Subject: Re: District Codes in recode files

Posted by Thea-DHS on Wed, 02 Jul 2014 14:52:31 GMT

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Phillip,

Thanks for your post. Please can you confirm that you are using the GPS data file mwge62fl.zip from the Malawi 2010 DHS and the regions boundary shapefile for the same survey downloaded from the Spatial Data Repository (

http://spatialdata.dhsprogram.com/boundaries.html?country=MW)?

The displacement of the GPS data for the Malawi 2010 DHS was restricted at the second administrative level which means that it was ensured that no coordinates were displaced across district boundaries. Therefore, all points in the GPS dataset fall in the correct district and survey region when mapped onto the DHS regions shapefile. Please note that shapefiles from different sources vary according to their level of detail and date created. Therefore, a spatial join using a different shapefile can produce slightly different results for areas that are close to boundaries.

Note that the Malawi 2010 DHS is representative at 2 levels, so the boundaries shapefile downloaded from the Spatial Data Repository includes the boundaries of both the first level (the three administrative regions) and the second level (the 27 districts or groupings of districts). Before conducting the spatial join, you will need to create a separate shapefile of just the level 2 regions by selecting and exporting them.

Also note that there were 22 clusters in that survey that had missing coordinates and so were assigned zero as their latitude and longitude.

If this has not answered your question adequately, please reply.