
Subject: Re: svyset for multilevel analysis of pooled dhs data
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 18 Nov 2020 19:30:19 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

If you multiply "v005 by the ratio between the number of women in reproductive age in the country in the year of the survey and the number of women interviewed" you will get an extremely large number. That may cause a problem.

Check the syntax of svyset. You want the hierarchy to be such that the child is level 1, the mother is level 2, and the cluster is level 3. Do you have them sequenced correctly?

Maternal clustering is difficult to capture with a multi-level model because most women who had a child in the past five years had only one. Especially when you include covariates, you will have combinations in which only a few women had more than one child. That could cause a problem. Conceptually a strong case could be made for maternal clustering of child mortality, and we know it is real, but it is hard to measure.

I hope other users can make suggestions.
