

Title: *Survey Nonresponse, Attrition and Unemployment Duration*

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We study the effectiveness of re-weighting methods in correcting for bias due to non-response and attrition in the analysis of unemployment duration. We use the Finnish subset of European Community Household Panel (ECHP) data complemented by a longitudinal register data. Data on unemployment spells as well as covariates are taken from the register. This information is available both for respondents and non-respondents. The survey data is used only to obtain the result of the interview and information about the sample design. Separate analyses are conducted based on the full information sample and its subsets restricted by non-response and attrition. The observed information set of unemployment spells corresponds to the data normally available for a survey data analyst. The third set consists of unemployment spells by total respondents. Estimates based on the full information set serve as benchmarks to which estimates from the other sets are compared. In the first phase of the study, weights available in ECHP User Data Base (UDB) are used. In the second phase, we use inverse probability of censoring (IPC) adjusted weights specifically created for the analysis of unemployment duration. The observed information estimates are closer to benchmark values than total respondents estimates. However, the weighting strategies used in the observed information set of spells improve estimates only slightly. In the subgroup of men, using the total respondents set of unemployment spells and UDB weights from the last wave produce badly biased results. The IPC adjustment to weights is not helpful in correcting for bias.