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Subject: Re: Sampling weights harmonization between DHS and MICS

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 03 Sep 2019 18:43:17 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Hi Hamid--I often pool (append) surveys in the same way, for data processing convenience. When I do this, I don't change the weights at all. DHS always normalizes the weights in a file, so that the total weight equals the number of cases (with a factor of 1000000). Stata, when using pweight, always normalizes as well (without a factor of 1000000). If you use v005 (or hv005, etc.) and pweight, in an appended file, you should be ok without changing the weights in any way. If you have any doubts about this, and can think of another way to handle the weights that would make sense, I suggest you try the alternative and compare the results (using the given weights and your adjusted weights) to see if there's any difference. You want to compare both point estimates and standard errors (or confidence intervals) using the two alternatives. If you do get a difference, please let me know. Tom

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