Subject: Wealth index with pooled datasets
Posted by clarapd on Tue, 28 Feb 2017 12:32:22 GMT
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Hi,

I'm trying to assess the association between a variable X with wealth (controlling for other factors). My study population is composed by three different DHS countries, so I have a pooled dataset.

I would like to know if it's better to use the wealth index as it is in each dataset or to compute a new one with the pooled population of the 3 countries. I supose that if I use the wealth indices given by the DHS, I will be observing the association between my variable X and relative wealth within each country, and if I use the pooled wealth index, I will observe the association between my variable X and relative wealth across the 3 countries.

I am trying the second option, with a new wealth index caculated for the pool, and almost all of the observations of country1 appear in the same wealth quintile, so maybe it is better to use the wealth indices provided by DHS to observe something more interesting.

In the case I decide to use the wealth indices provided by the DHS, is there any problem if they are not computed using the same variables? So, can I use the three variables merged, as if they are the same variable, without problems of comparability? Maybe it is a good idea to use just wealth quintiles to allow comparability.

Thanks for your help,

Clara