalence rate increased linearly from ages 12 to 21 , reached a peak at age 21 , then stayed approximately flat. The same pattern was observed for past year cigarette use (CIGYR). The prevalence rate for past year marijuana use (MRJYR) increased from ages 12 to 18 almost linearly, stayed relatively flat at ages 19 and 20, then decreased from ages 21 to 25 almost linearly. Similar patterns were observed for the 2004 and 2005 survey data.


Figure 2: Prevalence rates for past year use of marijuana, cigarettes, and alcohol, by individual age ( 2006 NSDUH) (MRJYR $=$ past year marijuana use, CIGYR $=$ past year cigarette use, and ALCYR = past year alcohol use)

The strong correlation between single year ages, response rates, and drug use prevalence rates in the 12 to 25 age range suggests that use of single year ages in both the personlevel NR and PS adjustments could further reduce NR and coverage bias, as well as the variance of estimates.

## 3. Recalibrating with Single Years of Age

We adopted the following approach for using single years of age as predictors in the person-level NR and PS adjustments for each of the nine census division-level model groups:

- added single years of age in the main effect $(12, \ldots, 25)$ for both person-level NR and PS in place of the 12 to 17 and the 18 to 25 age groups;
- kept all of the other variables in the models;
- used age groups 12 to 17,18 to 25,26 to 34,35 to 49 , and 50 or older in the interactions for NR ; and
- used age groups 12 to 17,18 to 25,26 to 34,35 to 49,50 to 64 , and 65 or older in the interactions for PS.

After recalibrating the weights using single years of age as the main effects in the NR and PS adjustments, we checked the distribution of the recalibrated weights against the current analysis weights that used age groups as the main effects in the GEM models. Table 1 shows the weight distributions of the two sets of weights.

Table 1: Weight Distribution of Original Weight and Recalibrated Weight (2006 NSDUH)

| Statistics | Overall ( $n=67,802$ ) |  | 12 to 17 ( $n=22,871$ ) |  | 18 to 25 ( $n=21,948$ ) |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current weight | Recalibrated weight | Current weight | Recalibrated weight | Current weight | Recalibrated weight |
| Minimum | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 25\% | 758 | 755 | 477 | 480 | 619 | 614 |
| Median | 1,531 | 1,532 | 881 | 879 | 1,193 | 1,195 |
| 75\% | 3,945 | 3,953 | 1,483 | 1,482 | 1,976 | 1,975 |
| Maximum | 94,918 | 89,435 | 16,157 | 10,677 | 19,719 | 15,289 |
| Mean | 3,629 | 3,629 | 1,110 | 1,110 | 1,492 | 1,492 |
| Max/Mean | 26.16 | 24.64 | 14.56 | 9.62 | 13.22 | 10.25 |
| UWE ${ }^{1}$ | 3.32 | 3.30 | 1.68 | 1.68 | 1.70 | 1.69 |

${ }^{1} \mathrm{UWE}=$ unequal weighting effect.

The distribution of the weights did not change much overall or for the two age groups (12 to 17 and 18 to 25 ). The measures of location exhibited minimal change. However, the most extreme weights were affected by the recalibration, as seen by the reduced maximum weight for each group. That and the slightly smaller UWE offer evidence that the recalibration reduced the variation in the weights.

## 4. Results

We examined the estimated numbers of past year users and the prevalence rates for a selected set of outcomes using the recalibrated weights (which used single year of age variables in the NR and PS adjustments) and compared them with the estimates based on the current weights (without the single year of age variables). Then we produced tables for several demographic domains, age groups, races/ethnicities, and by gender. For the 12 to 17 and the 18 to 25 age groups, we also looked at single year of age.

Appendices 1 to 3 show the prevalence rates and associated standard errors for past year alcohol, cigarette, and marijuana use based on the current analysis weights and the recalibrated weights. The differences between the estimated numbers of users and prevalence rates for past year alcohol use based on the two sets of weights were statistically significant for the 12 to 17 and 18 to 25 age groups, for the individual ages 12 and 15 , and for every individual age in the 18 to 25 age group (see Appendix 1). Very few differences were observed in the percentages for the single years of age. For other domains, only the estimated numbers of users for non-Hispanic whites were different among the two sets of estimates. Results for past year cigarette use and past year marijuana use were similar to those for past year alcohol use (see Appendices 2 and 3);
many significant differences were observed for single years of age in the estimated numbers, but only a few in the percentages.

