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Subject: Combining data from several countries and time periods

Posted by [Yohannes](#) on Tue, 01 Jul 2014 08:08:09 GMT

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I plan to undertake a cross country multivariate analyses where the unit of study would be children and wonder how the data from bigger countries such as India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nigeria, Ethiopia and others affect the resulting analyses. I also wonder if the existing sampling weights can still be valid if one breaks up these big countries into their larger administrative units (such as breaking India and Nigeria into states, or Bangladesh into divisions or use 'killil' in Ethiopia) and enter these geographic units into the cross country analysis as if the individual states, divisions or killil (in the case of Ethiopia) constitute a country on their own.

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Subject: Re: Combining data from several countries and time periods

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 09 Jul 2014 16:29:30 GMT

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Our Senior Sampling Expert is reviewing your post, and we will respond shortly.

Thanks,

Bridgette

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Subject: Re: Combining data from several countries and time periods

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 11 Jul 2014 16:47:40 GMT

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Following is a response from our Senior Sampling Statistician, Ruilin Ren:

If you want to pool several countries' surveys together, you need to de-normalize the sampling weights and redefine the cluster and stratification variables, please search the forum for "de-normalization", as it's a frequently asked question.

As for breaking each country into larger units such as states, you can do it without any concern, once the sampling weight is de-normalized.

Thanks,

Bridgette

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