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Subject: Re: Pakistan DHS 2012 district codes  
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 31 May 2023 12:25:47 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

I have heard back from the implementing agency regarding the names of districts in the 2012 survey. They say that the names were intentionally not released, in order to discourage users from making district-level estimates. The labels in the 2017-18 survey cannot be used for the 2012 survey.

The 2017-18 survey was only slightly larger than the 2012 survey, but district names were released for the 2017-18 survey. The justification for not releasing district names for the 2012 survey seems inconsistent. However, I agree that district-level estimates would be statistically very unstable.

I believe your plan was to use district as a statistical control, in an analysis of national-level or province-level change between the two surveys, rather than to produce district-level estimates. That was a good idea.

The districts are nested within provinces. The total numbers of districts within provinces is usually close but not the same in the two surveys. With some detective work it might be possible to establish equivalences but perhaps some other geographic structuring of the data would be safer.