
Subject: Re: Two or Three Sampling Stages
Posted by [user-rhs](#) on Wed, 16 Apr 2014 01:10:57 GMT
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Bridgette-DHS wrote on Fri, 04 April 2014 08:32 Following is a response to msg_1710, from DHS Senior Sampling Specialist, Ruilin Ren:

[...]

2. About pooling two surveys

I do not think the sampling procedure matters if pooling different surveys together. But attention should be paid to the sampling weight if the surveys use normalized weights, such as for all the DHS surveys. Since the normalized weight has no unit, it is survey specific. You need to de-normalize the sampling weight first before pooling. De-normalizing means to divide the sampling weight by the overall sampling fraction (number of units selected over the total number of units in the target population), for both household weight and the individual weight, respectively. For example, divide the weight by the ratio of households in the sample for the survey to households in the population, and similarly for women.

[...]

Could someone at DHS reconcile the advice given above with the advice from Tom Pullum from an earlier posting (link: http://userforum.dhsprogram.com/index.php?t=msg&th=136&goto=260&S=608aa561007d1aea931e056a867781f1#msg_260)?

Bridgette-DHS wrote on Thu, 04 April 2013 14:28 Here is a response from one of our DHS Stata experts Tom Pullum, that should answer your question.
[...]

The weights should be ok. Sometimes surveys from several countries are pooled, and then the weights may need to be changed by a different multiplier for each survey.
[...]

In both cases, the OP asked about pooling different survey waves from the same country (here: Tanzania 1999 and 2010, and in the linked posting Philippines 1998, 2003, and 2008). My understanding is that the weights add up to the sample size for that wave. I'm trying to think of the implications for using the weights as-is. In addition, what is a reliable source of age-sex-specific population size/number of households for the particular survey year needed to de-normalize the weights? Would the PRB have it? World Bank? DHS Program website?

Thanks,
RHS
