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Subject: Re: Multilevel - Indonesian DHS

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 21 Oct 2019 11:37:37 GMT

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

In my experience it is easiest to interpret a cluster-level variable if it is binary or interval-level, rather than categorical. The two variables you propose to use seem fine to me. You could calculate the mean value of v106 in each cluster, say for women between 20 and 49, excluding women 15-19 because they may still be in school. You could construct an individual-level variable, say v190\_q1q2 that was 1 if v190 was 1 or 2 and 0 otherwise, and then calculate the mean of that variable for women 15-49, within clusters. That mean could be interpreted as the proportion of women in a cluster whose household is in quintile 1 or 2 of the wealth quintiles. (I would do this with v190 rather than with the continuous index, v191.)

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