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

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 13 Aug 2015 15:26:47 GMT

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

The weights are used to inflate subpopulations that have been under-sampled or to deflate subpopulations that have been over-sampled. If you have dropped a subpopulation entirely, such as kids in some age range, then that age group is gone. You cannot replace them by weighting up some other subpopulation, unless the subpopulation that remains is the same, in every way, as the subpopulation that you dropped. In your example, you cannot assume that.

The representativeness of the remaining sample is unaffected by dropping some other part of the sample, so long as you make it clear what population the remaining sample comes from. You do not need to change the weights for the cases that remain to be representative.

The weight variable is v005, as you said. If individual cases are your units of analysis, then you do not need any other weight. These weights apply to the case, and are not different for different variables, such as variables that describe the child, the mother, the household, the village, etc. To repeat, the weight is specific to the case and does not depend on what variables you are using.

I suggest that you try to match some basic numbers in the relevant survey reports. If you are using the weights in the same way that DHS uses them, then you should get a match in the weighted number of cases and the weighted means, proportions, etc.