

## ERRATA SHEET

### **Characteristics of Public Elementary and Secondary School Teachers in the United States: Results From the 2015–16 National Teacher and Principal Survey (NCES 2017-072rev2)**

**November 2020**

An error in weights for the 2015–16 National Teacher and Principal Survey (NTPS) Public School Teacher Data File was discovered in the spring of 2019. The 2015–16 file was reweighted to address the issue, and a description of the weighting issue and how it was addressed follows.

The sum of the weights from the Teacher Questionnaire is used to estimate the total number of teachers (teacher head count) in the United States. The earlier version of these weights showed a substantial increase from the 2011–12 Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS); however, the parallel Common Core of Data (CCD) files used to develop the NTPS and SASS sampling frames did not show this same pattern for teacher full-time equivalents (FTE).

Review of the NTPS weighting process revealed that one of the final steps in the original weighting process used for the NTPS 2015-16 was a raking adjustment that relied on teacher base weights, rather than teacher weights after adjusting for Teacher Listing Form (TLF) nonresponse. Since TLF nonresponse was adjusted for in an earlier weighting step, this effectively double-adjusted for TLF nonresponse. Further, when the final NTPS teacher counts were adjusted to teacher FTE control totals from the school sampling frame, teacher estimates from NTPS out-of-scope schools were excluded, although the frame control totals included out-of-scope schools. The issue was addressed by changing the weight used in the raking process, adjusting teacher final weights to the teacher counts reported on the NTPS School Questionnaire, and including teachers from out-of-scope schools in the raking process. More details on the weighting adjustments used in the revised 2015–16 NTPS School Teacher Data File are available in the *User's Manual for the 2015–16 National Teacher and Principal Survey, Volumes 1–4* (NCES 2017-131rev through 2017-134rev3).

A previous revision of this report (NCES 2017-072rev) was released in June 2018 updating the teacher sample size from 40,000 teachers to the correct size of 50,000 teachers.

After reweighting, *Characteristics of Public Elementary and Secondary School Teachers in the United States: Results From the 2015–16 National Teacher and Principal Survey (NCES 2017-072rev)* was updated. The reweighting impacted the following parts of the report:

- Selected Findings
- Estimate tables 1 through 10
- Standard error tables, A-1 through A-10
- Appendix B: Methodology and Technical notes, including:
  - Table B-1
  - Table B-3

A corrected version of the report is available at  
(<https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2017072rev2>)