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Subject: Re: June 3rd Webinar Analyzing DHS Data: Weights and other adjustments for the survey design

Posted by [MBruederle](#) on Mon, 11 May 2015 07:49:11 GMT

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Dear panelists,

I would be grateful if you could address the following questions:

Even though the sampling is usually designed for the data to be representative only at national level, I would like to use DHS data to calculate development outcomes at the local level (clusters or sub-national administrative areas). For example, I want to analyze how local environmental conditions are associated with development indicators as measured by DHS data.

Is it justified to consider over- / undersampling of certain strata in certain localities as noise (considering that my analysis covers an entire country)?

Should I still apply sampling weights to reduce the risk of bias? Or do the weights make no sense if I analyze the data at subnational level?

In general, where do I find information on which covariates underlie the sample selection for each survey? Next to geographic distribution and urban / rural, are households selected (and weights assigned) based on other covariates like ethnicity, family size, ..., to ensure that the sample is nationally representative?

Many thanks.

Anna Brüderle