Subject: Re: Dropping of Observations
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Fri, 25 Sep 2020 12:58:41 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

There is very little you can do with birthweight (m19) in this survey. It is only provided for about 18% of births. The rest are "not weighed" or "don't know". The 18% that include a numerical value have a lot of heaping and questionable extreme values. About 15% of the numerical values are heaped right at 2500g. I would not have a lot of confidence in these numbers.

If you do proceed, I would recommend that initially you construct 5 categories, something like these: m19<2500; m19=2500; m19>2500 but <9996; m19=9996; and m19=9998. Then check for a statistical association between that categorical variable and neonatal or infant mortality.

The interpretation is probably affected by the fact that children for whom a birthweight is given are much more likely to have taken place in a facility, which gives a survival advantage, even if the child was LBW.

You should definitely not drop the LBW children and you do not need to modify the sampling weights.