
Subject: Linking DHS and SPA datasets

Posted by [DHS user](#) on Tue, 18 Aug 2015 15:15:59 GMT

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I am using the KDHS and KSPA dataset, and would like to ask how or rather what is the procedure of linking the datasets (the women's dataset and KSPA and the men's dataset and KSPA). I intend on using the variables in the KSPA dataset as contextual variables for the multilevel analysis, however, I am stuck on how to link these datasets as I am aware merging is not possible.

Can you please help?

Many thanks in advance.

Subject: Re: Linking DHS and SPA datasets

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 18 Aug 2015 15:22:01 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Wenjuan Wang:

To answer your question, it would be helpful to know at which level you want to link SPA and DHS data. Since KSPA is a facility sample survey, we don't recommend any linkage with DHS at geographic scales below region because such linkage may cause high misclassification in the analysis. You can find detailed explanation on this in a paper by Skiles et al (free PDF [here](#)).

What you can do is to link KSPA and KDHS at the regional level. You can aggregate SPA data to the regional level and use them as regional-level variables in your multilevel analysis.

For example, you may compute a variable based on SPA like this one, proportion of facilities providing certain number of methods in each region. Please make sure KDHS and KSPA used the same region classification.

Given the wide interest in linking SPA and DHS, DHS recently hosted a webinar on this. A recording of the webinar can be accessed at: <http://bit.ly/DHSwebinar2>

I'd also like to refer you to several DHS reports on this topic. Among these, Analytical Study 26 links SPA and DHS at regional level in multiple countries including Kenya. Spatial Analysis Report 10 highlights data considerations and linkage methods for different types of SPA surveys.

Spatial Analysis Report 10: Linking DHS household and SPA facility surveys: data considerations and geospatial methods. Free PDF [here](#)

Analytical Study 26, How Family Planning Supply and the Service Environment Affect Contraceptive Use: Findings from Four East African Countries. Free PDF [here](#)

Working Paper 114, Influence of Service Readiness on Use of Facility Delivery Care: A Study Linking Health Facility Data and Population Data in Haiti. Free PDF [here](#)

Spatial Analysis Report 7, Geographic Displacement Procedure and Georeferenced Data Release Policy for the Demographic and Health Surveys. Free PDF [here](#)

Spatial Analysis Report 8, Guidelines on the Use of DHS GPS Data. Free PDF here
Spatial Analysis Report 9, Spatial Interpolation with Demographic and Health Survey Data: Key Considerations. Free PDF here
