

Add Health Wave IV Non-response: Patterns of Wave-Specific Rates and Non-response Biases for the Full Weighted Sample

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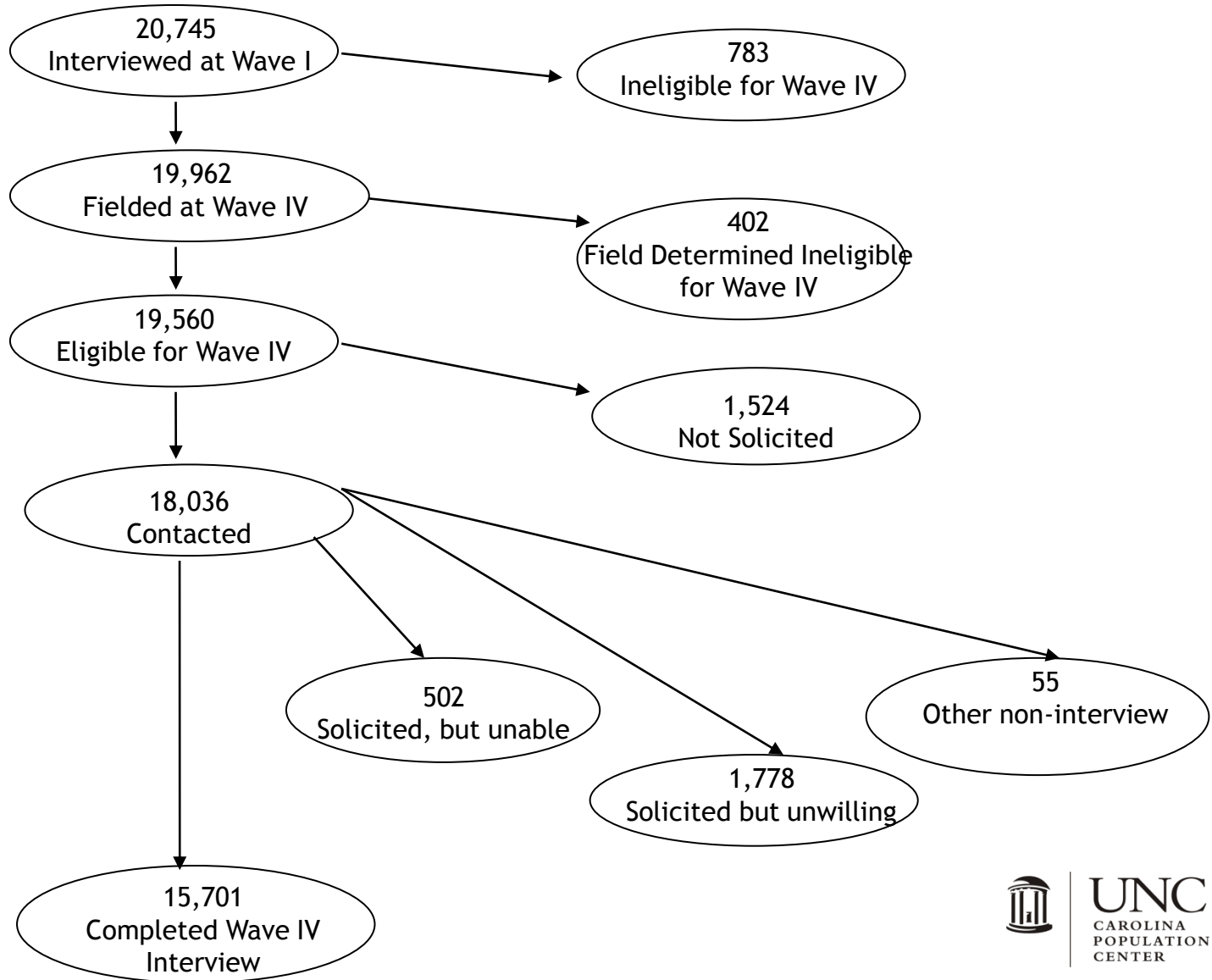
The Wave IV Sample

- Subset of Wave I in-home interviews (N=20,745)
- Those ineligible or deceased at Wave III were removed (n=783)

Disposition Category	Description	N
Ineligible*	Deceased, out of the country, active-duty military	402
Eligible, Interviewed	Completed and partial	15,701
Not Solicited	No contact was made	1,524
Solicited but Unable	Physical, linguistic, or mental incapacity	502
Solicited but Unwilling	Refusals	1,778
Other	Other eligible non-interview	55

*Eligibility criteria differs from that used in Wave III

Wave IV disposition status of Add Health cases from Wave I.



