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Subject: Re: Weights in country-year level regressions  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 19 Nov 2018 14:15:07 GMT  
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

There have been several related postings on the forum. I agree that this is an instance in which aweights are appropriate. The options are (a) weight by sample size, (b) weight by population size, (c) weight equally. Your choice for a regression should be the same as your choice for an overall mean. The first question is this: why would you want to calculate an overall mean or regression from all these surveys? I can't think of any good justification for pooling 185 data files. Is there a meaningful population parameter that you are trying to estimate?

Many countries have had multiple surveys. Does it make sense to include one country once and another country six times, say? If you reduce to one survey per country, which survey would you select? Would you combine a 1990 survey from one country with a 2010 survey from another country?

If you weight by population size, and combine India and Maldives, then the impact of Maldives would be negligible. What's the value of pooling them?

I hope other forum users will add their viewpoints.

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