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Subject: Re: How to merge DHS databases of different countries

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 18 May 2017 14:55:44 GMT

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

There have been several posts on this topic. You need to construct new variables that distinguish ALL the strata in all the surveys, and ALL the clusters in all the surveys. You can assign a numeric code (1, 2, ..., for example) called "surveyid" to each survey. For each survey, you can use v021 as the cluster id. The stratification variable is not completely consistent across surveys, so you can give a name such as "stratumid" to v023 or whatever is the correct identifier for each survey. You then use lines such as "egen allclusterid=group(survey v021)" and "egen allstratumid=group(survey stratumid)". Even if the strata are the same in two successive surveys in the same country, say, you need to distinguish them this way. You can leave the weight variable alone or you can re-weight as described in earlier postings. Then you put "allclusterid" and "allstratumid" and the weight variable into svyset for the pooled file.

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