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Subject: Re: Response rate and weights

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 30 Mar 2023 15:06:42 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The first issue I see is that children are linked with their mothers, and you cannot be sure that the mother's current partner is the child's father. To confirm that, you have to work with hv113-hv114 in the PR file, which identifies the father if he is alive and in the same household. Second, often there is subsampling of men for the interview with men. For example, in the NFHS-4 and -5, only 1/6 of men were interviewed. For these reasons, a study that includes the effect of the father's characteristics on the child's health and welfare can be challenging. (Important, but challenging.)

It is recommended that if you have a table, regression, etc., that includes variables from the survey of men, even if it also includes variables from the survey of women, you should use mv005 for the weight. The reason is that nonresponse is higher for men than for women. This would apply even if you are not using the CR file. It applies if you do any merge with the MR file and are including in your command any variables from the MR file.

At the same time it should be said that the estimates will not be very sensitive to which weight you use. Your conclusions will probably be robust with respect to the choice of weight. It's just considered to be "best practice."