
Subject: Re: Weighting Data for Pooled BDHS Household Members Dataset
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 06 Apr 2017 11:53:54 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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

There have been many forum posts on the topic of the weights. My recommendations continue to be the following. First, when using the pooled file you should only look at trends or differences between surveys. The pooling of several surveys into a single large file is only for data processing convenience. You should not do analyses that combine the surveys in the sense of calculating a single mean for two surveys, because such a number would not refer to a well-defined population and is not interpretable. Second, for looking at trends or differences between surveys, I recommend adjusting the weights so that the total weight for each survey is the same. I have described how to do this in Stata. Your alternative, to weight in proportion to population size (in terms of number of households) is also possible, especially when working with multiple surveys from a single country. I would not recommend using your hmemwt. Within DHS, we would never apply a multiplier of hv012.