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PERWT

Person weight

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Description

PERWT indicates how many persons in the U.S. population are represented by a given person in an IPUMS sample.

It is generally a good idea to use PERWT when conducting a person-level analysis of any IPUMS sample. The use of PERWT is optional when analyzing one of the "flat" or unweighted IPUMS samples. Flat IPUMS samples include the 1% samples from 1850-1930, all samples from 1960, 1970, and 1980, the 1% unweighted samples from 1990 and 2000, the 10% 2010 sample, and any of the full count 100% census datasets. PERWT must be used to obtain nationally representative statistics for person-level analyses of any sample other than those.

For further explanation of the sample weights, see ["Sample Designs"](#) and ["Sample Weights"](#). See also [HHWT](#) for a corresponding variable at the household level, and [SLWT](#) for a weight variable used with sample-line records in 1940 and 1950.

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