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Subject: Two or three stages?

Posted by [Lyly](#) on Mon, 13 Nov 2023 13:25:04 GMT

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Hi,

What is better: 1) developing a sampling frame composed of primary units (PU), and each primary unit contains 5 secondary units (SU), and in this case, we conduct a 3-stage sampling, drawing a PU and within the PU drawing an SU, and within the SU drawing a household for a household survey; or 2) developing a sampling frame for households composed only of secondary units and conducting a 2-stage draw: drawing an SU and within the SU drawing a household?

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Subject: Re: Two or three stages?

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 13 Nov 2023 14:27:35 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

This is not a question about DHS or DHS data. You will have to consult with a sampling statistician, and I am sure that they will want more information than you have provided about your proposed survey.

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Subject: Re: Two or three stages?

Posted by [Lyly](#) on Tue, 14 Nov 2023 08:49:52 GMT

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Thank you, Bridgette, for your response.

In fact, I asked this question because DHS deals with relatively rare phenomena, and I thought that if we directly sample secondary units without going through primary units, we might cover them better. However, I was concerned that estimates from 2 stages, since the master sample is designed for a 3-stage sampling, could negatively impact the estimates.

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