ERRATA SHEET
ECLS-K Base Year Public-Use ECB (NCES 2001-029e) June 2001

The following errors were identified in the ECLS-K Base Year Public-Use Child data files (child.dat)

1. WKPOVRTY

There are 383 cases that were coded as at or above the poverty level (WKPOVRTY=2) that should have been coded as below the poverty level (WKPOVRTY=1). There are two additional cases (that should have been coded above the poverty level, but instead were coded below the poverty level).

There were 1179 cases that had a round 1 interview, but no round 2 interview. For these cases the poverty composite was created by imputing for income and using round 1 household size. All 1179 of these cases were coded as at or above the poverty level, when 383 of the 1179 cases should have been coded as below the poverty level. Thus, in addition to the 3855 cases already coded as below the poverty level, 383 more cases should have been included in this category.

Two cases (0060013C and 1114006C) were coded as below poverty level instead of above due to an error in the income cut-off point in the program.

For a list of the 385 cases with an incorrect poverty status by child ID, please refer to the file POVERTY_IDS.TXTon the NCES/ECLS website at http://nces.ed.gov/ecls/kindergarten/errata.htm.

NCES will re-release the corrected base year poverty composite with the first grade data.

2. KURBAN

In the public-use file, a seven-category locale code was collapsed to a three-category locale code (KURBAN). The labels of the three-category locale variable correctly read as follows:

1   Central City (Large City and Mid-Size City)
2   Urban Fringe and Large Town (Urban Fringe should include Large City Urban Fringe and Mid-Size City Urban Fringe.)
3   Small Town and Rural

However, the categories were erroneously collapsed as:

1   Large Central City and its urban fringe
2   Mid-Size Central City and its urban fringe and Large Town
3   Small Town and Rural

NCES will re-release the corrected base year school locale code with the first grade data.

3. C2ASMTST

Twelve children were incorrectly coded as nonrespondents instead of not assessed in the variable C2ASMTST (C2 CHILD ASSESSMENT STATUS). Instead of 4=CHILD W/ DISABILITY, NOT ASSESSED, they were coded 5=NONRESPONDENT. This error only affects this variable. These 12 children were all correctly assigned spring kindergarten (round 2) weights and they were included appropriately in table 5-12 in chapter 5 of the base year user's manual.

The child IDs (CHILDID) for these children are as follows:

0105005C
0105008C
0105009C
0105012C
0105013C
0105018C
0105019C
0105020C
0105021C
0105023C
0105024C
2121014C

4. Academic Rating Scale (ARS) Scores

An error was identified in the base year ARS scores. Specifically, the fall and spring base year ARS scores use slightly different metrics and, therefore, are not directly comparable. The specifics of the problem are described below.

The ARS scale scores are interval level scores and may be used in analyses requiring that level of measurement. However, the use of gain scores (subtracting the fall score from the spring score) is not recommended. In order to represent the student's score within a 1-5 range, an arithmetic transformation using the mean and standard deviation was applied to the scores. Fall and spring scores were analyzed separately; therefore, the metric is slightly different due to differences in the range of the scores at the two time points. In other words, an increase of 0.1 on the fall scale is not the same as an increase of 0.1 on the spring scale. Further, because some children performed above grade level, their ratings on the ARS may be at the maximum score. Consequently, it is not possible to estimate how far beyond the skills, knowledge, and behaviors assessed on the ARS these students might have achieved. In short, any estimate of fall to spring growth will be underestimated for the highest achieving students. Although gain scores are not recommended, covariance models may be used (with the caveat that there are some ceiling and floor effects).

In the first grade data files, corrected scores for the kindergartners will be included. These scores will be calibrated using a combined calibration of fall and spring kindergarten ratings. Therefore, the unit for the fall and spring kindergarten scores will be the same. The problem with estimating growth for students at the ceiling will remain. The standard error of measurement (SEM) for the scores will be provided in the User's Manual. The first grade scores are based on different items and should not be used to compare growth.

5. IF_INC

Income was collected in the round 2 spring kindergarten data collection. For those households that did not provide this information, an income value was imputed. Imputed income values are indicated on a file using a variable IF_INC. There is an error in the variable IF_INC on the file. There are 3379 cases on the file coded as "0" (not imputed) that should have been coded as "1" (imputed).

The file IMPUTE_IDS.TXT contains the child IDs of the cases with the erroneous flag on the NCES/ECLS website at http://nces.ed.gov/ecls/kindergarten/errata.htm.

6. Incorrect Parent Data

Five children in the spring-kindergarten had their parent interviews conducted under the wrong parent identification number. As a result the child records for these children have incorrect parent data, although they are correct for the other components (child data, non-parent weights, etc.). None of the five children have fall-kindergarten parent data. Two of these children should not have had any parent data since they were round 2 nonrespondents, while three of the cases had their parent data stored under other children's identification numbers. The IDs are:

	Case (Child ID)	Has parent data belonging to child with ID…	Should have parent data that is currently in child ID…
1.	0162001C	3056007C	No parent data (R2 nonrespondent)
2.	0192001C	0192003C	No parent data (R2 nonrespondent)
3.	0192003C	0192015C	0192001C
4.	0192015C	None	0192003C
5.	3056007C	None	0162001C

There are two recommended strategies for correcting this error. Users may go ahead and use the cases since the effect on any analysis will be trivial. The other option would be to discard these five cases during analysis. There would not be much benefit in reassigning the correct data to the appropriate child, as parent-level weights were not created for cases 0192015C and 3056007C for round 2 as they were considered as having missing parent data during the process of the creation of round 2 and base year longitudinal parent weights.

7. Error in Labeling

The format (value) labels for four variables P2AGREE1 (P2 NRQ264 AGREEMENT W/ BIOLOGICAL FATHER), P2AGREE2 (P2 NRQ264 AGREEMENT W/ BIOLOGICAL MOTHER), P2AGREE3 (P2 NRQ264 AGREEMENT W/ ADOPTIVE FATHER), and P4AGREE4 (P2 NRQ264 AGREEMENT W/ ADOPTIVE MOTHER) are incorrect.

Currently, each of the variables has value labels ranging in values from 1 to 4 with labels (1=biological father, 2=biological mother, 3=adoptive father, 4=adoptive mother). The variables should all have had the labels 1=yes and 2=no. All cases have a value of either 1 or 2 for each of these four variables; there are no cases with values of 3 or 4.

For example, for the variable P2AGREE1 (P2 NRQ264 AGREEMENT W/ BIOLOGICAL FATHER) the frequency distribution is as follows:

Code in restricted-use file   Frequency (# of cases)   Correct Code

1 (biological father)	95	1 (yes)
2 (biological mother)	36	2 (no)
3 (adoptive father)	0	---
4 (adoptive mother)	0	---

The same situation applies to all the P2 NRQ264 variables.

8. Error in Labeling

The variable labels for the question series P2 PRRDP_* (P2 ROSTER ROUND DEPARTED - PERSON *) (where * ranges from 1 to 17) are in error. The labels currently read

1	Joined Round 1
2	Joined Round 2

The labels should read:

1	Departed Round 1
2	Departed Round 2