Subject: weighting data for a subset of main data file
Posted by HumAta on Sat, 19 Mar 2016 13:58:37 GMT
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Dear experts at DHS

I am using PKIR61FLV.SAV file from Pakistan's DHS data 2012-13. My aim is to determine the quality of antenatal care received by mothers who had their last pregnancy in the five years preceding the survey and those who had, at least, one ANC consultation in their last pregnancy. I need some guidance on the use of sample weights to a subset of DHS data like mine.

I have learned that DHS uses 'normalized standards weights for both households (HH) and individuals so that the number of weighted cases coincides with that of unweighted cases at the national level" in all the DHS final reports. The DHS sampling manual also states that all the weights in DHS recode files are thus relative weights. These can be used to calculate unbiased estimates of mean, proportions, rate and ratios etc at the national level because the normalization factor is canceled out when used both in the numerator and the denominators. So it recommends that normalization must be done at the national level estimates and not at the regional level because at regional level it introduces bias in the calculated values.(DHS sampling manual..page 26)

Page 33 of DHS recode manual states about the "V005' which is the sample weight variable for women individual recode file that "....it is normalized such that the weighted number of cases is identical to the unweighted number of cases when using the full dataset with no selection". This is because the sum of standardized or normalized weights equals the sum of cases over the entire sample (Guide to DHs statistics.. page 14).

I am not using the full dataset of women recode file, rather I am using a subset of women who had, at least, one ANC consultation in their last pregnancy (5522/13553 women). So am I right it in understanding that I must not use sample weights in my calculations?

Looking forward to your response.

Best regards
HUmera