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Subject: Re: Colombia 2010 weights

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 07 Oct 2014 18:28:11 GMT

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We understand that someone already talked with you and answered your questions. However, for further clarification, I am posting the following, from DHS Senior Specialist, Guillermo Rojas:

Let me clarify a few points related to birth registration in Colombia. In 2000 as well as 2010 the birth registration was asked for children under 5 of eligible women. In DHS 2000 those data are available for living children, in variables S450A and S450B. In DHS 2010, the information is available for all children born in the last 5 years, in variables S470 and S471. This means that foster children, as well as children of mothers who have died, or who were not successfully interviewed were left out.

Regarding weights, DHS does not use expansion factors to reconstitute the survey data to the country's population. We use weights to compensate for subsampling or oversampling in the sampling domains of the survey. That means that our surveys produce indicators within certain confidence intervals, for the domains defined by the sample.

Nevertheless, the number of cases obtained by weighting DHS data does not expand to the country's population. Data users can therefore use the statistics produced by DHS data, and apply it to the corresponding population of the census data in the country, to obtain the desired number of cases. The variables related to birth registrations for Colombia are available in the kids data file (the unit of analysis), and therefore it should be weighted by variable V005/1000000. It is not necessary to merge the data to the household data files.

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