Disposition Codes: No Contact

Access Denied	16
No one home after repeated attempts	8
Incarcerated	110
Institutionalized	15
Unlocatable	1348
Moved beyond interviewing area	3
Wrong person interviewed	24



Disposition Codes: Solicited but Unable, Solicited but Unwilling

<i>Solicited, but unable</i>	Unavailable after repeated attempts	418
(N=502)	Unavailable for duration of field period	3
	Language barrier Spanish	4
	Language barrier Other	2
	Physically/mentally incapable	75
<i>Solicited but unwilling</i>	Final Refusal by Sample Member	1587
(N=1,778)	Final refusal by other	191

Disposition Codes: Other

Interview Completed - Mentally Challenged Case - Mental Capacity Inadequate	5
Interview Completed - Mentally Challenged Case - Unable to Determine Mental Capacity	10
Interview Completed - Prison Case - Data Deleted	1
Other non-interview*	39

*According to RTI there are 2 types of respondents in this category:

1) Incomplete interviews

cases were considered complete if data were available through section 26

2) Incomplete identifying information from Wave I



Add Health Wave IV: Response Rates for the Full Weighted Sample *

Response Category	Total	Respondents with Weights	Weighted %
Interviewed	15,701	14,800	80.54
Not solicited	1524	1430	7.46
Unable	502	479	2.60
Unwilling	1778	1711	9.06
Other	55	47	0.33
Total Eligible	19,560	18,467	100.0

- Response Rate is about 80%
- Refusal Rate is about 9%

*The “full weighted sample” consists of eligible sample members with a Wave I “grand sample weight” (gswgt1) and a final disposition code (wave4dsp)

- The following Wave I cases could not be weighted:

1. cases added in the field
2. cases selected as a pair (twins, half-sibs) where both were not interviewed
3. cases without a sample flag
4. respondents from duplicate schools in the strata do not have weights



Add Health Wave IV: Survey Process Rates (Weighted in %) by Gender for the Full Weighted Sample *

Rate	Overall	Male	Female
Response	80.5	78.2	83.0
Contact**	92.5	90.9	94.2
Refusal	9.1	9.2	8.9

- Response Rate is about 80%
- Females have Higher Response and Contact Rates than Males
- Females refuse less than males

* The “full weighted sample” consists of all core and non-core eligible sample members with a Wave I “grand sample weight” (gswgt1) and a final disposition code (wave4dsp)