The difference between the estimated numbers of past year users by weighting type was more often statistically significant at single years of age compared with the estimated prevalence rates. We also computed "pseudo-mean square errors (MSEs)" (Biemer, 2010) of the estimated numbers of users for the three past year drug use outcomes. We use the term pseudo-MSE to emphasize that no true numbers of users are available, which precludes the possibility of computing true MSEs for the estimated numbers of users. The pseudo-MSE approach assumes that the estimated numbers of users based on the recalibrated weights were essentially unbiased. In that case, the MSE of the estimate is given by its sampling variance. Further, the bias of the estimates based on the current weights is estimated by the difference $\hat{t}_{1}-\hat{t}_{2}$ and its MSE (or pseudo-MSE) by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{MSE}_{\hat{t}_{1}}=\left(\hat{t}_{1}-\hat{t}_{2}\right)^{2}-\operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)+2\left[\operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right) \operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)\right]^{1 / 2} \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\hat{t}_{1}$ and $\hat{t}_{2}$ are the estimated numbers of users based on the current weights and the recalibrated weights, respectively, and $\operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)$ and $\operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)$ are their associated sampling variance estimates. This MSE estimate assumes further that the correlation between $\hat{t}_{1}$ and $\hat{t}_{2}$ is essentially one.

For past year alcohol use, the MSE of the estimates using the recalibrated weights was smaller by about 20 percent for the 12 to 17 age group and 24 percent for the 18 to 25 age group (see Table 2). The MSE was reduced at each single year of age, and the MSE dropped by 86 percent for age 25 .

Table 2: Mean Square Errors (MSEs) of the Estimated Numbers of Past Year Alcohol Users
(2006 NSDUH)

| Domain (age) | Current weight |  | Recalibrated weight |  | Relative diff of MSE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estimated number $\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)$ | $\operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)^{1}$ | Estimated number $\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)$ | $\operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)^{2}$ |  |
| 12 to 17 | 8,361 | 130 | 8,286 | 104 | -19.90\% |
| 12 | 224 | 19 | 231 | 18 | -6.80\% |
| 13 | 621 | 34 | 622 | 32 | -5.76\% |
| 14 | 1,157 | 43 | 1,146 | 37 | -14.21\% |
| 15 | 1,776 | 108 | 1,684 | 44 | -59.36\% |
| 16 | 2,209 | 61 | 2,215 | 44 | -27.98\% |
| 17 | 2,374 | 64 | 2,387 | 44 | -30.78\% |
| 18 to 25 | 25,814 | 181 | 25,928 | 138 | -23.56\% |
| 18 | 3,187 | 329 | 2,870 | 48 | -85.41\% |
| 19 | 2,987 | 120 | 2,905 | 47 | -60.81\% |
| 20 | 3,062 | 96 | 3,093 | 46 | -51.91\% |
| 21 | 3,601 | 214 | 3,405 | 40 | -81.32\% |
| 22 | 3,325 | 100 | 3,384 | 38 | -62.18\% |
| 23 | 3,331 | 148 | 3,456 | 38 | -74.25\% |
| 24 | 3,215 | 200 | 3,399 | 44 | -78.03\% |
| 25 | 3,105 | 320 | 3,415 | 44 | -86.25\% |

[^2]For past year cigarette use, the recalibration using single years of age reduced the MSEs of the estimates by about 14 percent for the 12 to 17 age group and by 4 percent for the 18 to 25 age group (see Table 3). The largest reduction in MSE was seen among 18 year olds (up to 80 percent). For past year marijuana use, a similar pattern of reduction in MSE was observed (see Table 4). The only exception was for age 12, where the MSE increased 8 percent after recalibration; this may have been caused by the low prevalence at age 12 , so the age 12 estimates are unstable.

