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Subject: Re: sub-national wealth quintiles in STATcompiler  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 09 Nov 2021 13:58:11 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The wealth quintiles (hv270 in the HR and PR files) are calculated from the continuous index (hv271) by identifying four specific values of hv271, the boundaries between adjacent quintiles, that will produce the same number of weighted de jure household members in each quintile. You could apply the same procedure to subpopulations, but that may not really meet your needs.

I suggest the following. You would EXPECT 20% of the weighted de jure household members in each of the subnational units to be in the bottom quintile. You could easily calculate the OBSERVED number. The ratio of observed to expected would be a good aggregate indicator of poverty. Alternatives would be to use the bottom TWO wealth quintiles. You could do urban and rural areas separately.

The wealth quintiles describe the relative position of the households at the time of the survey in terms of household assets and services. They don't really specify a poverty line or poverty rate.

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