
Subject: Using continuous surveys

Posted by [srhayford](#) on Tue, 18 Dec 2018 19:40:36 GMT

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I'm planning to use data from Senegal to analyze FGMC. I am trying to figure out whether it would be more appropriate to use a single year of data or to use pooled data from multiple years of the continuous surveys. I have found some documentation that suggests that the single-year samples are not representative at the regional level (<https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DM34/DM34.pdf>). According to this documentation, it seems like data should be pooled if regional estimates are needed. However, it is not clear what years can be pooled - the pdf suggests combining 2016 and 2017, but the website for downloading the data pools 2015 and 2016.

(I'm not planning to do any analysis of change over time, so the time period covered doesn't matter to me.)

I have a few questions.

1. Can you point me to some more complete/technical documentation about the sampling strategy and what samples are representative at what level?
2. How should the weights be treated when pooling multiple years? Does the pooled download (2015 & 2016) include appropriate weights for the pooled sample, or do they need to be adjusted somehow?
3. I see from reading the forums that the wealth quintiles need to be adjusted when pooling data (since they are quintiled relative to the individual year samples). Does the pooled download include wealth quintiles for the pooled sample or within-sample quintiles?

Thanks
Sarah