Table 3: Mean Square Errors (MSEs) of the Estimated Numbers of Past Year Cigarette Users (2006 NSDUH)

|  | Current weight |  |  |  | Recalibrated weight |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estimated <br> Dumber $\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)$ | MSE $\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)^{1}$ | Estimated <br> number <br> $\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)$ | MSE $\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)^{2}$ | Relative diff <br> of MSE |  |  |
| 12 to 17 | 4,315 | 99 | 4,270 | 85 | $-13.96 \%$ |  |  |
| 12 | 119 | 15 | 125 | 15 | $-1.31 \%$ |  |  |
| 13 | 288 | 23 | 283 | 21 | $-6.83 \%$ |  |  |
| 14 | 547 | 29 | 545 | 28 | $-3.62 \%$ |  |  |
| 15 | 845 | 58 | 803 | 34 | $-41.06 \%$ |  |  |
| 16 | 1,143 | 50 | 1,132 | 41 | $-18.65 \%$ |  |  |
| 17 | 1,374 | 50 | 1,382 | 41 | $-17.72 \%$ |  |  |
| 18 to 25 | 15,390 | 163 | 15,430 | 156 | $-4.28 \%$ |  |  |
| 18 | 1,933 | 229 | 1,715 | 46 | $-79.87 \%$ |  |  |
| 19 | 1,960 | 91 | 1,904 | 51 | $-43.98 \%$ |  |  |
| 20 | 1,904 | 77 | 1,932 | 55 | $-28.39 \%$ |  |  |
| 21 | 2,112 | 141 | 1,992 | 49 | $-65.13 \%$ |  |  |
| 22 | 1,950 | 80 | 1,994 | 54 | $-32.88 \%$ |  |  |
| 23 | 1,945 | 100 | 2,015 | 53 | $-46.83 \%$ |  |  |
| 24 | 1,804 | 121 | 1,906 | 52 | $-56.91 \%$ |  |  |
| 25 | 1,783 | 199 | 1,971 | 51 | $-74.36 \%$ |  |  |

${ }^{1} \operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)$ is estimated as in Formula (1). ${ }^{2} \operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)$ is estimated as the sampling error $\left[\operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)\right]$.

## 5. Conclusions

It was relatively easy to fit the single years of age ( 12 to 25 ) main effects in GEM at both the person-level NR and PS steps. Adding single years of age (12 to 25) in the personlevel NR and PS adjustments did not change the weight distribution dramatically (see Table 1). Differences between the estimated numbers and percentages of users for the younger age groups and single years of age ( 12 to 25 ) using the two sets of weights were observed, while the impact for other demographic domains was minimal (see Appendices 1 to 3). The effect on the estimated numbers of users (counts) was greater than on the estimated percentages for the 12 to 17 and the 18 to 25 age groups and for the single years of age. There was also evidence that the recalibration with single years of age ( 12 to 25) reduced errors (lower MSE using recalibrated weights) for persons aged 12 to 25 in the NSDUH sample (see Tables 2 to 4).

Table 4: Mean Square Errors (MSEs) of the Estimated Number of Past Year Marijuana Users (2006 NSDUH)

| Domain (age) | Current weight |  | Recalibrated weight |  | Relative diff of MSE |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estimated number $\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)$ | $\operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t_{1}}\right)^{1}$ | Estimated number $\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)$ | $\operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)^{2}$ |  |
| 12 to 17 | 3,348 | 83 | 3,319 | 78 | -6.27\% |
| 12 | 40 | 10 | 42 | 11 | 8.39\% |
| 13 | 136 | 16 | 131 | 15 | -5.13\% |
| 14 | 363 | 24 | 366 | 24 | -0.77\% |
| 15 | 723 | 56 | 681 | 31 | -44.30\% |
| 16 | 974 | 43 | 975 | 38 | -11.05\% |
| 17 | 1,112 | 46 | 1,124 | 40 | -13.61\% |
| 18 to 25 | 9,169 | 169 | 9,090 | 148 | -12.24\% |
| 18 | 1,433 | 166 | 1,279 | 45 | -72.97\% |
| 19 | 1,309 | 72 | 1,269 | 45 | -37.86\% |
| 20 | 1,295 | 66 | 1,303 | 51 | -23.11\% |
| 21 | 1,283 | 95 | 1,211 | 47 | -50.43\% |
| 22 | 1,096 | 58 | 1,112 | 47 | -18.32\% |
| 23 | 1,001 | 61 | 1,033 | 44 | -27.31\% |
| 24 | 933 | 73 | 986 | 46 | -36.77\% |
| 25 | 820 | 91 | 897 | 46 | -49.29\% |

${ }^{1} \operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)$ is estimated as in Formula $(1) .{ }^{2} \operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)$ is estimated as the sampling error $\left[\operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)\right]$.

