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Subject: Re: Weighting variables in DHS India data (1992 and 1998)

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 07 Aug 2015 13:33:44 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

I do not recommend that you adjust the weights at all. According to your first and second points, you are just studying children under 3 years of age (that is, age 0-35 months) in rural areas. So long as you say that, explicitly, in your analysis, the weights would not be affected. Your third point, about dropping the 50 extra clusters, is more of an issue. It is possible that when they are dropped, the weights should be re-calculated. However, this would require information about the sample design that is no longer available. You should mention explicitly that those 50 districts have been dropped from the 1998 data in order to have better comparability with the 1992 data. That's a good decision.

It's important for other people to be able to replicate whatever you do, and by being explicit about 1) - 3) you will make that possible. If you start tinkering with the weights, then people will NOT be able to match what you have done, even though I'm sure the differences would be very small, probably negligible.

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