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Subject: Merging and appending Kenya DHS  
Posted by [laura](#) on Fri, 04 Aug 2017 17:51:49 GMT  
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Hello,

I am using Kenya DHS for my analysis. I first want to merge the PR, IR and MR data sets for each year (2003, 2008, 2014). I will then append the merged files for all the 3 years as I want to do a panel data analysis.

I would like some clarification on using weights.

Let's start with when merging the files:

I have gone through posts here that have given me an insight on how to de-normalize the weights (attached document has been particularly useful). However, I would like to know after de-normalizing the weights in the PR, MR and IR and then merging, should I create a variable by adding the de-normalized weights of all the three files? This is because it is tricky to choose which of the 3 de-normalized weights to use once I have merged and I want to declare svy in stata.

Weights when appending files:

When I am appending the files for the 3 DHS (2003, 2008, 2014), do I still need to alter the weights?

If yes, how do I go about de-normalizing weights if I want to append?

(I will also appreciate a rationale of why we need to de-normalize weights when appending files if it is feasible to do so)

Lastly,

Which variables can I use to declare xtset once I append the files?

I tried using the region variable and year variable but got an error message.

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## File Attachments

1) [Note+on+de-normalization+of+DHS+standard+weight \(1\).pdf](#),  
downloaded 554 times

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