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Appendix 1: Estimated Numbers and Percentages of Past Year Alcohol Users (2006 NSDUH)

| Domain | Using current weight |  |  |  | Using recalibrated weight |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estimated number | SE | Estimated percentage | SE | Estimated number | SE | Estimated percentage | SE |
| Age/Age Group |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12 to 17 | 8,361 | 106 | 32.9 | 0.42 | 8,286 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 104 | $32.6{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.41 |
| 12 | 224 | 18 | 5.7 | 0.45 | $231{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 18 | $5.6{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 0.45 |
| 13 | 621 | 34 | 15.0 | 0.77 | 622 | 32 | 14.9 | 0.77 |
| 14 | 1,157 | 42 | 27.0 | 0.87 | 1,146 | 37 | 27.0 | 0.86 |
| 15 | 1,776 | 59 | 39.1 | 1.02 | 1,684 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 44 | 39.1 | 1.03 |
| 16 | 2,209 | 64 | 51.0 | 1.04 | 2,215 | 44 | 50.9 | 1.01 |
| 17 | 2,374 | 66 | 56.7 | 1.05 | 2,387 | 44 | 56.7 | 1.05 |
| 18 to 25 | 25,814 | 140 | 78.8 | 0.43 | 25,928 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 138 | $79.2{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.42 |
| 18 | 3,187 | 104 | 69.5 | 1.16 | 2,870 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 48 | 69.6 | 1.16 |
| 19 | 2,987 | 105 | 71.5 | 1.17 | 2,905 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 47 | 71.9 | 1.16 |
| 20 | 3,062 | 112 | 76.0 | 1.18 | 3,093 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 46 | 76.3 | 1.13 |
| 21 | 3,601 | 113 | 83.9 | 0.97 | $3,405^{\text {b }}$ | 40 | 83.7 | 0.98 |
| 22 | 3,325 | 106 | 84.2 | 0.95 | 3,384 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 38 | 84.2 | 0.95 |
| 23 | 3,331 | 100 | 84.4 | 0.93 | $3,456^{\text {b }}$ | 38 | 84.5 | 0.93 |
| 24 | 3,215 | 93 | 82.0 | 1.13 | 3,399 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 44 | 82.1 | 1.07 |
| 25 | 3,105 | 93 | 80.9 | 1.09 | 3,415 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 44 | 81.3 | 1.06 |
| 26 to 34 | 27,221 | 242 | 77.5 | 0.69 | 27,185 | 243 | 77.4 | 0.69 |
| 35 to 49 | 48,913 | 395 | 74.9 | 0.60 | 48,995 | 392 | 75.0 | 0.60 |
| 50 to 64 | 34,043 | 506 | 65.7 | 0.98 | 33,988 | 502 | 65.6 | 0.97 |
| 65 or Older | 18,063 | 474 | 50.7 | 1.33 | 18,016 | 476 | 50.5 | 1.33 |
| Race/Ethnicity Hispanic | 19,365 | 318 | 57.9 | 0.95 | 19,263 | 314 | 57.6 | 0.94 |
| Non-Hispanic White | 119,433 | 703 | 70.4 | 0.41 | $119,559^{\text {b }}$ | 700 | 70.4 | 0.41 |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 16,262 | 313 | 55.1 | 1.06 | 16,339 | 310 | 55.2 | 1.05 |
| Non-Hispanic Others | 7,355 | 259 | 55.2 | 1.94 | 7,234 | 249 | 55.4 | 1.91 |
| Gender |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 83,275 | 569 | 69.8 | 0.48 | 83,262 | 567 | 69.8 | 0.47 |
| Female | 79,140 | 630 | 62.5 | 0.50 | 79,134 | 624 | 62.5 | 0.49 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Difference in the estimated number/percentage produced from the two sets of weights is significant at $\alpha=0.05$.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Difference in the estimated number/percentage produced from the two sets of weights is significant at $\alpha=0.01$.

