Subject: Re: Problem with recreating Asset quintiles Posted by Janet-DHS on Mon, 13 Jun 2022 15:11:12 GMT

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The Stata code I sent you is what DHS uses. There are very few households with no de jure members (372 out of more than 600,000 households in the NFHS-4), but if there are none, then the number of de facto household members (hv013) is used instead. I agree with you that this is an inconsistency, but I expect that it was originally adopted (at least 20 years ago) in order to avoid discarding the household. A few decisions like this are inevitable. If you want to change the procedure for your own analysis, you are certainly free to do so, but that will cause you to have minor deviations from the DHS tables.

In virtually all surveys the weighted number of de jure household members will not be EXACTLY the same in all quintiles, because everyone in the same household must be in the same quintile. It is also possible for multiple households to be tied at the same value of the continuous index (hv270) and this is more likely in large surveys, such as those in India. Finally, it is possible that the weights (hv005) were modified in this survey after the quintiles had been constructed. I cannot provide any other explanation for the differences you are observing.