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Subject: Country-level weights for MLM

Posted by [AConklin](#) on Tue, 05 May 2015 23:15:52 GMT

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Hello,

I have a unique dataset comprising about 27 countries from DHS with anthropometric data (18 low-income, and 9 low-middle income countries). I understand that much of the forum discussion about using the sampling weight for analyses of multiple countries (with/without multiple survey years) requires de-normalising the weight variable (v005) which can then be used to set the data structure.

but, I haven't found any discussion of whether or not there is a country-level weight that can/should be used in a MLM (2-level) regression which my statisticians indicate is necessary if I am to also use the women's sampling weights. Does DHS have such a variable? If not, then is it fair to assume that the countries contained in DHS are a random sample of the world's developing countries? That is, can I safely create a country weight equal to 1 for the 27 countries?

My predictor of interest is a level 2 variable (nationally legislated minimum wage) and my outcome is adverse anthropometric outcomes in adult women aged 24-49.

Many thanks in advance,  
A Conklin

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