Appendix 2: Estimated Numbers and Percentages of Past Year Cigarette Users (2006 NSDUH)

| Domain | Using current weight |  |  |  | Using recalibrated weight |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estimated number | SE | Estimated percentage | SE | Estimated number | SE | Estimated percentage | SE |
| Age/Age Group | 4315 | 88 | 17.0 | 0.35 | $4270^{\text {b }}$ | 85 | $16.8{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.33 |
| 12 | 119 | 14 | 3.1 | 0.36 | $125^{\text {b }}$ | 15 | 3.1 | 0.37 |
| 13 | 288 | 22 | 6.9 | 0.52 | 283 | 21 | $6.8{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.51 |
| 14 | 547 | 29 | 12.8 | 0.65 | 545 | 28 | 12.8 | 0.67 |
| 15 | 845 | 40 | 18.6 | 0.79 | $803{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 34 | 18.7 | 0.79 |
| 16 | 1,143 | 50 | 26.4 | 1.00 | 1,132 | 41 | 26.0 | 0.94 |
| 17 | 1,374 | 50 | 32.8 | 0.98 | 1,382 | 41 | 32.8 | 0.97 |
| 18 to 25 | 15,390 | 158 | 47.0 | 0.48 | 15,430 | 156 | 47.1 | 0.48 |
| 18 | 1,933 | 74 | 42.1 | 1.13 | 1,715 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 46 | $41.6{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 1.13 |
| 19 | 1,960 | 76 | 46.9 | 1.25 | 1,904 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 51 | 47.1 | 1.26 |
| 20 | 1,904 | 74 | 47.3 | 1.41 | 1,932 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 55 | 47.6 | 1.35 |
| 21 | 2,112 | 79 | 49.2 | 1.19 | 1,992 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 49 | 49.0 | 1.19 |
| 22 | 1,950 | 69 | 49.4 | 1.32 | 1,994 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 54 | 49.6 | 1.34 |
| 23 | 1,945 | 74 | 49.3 | 1.30 | 2,015 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 53 | 49.3 | 1.30 |
| 24 | 1,804 | 66 | 46.0 | 1.26 | 1,906 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 52 | 46.1 | 1.27 |
| 25 | 1,783 | 67 | 46.5 | 1.23 | $1,971^{\text {b }}$ | 51 | 46.9 | 1.22 |
| 26 to 34 | 13,879 | 270 | 39.5 | 0.77 | 13,814 | 267 | 39.3 | 0.76 |
| 35 to 49 | 20,890 | 410 | 32.0 | 0.63 | 20,938 | 412 | 32.1 | 0.63 |
| 50 to 64 | 13,251 | 430 | 25.6 | 0.83 | 13,233 | 430 | 25.5 | 0.83 |
| 65 or Older | 3,951 | 288 | 11.1 | 0.81 | 3,909 | 287 | 11.0 | 0.81 |
| Race/Ethnicity Hispanic | 9,16 | 288 | 27.4 | 0.86 | 9,028 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 283 | $27.0^{\text {a }}$ | 0.85 |
| Non-Hispanic White | 51,475 | 674 | 30.3 | 0.40 | 51,502 | 675 | 30.3 | 0.40 |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 8,140 | 290 | 27.6 | 0.98 | 8,184 | 291 | 27.7 | 0.98 |
| Non-Hispanic Others | 2,896 | 192 | 21.7 | 1.44 | 2,880 | 189 | 22.1 | 1.45 |
| Gender |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 38,802 | 559 | 32.5 | 0.47 | 38,695 | 556 | 32.4 | 0.47 |
| Female | 32,875 | 529 | 26.0 | 0.42 | 32,900 | 527 | 26.0 | 0.42 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Difference in the estimated number/percentage produced from the two sets of weights is significant at $\alpha=0.05$.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Difference in the estimated number/percentage produced from the two sets of weights is significant at $\alpha=0.01$.

