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Subject: Re: Creating an unbalanced panel

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 20 Dec 2019 14:35:23 GMT

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

I'm glad that the BR file will meet your needs.

Successive DHS surveys in the same country never include interviews with the same households or respondents. I don't believe that even the same cluster (enumeration area) ever re-appears. There is no sense in which the ID codes for individuals, households, or clusters in one survey can be linked with the ID codes in the next survey. (The continuous surveys in Peru and Senegal have a rolling design in which some clusters will re-appear, but not households or individuals, and over a five-year interval there is complete turnover.)

It is possible to examine birth cohorts, defined by calendar year of birth, in successive surveys. Qingfeng Li and Amy Tsui have worked on this approach; see, for example, <https://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/china/publications/1955>.