
Subject: Re: which weight to use
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 26 Aug 2016 11:42:43 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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

DHS weights include a factor of 1000000, not 100000 (that is, 6 zeroes, not 5). If you use `iweight`, then you definitely need to divide by 1000000. If you use `pweight` you can do that if you want, but you do not need to, because it will make absolutely no difference with `pweights`. (Try it both ways and you will see that the results are the same.) Yes, you should use the weight even for descriptive purposes. Otherwise your results will be biased toward the subpopulations that were over-sampled.

Estimates of coefficients, means, proportions, etc. will be affected by the weight adjustment but not by the `psu` and `stratum` adjustments. Those two adjustments affect the standard errors and confidence intervals, but not the estimates of coefficients, means, proportions, etc. It is common for people to use the full `svyset` and `svy` commands when they really only need to use the "[`pweight=v005`]" part of `svyset`. That's ok--but for descriptive statistics all you really need is the weight adjustment.

You may have additional questions about the weights. Feel free to ask again if you cannot find answers on the forum.