Appendix 3: Estimated Numbers and Percentages of Past Year Marijuana Users (2006 NSDUH)

| Domain | Using current weight |  |  |  | Using recalibrated weight |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Estimated number | SE | Estimated percentage | SE | Estimated number | SE | Estimated percentage | SE |
| Age/Age Group | 3,348 | 78 | 13.2 | 0.31 | 3,319 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 78 | $13.1{ }^{\text {a }}$ | 031 |
| 12 | 40 | 10 | 1.0 | 0.27 | $42^{\text {b }}$ | 11 | 1.0 | 0.27 |
| 13 | 136 | 15 | 3.3 | 0.36 | 131 | 15 | 3.1 | 0.35 |
| 14 | 363 | 24 | 8.5 | 0.55 | 366 | 24 | 8.6 | 0.57 |
| 15 | 723 | 37 | 15.9 | 0.74 | $681{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 31 | 15.8 | 0.73 |
| 16 | 974 | 43 | 22.5 | 0.87 | 975 | 38 | 22.4 | 0.88 |
| 17 | 1,112 | 45 | 26.6 | 0.93 | 1,124 ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 40 | 26.7 | 0.94 |
| 18 to 25 | 9,169 | 149 | 28.0 | 0.46 | 9,090 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 148 | $27.8{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.45 |
| 18 | 1,433 | 67 | 31.2 | 1.11 | 1,279 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 45 | 31.0 | 1.10 |
| 19 | 1,309 | 63 | 31.3 | 1.14 | 1,269 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 45 | 31.4 | 1.12 |
| 20 | 1,295 | 68 | 32.1 | 1.29 | 1,303 | 51 | 32.1 | 1.25 |
| 21 | 1,283 | 64 | 29.9 | 1.14 | 1,211 ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 47 | 29.8 | 1.15 |
| 22 | 1,096 | 56 | 27.7 | 1.16 | $1,112^{\text {a }}$ | 47 | 27.7 | 1.18 |
| 23 | 1,001 | 52 | 25.4 | 1.05 | $1,033^{\text {b }}$ | 44 | 25.3 | 1.07 |
| 24 | 933 | 50 | 23.8 | 1.09 | $986^{\text {b }}$ | 46 | 23.8 | 1.10 |
| 25 | 820 | 48 | 21.4 | 1.10 | $897{ }^{\text {b }}$ | 46 | 21.3 | 1.10 |
| 26 to 34 | 5,018 | 211 | 14.3 | 0.60 | 5,039 | 212 | 14.4 | 0.60 |
| 35 to 49 | 5,570 | 262 | 8.5 | 0.40 | 5,593 | 260 | 8.6 | 0.40 |
| 50 to 64 | 2,099 | 192 | 4.1 | 0.37 | 2,103 | 192 | 4.1 | 0.37 |
| 65 or Older | 174 | 75 | 0.5 | 0.21 | 169 | 73 | 0.5 | 0.20 |
| Race/Ethnicity |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hispanic | 2,684 | 149 | 8.0 | 0.45 | 2,636 | 144 | 7.9 | 0.43 |
| Non-Hispanic |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| White | 18,150 | 397 | 10.7 | 0.23 | 18,146 | 399 | 10.7 | 0.23 |
| Non-Hispanic Black | 3,694 | 177 | 12.5 | 0.60 | 3,690 | 174 | 12.5 | 0.59 |
| Non-Hispanic |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Others | 849 | 81 | 6.4 | 0.61 | 842 | 80 | 6.4 | 0.61 |
| Gender |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 15,592 | 364 | 13.1 | 0.30 | 15,571 | 362 | 13.0 | 0.30 |
| Female | 9,785 | 254 | 7.7 | 0.20 | 9,742 | 255 | 7.7 | 0.20 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Difference in the estimated number/percentage produced from the two sets of weights is significant at $\alpha=0.05$.
${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Difference in the estimated number/percentage produced from the two sets of weights is significant at $\alpha=0.01$.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ RTI International is a trade name of Research Triangle Institute.

[^1]:    ${ }^{2}$ The nine census divisions are New England, Middle Atlantic, South Atlantic, East South Central, West South Central, East North Central, West North Central, Mountain, and Pacific. For details, see http://www.census.gov/geo/www/us_regdiv.pdf.

[^2]:    ${ }^{1} \operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{1}\right)$ is estimated as in Formula $(1) .{ }^{2} \operatorname{MSE}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)$ is estimated as the sampling error $\left[\operatorname{var}\left(\hat{t}_{2}\right)\right]$.

