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Subject: Re: Do strata represent distinct geographic areas within the same region?  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 23 Jun 2021 18:31:06 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Senior Sampling Specialist, Mahmoud Elkasabi:

DHS surveys are based on stratified multi-stage sampling designs, where independent multi-stage samples are selected per strata. Within each stratum implicit stratification is applied to make sure that the selected primary sampling units are representing different geographic levels and areas. More details can be found in the DHS sampling manual. So regarding your question, "whether the individuals in each strata are from the same geographic area?", the answer is no; the sample is distributed over different geographic areas.

Regarding the Oromia example you mentioned, this was a special scenario, where we had to create 3 sub-strata within the rural-Oromia to deal with the huge size of that stratum (rural-Oromia).