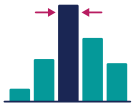
HOME VISITING
EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

OPRE Report #2026-052
November 2026

Missing data approaches accepted by HomVEE

The Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness (HomVEE) review accepts several ways to handle missing baseline or outcome data in randomized controlled trials (RCTs) and non-experimental comparison group designs (NEDs). Following these methods and meeting their specific requirements helps ensure that a study is eligible for a high or moderate evidence rating.

Method	Description	Acceptable for missing baseline or outcome data?	Additional HomVEE Requirements
Complete case analysis 	Exclude observations with missing data	Yes, both	None
Regression imputation 	Predict missing values using a regression model	Yes, both	The model to impute missing data must: 1. be conducted separately for intervention and comparison groups, or include a treatment indicator; 2. include all covariates from the model used to estimate impacts; and 3. include the outcome when imputing missing baseline data.
Maximum likelihood 	Use all available information from cases with incomplete data	Yes, both	Use a standard statistical package or provide a citation to a peer-reviewed journal article or textbook that supports the method
Nonresponse weights 	Use weights to adjust for the missing data, giving greater weight to similar cases with non-missing data	Only accepted for outcome data	The model to construct the weights must: 1. be estimated separately for intervention and comparison groups, or include a treatment indicator; and 2. include all baseline measures required for baseline equivalence.
Replacing missing data with a constant 	Replace missing baseline values with a fixed value, while including an indicator variable to flag missingness	Only accepted for baseline data	Acceptable for baseline data in RCTs, regardless of attrition Not acceptable for baseline data required for baseline equivalence in NEDs or compromised RCTs

NED = Non-experimental comparison group design; RCT = Randomized-controlled trial

HomVEE may accept additional methods if they are justified and supported by a peer-reviewed journal article or textbook. For detailed guidance about these methods and reporting statistical significance, refer to HomVEE's Handbook of Procedures and Evidence Standards.