Hello,

I have pooled DHS surveys from over 30 countries, looking at 2 or 3 surveys per/country. I am interested in looking at percent demand satisfied for modern method of family planning by wealth quintile among youth 15-19 and 20-24 for each survey and am using the individual recode. I then am hoping to use a regression model to determine whether wealth quintile is a significant predictor of percent demand satisfied for family planning.

First, I want to ensure that breaking the data down in this manner still provides an adequate sample size to estimate demand satisfied by wealth quintile and age group for each survey. Does the DHS have any guidance on this?

Second, when pooling the data, in order to denormalize the weights, I sued the following procedure recommended by Bridgette with the DHS:

"When pooling multiple surveys, I would first re-scale the weights (e.g. hv005) in each survey by a factor. For example, if you have S surveys, Ni total (weighted=unweighted) cases in survey i, and a total of N cases in all S surveys (N=sum Ni) then you could decide to give equal weight to each survey. You then want the weights in survey i to add to N/S, rather than to Ni. To do that, you multiply the weights in survey i by the ratio (N/S) / Ni. (I think of this as the target total divided by the original total.) "

However, in my case, should the Ni should be the 15-24 sample for each survey that I am using or the full 15-49 sample (even though I am only looking at the 15-24 age group)? Also, is this weighting procedure more appropriate in my case than instead weighting by the country 15-24 or 15-49 population at the time of the survey?

Finally, for my regression model, I am trying to understand whether using the svyset function is sufficient at will account of clustering at the country-level. Is there another type or cluster or adjustment I need to do? Does anyone have experience with the difference between using the svy function with melogit and using the melogit regression with svy, but including weights and clustering?

Any help would be greatly appreciated! Thank you so much!

Best,
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