

Revised Estimates due to Reweighting of Data

2021-22 School Pulse Panel

July 2023

In April 2023, as part of a post-release quality evaluation of the experimental School Pulse Panel (SPP) data, an error was uncovered in the survey weighting procedure. This error impacted the final analysis weights on the data files from January 2022 through December 2022 for schools in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Data files for Outlying Areas (American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and U.S. Virgin Islands) were unaffected.

The SPP survey was first fielded in the summer of 2021 with an initial sample of about 1,200 schools. Response rates for the initial sample were significantly lower than anticipated. In order to increase the number of completed responses, a reserve sample of about 1,000 additional schools was released for data collection in September 2021. Due to time constraints, schools from the reserve sampled located in districts which required district approval before their schools could be contacted for the study (referred to as Special Districts) were not included in the September release. To adjust for this exclusion, the schools from these Special Districts in the original sample were assigned a weighting factor of two, intending to represent the unreleased Special District schools from the reserve sample.

By January 2022, the study had obtained the necessary approvals to include Special District schools from the reserve sample in data collection. Once these schools were added to the active sample, the weighting factor of two for Special District schools should have been removed from the weighting adjustments so that each Special District school had a weighting factor of one. Unfortunately, the weighting factor of two was not revised in the weighting specifications, resulting in data for Special District schools continuing to be double-weighted through the 2021-22 SPP data processing. When considering school characteristics such as region, percent of enrollment that are minority students, urbanicity, and school size, this double-weighting primarily impacted the estimates of large schools. This error affects all data for the surveys between January 2022 and December 2022.

As part of ongoing efforts to review the quality of experimental releases, NCES adjusted the estimates to correct for the double weighting of these cases in July 2023. All survey estimates were recalculated using the revised weights.

See a [list of estimates](#) that changed by five percentage points or more.