Subject: Re: Weighting across surveys when only including youth in analysis Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Fri, 17 Nov 2017 19:01:24 GMT

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

Yes, you could equalize the weighted number of cases in age group 15-24 rather than the number of cases in the full sample. That would make sense.

You can re-weight in proportion to the population sizes, but if you do that you will invariably find that one or two large countries are dominating the results. I would recommend giving equal weight to each survey, but that's really up to you.

You should be cautious about producing, say, an "estimate" that refers to a nonexistent population. A pooling of surveys from many different countries, with surveys conducted at different times, is hard to justify or interpret. At DHS we avoid doing that unless the outcome is so rare that this is the only way to get any statistical power.

Yes, you should use svyset, but the strata in different surveys have to have unique id codes and the clusters in different surveys also need unique id codes. If, say, the surveys are numbered 1, 2, 3, etc., you can have commands such as "egen stratumid=group(survey v023)" and "egen clustered=group(survey v021)". Here I am using v023 as the stratum code for each survey, but that's not always correct.