Subject: Re: How to use cluster and strata variables in ever married surveys?
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Thu, 24 Dec 2020 00:28:25 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Kerry MacQuarrie:

There are two questions here: (1) whether to use svy commands to account for the clusters and strata in the complex sampling design and (2) whether to incorporate awf to account for using an ever-married woman sample. I take each in turn.

1. In fact, svy: can be used with ratio commands in your example below. But it's not necessary when you're looking only at the point estimate.
ratio v201 / awf [iw=wt]
and
svy: ratio v201 / awf
produce the same thing because svyset uses wt for the weighting the same way iw does. It only makes a difference in calculating the confidence intervals and other statistics based on them (p-value from a chi-square, e.g.) because svyset also takes into account clustering that the iweights do not.

The same thing applies to getting the weighted prevalence using tab commands. Using either
tab varY [iw=wt]
or
svy: tab varY
will produce the same point estimate. Use svy: tab (with lb ub or ci options) if you want the 95%CI.

2. Regarding awf, I'm not certain this is something you need to adjust for in the analysis (prevalence estimates) you're looking for. If you're working in the IR file, your denominator will be all ever-married women, so the prevalence of Y is__% of ever-married women. As long as you present that clearly, there is no issue. On the other hand, if you're working in the PR file, that file has data on its variables for all women, married or not, so awf wouldn't be needed as an adjustment factor. I've only had to use awf for calculating things like mean or median ages of marriage for all women using data from ever-married women samples, and not for calculating the percentage of something among ever-married women. Please clarify what analyses you're conducting and which data file(s) you're working in if you still think awf is something you need to adjust for.