

Dear DHS Forum Users,

My research project will try to estimate the impact of foreign land acquisitions on children malnutrition in Tanzania. As such, I am using only children datasets and I pooled together the children datasets for 1996, 1999, 2004-2005, 2010 and 2015-2016.

Reading several threads, I understood that I have to:

1) de-normalize the sample weights as I am using several rounds of survey. This can be done by making sure that the weights for each round sum up to one and then multiplying those weight by the eligible population, i.e. kids under five (which I found here <https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/>). Is there someone who can confirm this procedure?

2) setting my dataset as survey data using the "svyset" command in Stata. Here is the point where I am stuck.

I have read other threads where they indicate the code for correctly using "svyset" for different surveys round, but my problem is that I can't identify the strata variables for 1996, 1999 and 2004-2005 datasets.

For the 2010 and 2015-2016 datasets, the strata variable is v022 and the stratification is well explained in the final report. In those datasets stratification is done at the regional and urban/rural levels, so for each region there are two strata (urban and rural). So, in 2010 there are 26 regions in Tanzania and V022 lists 52 strata, while in 2015 there are 30 regions and v022 lists 59 strata (one region is considered totally urban here).

In 2004-2005, problems start. Even though the sampling frame is the same as the 2010 survey (the 2002 census), the variable v022 lists 221 strata so I don't think that this variable is correctly identifying strata. However, I read in detail the final report and I found no information on the stratification. The same is true for the 1996 and 1999 surveys, where variable v022 lists 177 and 84 strata, respectively. However, the final report for the 1996 rounds says "The list of PSUs for the 1996 TDHS survey was stratified by each of the 20 regions (for the mainland) and within each region by urban and rural areas".

Therefore, I am not sure how to identify strata for those three surveys and I would greatly appreciate any help that you can give me! I apologize if the questions are silly but I have never worked with survey data and I am trying to understand how DHS works.

Thanks a lot.

Best,

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