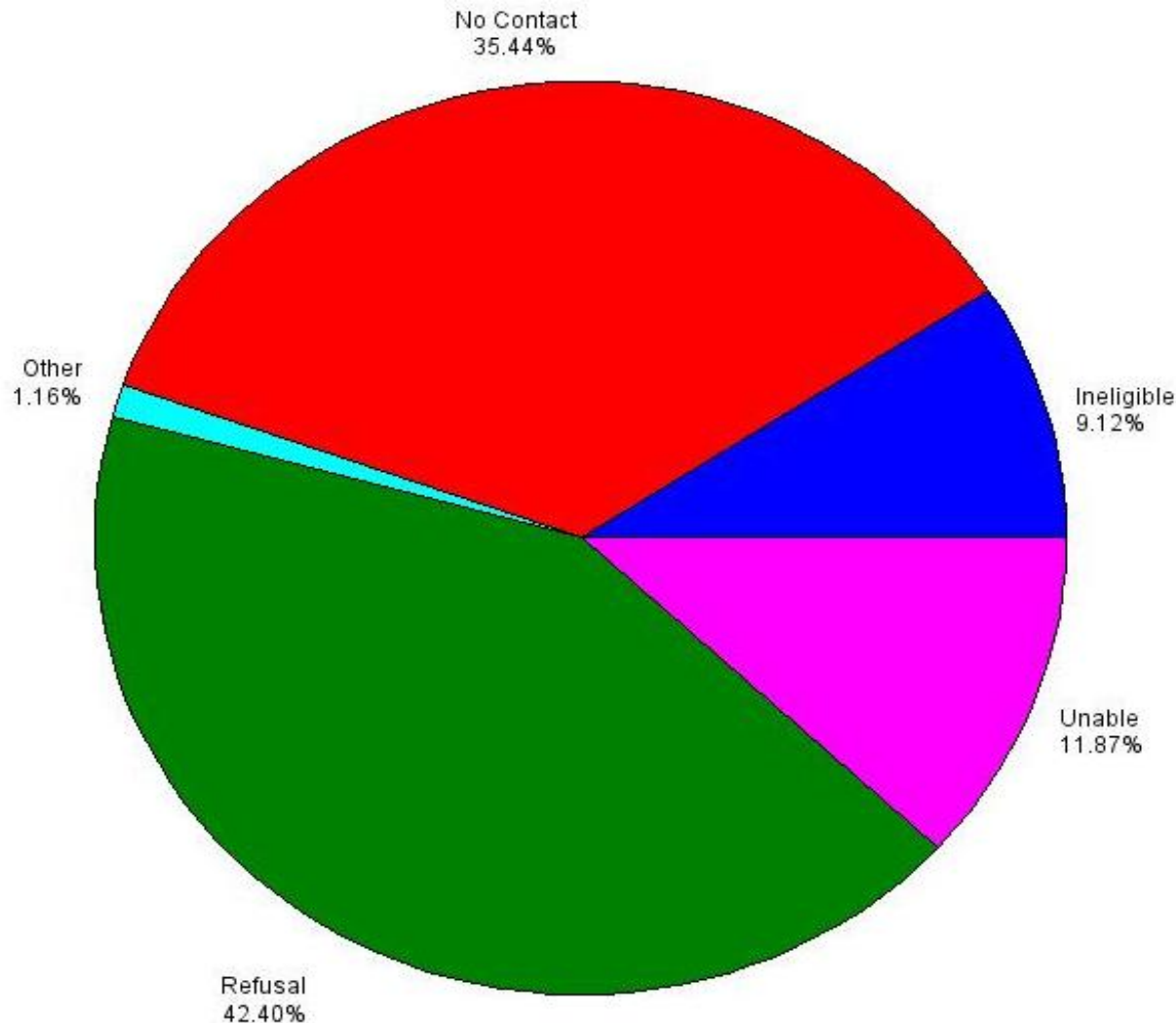
** Rate = # contacted/ # assigned

Add Health Wave IV: Survey Process Rates (Weighted in %) by Race for the Full Weighted Sample

Rate	All	White	Black	Asian/PI	Nat. Am.	Other	Hisp.
Response	80.5	83.4	78.0	69.2	79.4	69.0	73.6
Contact	92.5	95.3	88.0	88.5	87.4	84.7	86.8
Refusal	9.1	9.4	6.4	15.1	5.8	11.7	9.5

- Response rates highest for Whites, lowest for Asian and Other
- Asian/Pis refuse the most; Native Americans and Blacks the least

Add Health Wave IV: Weighted % of Non-response and Ineligible Portions of the Full Weighted Sample



Points

- This shows weighted percentages of non-completed interviews
- Almost half are refusals
- Over one third were not contacted

Non-response Bias

- We used response rates to calculate total and component bias due to non-response
 - Example of component bias: bias due to refusals

$$\text{BIAS} = (1 - \text{RR})(P_R - P_{\text{NR}})$$

RR = response rate

P_R = prevalence among responders

P_{NR} = prevalence among non-responders

- We also tested if the bias was significant

Summary of Bias Results

- Bias rarely exceeds 1%: good news!
 - In other words, even significant bias is usually small!
- Response categories often have biases in opposite directions
 - “Tug of War” between No Contact and Refusal
- Males and females sometimes have biases in the opposite directions

That's all folks!

Questions???