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Subject: Re: Weighting data for descriptive analysis of background characteristics  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 10 Mar 2017 15:05:18 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

If you have correctly merged the files, you will only be working with cases for which hiv03 (the test result) is not coded ".", and for those cases the correct weight to use is hiv05.

When you are checking recodes, checking data quality, doing some initial exploration of the data, you can omit the weights. Otherwise, we recommend that you use weights (in this instance, hiv05) for descriptive purposes, as well as for statistical models, because then your results will be representative of the household population.