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Subject: Estimation of percentage of 20-24 year old women who married before the age of 18

Posted by [cpmavelikara18@gmail.com](mailto:cpmavelikara18@gmail.com) on Tue, 01 Nov 2022 16:30:05 GMT

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Hai All,

I have been trying to replicate the percentage of 20 to 24-year-old women who married before the age of 18, which is given in NFHS-5 factsheet for India and individual states. I used the IR (Individual Recode) file and used v511 (age at co-habitation) to replicate the results.

But I was not able to correctly match the results at national level. (Note: I weighted by iw=v005/1 million). The factsheet showed the figure as 23.3, while my estimate was 22.2.

Interestingly, I was able to replicate the state-level estimates for the same for a few states using iw=sweight/1 million.

I am adding the STATA codes I used to estimate these results.

\*\*\*\*\*

```
use "C:\Users\cpmav\Desktop\NFHS 5\Individual Recoded (Women 15-49
Years)\IAIR7AFL.DTA", clear
```

```
*Dividing women's individual weight by 1 million (national weight)
```

```
gen wt=v005/1000000
```

```
*Dividing women's individual weight by 1 million (state weight)
```

```
gen swt=sweight/1000000
```

```
*Marriage Before 18 Years
```

```
recode v511 (.=0) (0/17 = 1 "yes") (18/49 = 0 "no"), gen (ms_afm_18)
replace ms_afm_18 = . if v012<18
label var ms_afm_18 "First marriage by age 18"
```

```
*Tabulations
```

```
tab ms_afm_18 if v013==2 [iw=wt] /// All India estimate
```

```
tab v024 ms_afm_18 if v013==2 [iw=swt], nofreq row /// State-level estimates.
```

For states like Bihar, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Meghalaya, I have experienced a deviation above 2 percentage points compared to NFHS-5 estimates.

I request scholars and DHS staff to kindly have a look at this.

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