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Subject: Re: Senegal continuous DHS - combine 2014 and 2015 for regional representability?

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 06 Jul 2017 14:36:30 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialists, Tom Pullum and Shea Rutstein:

There are a couple of ways to approach this: 1) use the 2014 mean and distribution for each of the wealth index component variables to calculate z-scores for the 2015 variables, multiply each by the 2014 factor score (PCA) coefficients and sum to get each 2015 household's wealth score. This should be done for the total, the urban and the rural wealth scores. Use the regression equations from 2014 to then calculate the combined wealth score for 2015. Then pool the data together and determine the quintiles for the pooled data set. Of course, this procedure requires the same set of variables in each survey. 2) pool the data and then recalculate the wealth index, also with the same variables of the wealth index. The first is easier since it is basically a couple of recode statements (albeit long ones) with no rerunning of PCAs and combining regressions.

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