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Subject: Re: Multilevel modelling

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 26 Sep 2017 14:49:13 GMT

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

Yes, you could do a 3-level model. Normally, when using a single survey, we recommend a two-level model with individuals and clusters. There is a limitation, however, that we cannot divide the sampling fraction into separate terms for the selection of clusters and the selection of individuals within clusters.

I recommend that you calculate the mean date of interview using v006 and v007 (or v008). (It would be sufficient to use month and year of interview, but day is available too if you want to include it.) For most external data sets, July 1 of the calendar year is the reference date. I would select the year for which July 1 is closest to the mean date of interview. But if you are using something like a fertility rate for the 3 years before the survey, the midpoint of that reference time interval (which would be 1.5 years before the mean date of interview) would be the appropriate date for matching with other data.