

## The National Survey of Adoptive Parents – Guidelines for Data Users

### The Sponsors

The National Survey of Adoptive Parents (NSAP) was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and Administration for Children and Families. The survey was conducted by the State and Local Area Integrated Telephone Survey (SLAITS) program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS).

### The Sample

The NSAP sample is composed of all children identified as adopted during the administration of the 2007 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH), a random-digit-dial telephone survey of households with children in the United States. The NSAP is nationally representative of all adopted children ages 0-17 in 2007 in the United States, who live in English-speaking households, except for children living with both an adoptive parent and a biological parent (children in such households are most likely those who have been adopted by a step-parent, and were excluded from eligibility for the NSAP).

### Response Rate

Of those identified as eligible for the follow-up NSAP interview, 74.4 percent completed the NSAP. However, incorporating non-response to the NSCH, the overall CASRO response rate was 34.6 percent. Researchers may either report a 34.6% response rate or a 74.4% cooperation rate.

### Weighting

To produce estimates that represent the population of adopted children ages 0-17, use the variable NSAPWT to weight the analysis. The NSCH sampling weights were developed to account for complex sample design and include adjustments for multiple telephone households, unit non-response to the NSCH, and non-coverage of non-telephone households, as well as adjustments to known population control totals. The NSAP weight is the NSCH final weight, adjusted for non-response to the NSAP, and adjusted to population control totals derived from the NSCH.

### Accounting for Complex Sample Design

The NSCH/NSAP data were obtained through a complex sample design involving clustering within households and stratification by State. Independent samples were drawn in each state, and in households with children, one child was randomly selected to be the target of the NSCH interview. To account for the complex sample design in analysis, the variable identifying the stratum is called PSUID. The variable identifying the household is called NSAPID. In SUDAAN, the data must be sorted by stratum

(PSUID) and household (NSAPID) and the following design statements are used for analysis:

```
PROC ... DESIGN=WR;  
NEST PSUID NSAPID;  
WEIGHT NSAPWT;
```

For STATA, the following design statements are used:

```
svyset strata PSUID;  
svyset psu NSAPID;  
svyset pweight NSAPWT;  
svyset.
```

#### Data Linkage

In order to minimize the disclosure risk to NSAP respondents, it is not possible to match records in the public-use files for the NSCH and NSAP. Researchers interested in analyzing linked NSCH-NSAP data are encouraged to apply to the NCHS Research Data Center at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/r&d/rdc.htm>