

# California Health Interview Survey



Making  
California's  
Voices Heard  
on Health

California Health  
Interview Survey  
UCLA Center for Health  
Policy Research  
10960 Wilshire Blvd.  
Suite 1550  
Los Angeles,  
California 90024

Tel (310) 794-0925  
Toll Free (866) 275-2447  
Fax (310) 794-2686

Email: [chis@ucla.edu](mailto:chis@ucla.edu)

[www.chis.ucla.edu](http://www.chis.ucla.edu)

## CHIS 2001 Revised Sample Weights

A new set of weights were created for the CHIS 2001 data. These new weights were constructed using the same method as the CHIS 2003 sample weights and allow reliable and valid comparisons to be made between CHIS 2001 and CHIS 2003 data. For additional information and detail on the weighting process, please see CHIS 2003 Methodology Series: Report 5 – Weighting and Variance Estimation at <http://www.chis.ucla.edu/methods.html>. There are three key differences in the methods used to create the revised weights that may affect population estimates derived from the CHIS 2001 data:

### 1. Use of up-to-date population totals

The original CHIS 2001 weights were based on Census 2000 data. The revised CHIS 2001 weights are based on 2001 population projections for the State and counties provided by the California Department of Finance (DOF). The DOF data enable CHIS to provide current population projections for the State and counties and to use a consistent population data source over time.

### 2. Modifying the ratio-raking factors

Two significant changes were made to the ratio-raking procedure used to create the final weights. First, different race/ethnicity variables were used. The original CHIS 2001 weights used three different race/ethnicity variables: "any mention" race, single race (African American, White, Native Hawaiian Other Pacific Islander, American Indian Alaska Native, Asian, or Other race), and ethnicity (Latino or non-Latino). These variables are not mutually exclusive since a respondent can report membership in more than one of these race and/or ethnic groups. For example, someone may identify as Latino, American

Indian Alaska Native, White and Other race under this race/ethnicity scheme. The revised CHIS weights use a single race/ethnicity variable that has seven mutually exclusive categories: Latino, Non-Latino White, Non-Latino African American, Non-Latino Asian, Non-Latino American Indian Alaska Native, Non-Latino Native Hawaiian Other Pacific Islander, and Non-Latino Multiple race. This means each respondent is assigned to only one of these seven categories. In addition, an Asian ethnicity variable was included in the raking procedure to appropriately adjust the population totals for five Asian ethnic groups (Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Vietnamese, and other or non-Asian).

The second significant change in the revised weighting procedure is the addition of two new socio-economic raking dimensions, education and household tenure. By adjusting the weights for these additional factors, estimates derived with the revised CHIS 2001 weights better represent the California population.

### 3. Creation of a single data file for CHIS 2001 RDD and Asian oversample

When originally released, there were separate CHIS 2001 data files for the main random digit dial (RDD) sample, the Asian supplemental oversample, and the American Indian/Alaska Native supplemental oversample. In addition to revising the weights, the revised data files combine cases from the RDD sample with Korean and Vietnamese cases from the Asian supplemental oversample. This was possible because the revised weighting adjustment included Asian ethnic group as a control dimension. Only Korean and Vietnamese oversample cases were integrated into the CHIS 2001 revised data for consistency with CHIS 2003, in which these

*Continued*

were the only groups oversampled. With the revised weights and files, researchers can compare 2001 and 2003 estimates for Chinese, Filipinos, Koreans and Vietnamese. Estimates for these Asian ethnic subgroups can also be compared with estimates for other race/ethnic groups, such as African-Americans or Whites because a single set of weights is used.

In a few instances, the results of analyses produced with the re-weighted files will differ from those obtained using the original CHIS 2001 weights:

- Estimates for the total population of the State and counties, and for certain race/ethnic groups, may be different for three reasons. First, as noted above, the re-weighted files are based on 2001 population projections from the California DOF while the original weights were based on Census 2000. Second, the DOF and Census Bureau provide population totals based on different racial and ethnic classification systems. Third, the original weighting used any mention

race variables, whereas the revised weighting used one race variable that classifies each individual only into one race group. The impact of these changes is minor for most racial and ethnic groups. For some smaller population groups, however, the impact may be large. The weighted population estimate for American Indian/Alaska Natives, for example, increases substantially. For additional information on the reweighting methods, different racial and ethnic classification systems, and the impact on certain population groups, please see the CHIS 2001 Methodology Series: Report 5 – Revised Weights, available on the CHIS Web site at <http://www.chis.ucla.edu/methods.html>.

- Estimates for Koreans and Vietnamese will have a lower variance than the estimates generated from the original CHIS 2001 weights because the sample is larger due to the combined RDD and oversample cases and the new raking procedure controlled for these Asian ethnic groups in the revised weighting process.