

---

Subject: Re: Stratification in pooled datasets - Tanzania  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 19 Sep 2017 18:01:34 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

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

For all the surveys, you will be safe if you use the combinations of region and urban/rural as the strata. You need a line such as this: `egen stratumid=group(v024 v025)`, and then put `stratumid` as the `stratum` variable in `svyset`.

In `svyset` the type of weight is always a `pweight`. You can easily verify that multiplying the weights by a constant, any constant, will have no effect whatever on the results. You can define the weight as `v005` or as `v005/1000000`, for example, and the results will be exactly the same. That's because Stata always normalizes `pweights` to have an average value of 1.

What you may be thinking of is scaling `v005` up to be `fweight` expansion weights, which is only useful if you are trying to estimate, for example, the number of children that are stunted, using `svy` and `tabulate`. Another consideration if you do that is that `fweights` must be integers. DHS does not recommend this because there is an implication of more accuracy than is justified.