Subject: Re: Weighting Data Question
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Wed, 02 Dec 2015 13:08:53 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

The BR files include all the children in the birth histories, even children who have died, grown up, left home, etc. Child survival is relevant for all of them, but nutrition data are only available for children under five. Perhaps you should restrict to children 0-4, in which case the BR file becomes equivalent to the KR file. Incidentally, this would greatly reduce the size of your combined file.

If you are working with children, why would you want to re-scale to the number of women 15-49? Another possibility would be to construct the sum of v005 limited to children who are alive at the time of the survey, and then scale up according to estimated number of living children under five in the UN Population Division spreadsheets on July 1 of the calendar year which contains the median date of date collection. (The UN spreadsheets give the number of living children; it would be a little harder to estimate the number of children born in the past five years, including those who died.) This would mean replacing "fempop" with "childpop", say, and you get the sum of v005 from the BR file, not the IR file.

You should also check the age range of the children for whom you have height and weight. It's usually 0-4, as I said above, but not always. You could get this as the maximum value of b8 in the KR file. If by "nutrition" you mean something other than anthropometry, such as recent consumption of foods and liquids, you need to check the age range on those variables.

The stratum variable is usually combinations of region and urban/rural, as you say. If it was something else, that rule should give a very good approximation. These are v023 (usually) and v025, respectively. Don't combine them with a product. Note, for example, that "10" could either urban region 10 or rural region 5. Within a single survey, use "egen stratum=group(v023 v025)". Better, wait until you have appended all the files, and assigned them survey numbers (1, 2, ..., 54), and then enter "egen stratum=group(survey v023 v025)".