Subject: weighting combined datasets
Posted by marcelocr2 on Mon, 27 May 2013 04:52:53 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Hi, I am doing a regression analysis about child nutrition. I am using 5 DHS datasets for the same country and I want to know if I have to use wights (because the DHS manual doesn't recommend it) and if I have to, how should I modify the weights in order to use the appended datasets.

thank you!

Subject: Re: weighting combined datasets
Posted by Reduced-For(u)m on Mon, 27 May 2013 18:45:52 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

This discusses re-normalizing weights when you are using multiple surveys from multiple countries. If you want to re-normalize weights within county, this same procedure would apply:

http://userforum.measuredhs.com/index.php?t=tree&th=54&a mp;goto=82&#msg_82

Now... I think re-weighting makes sense when you append multiple rounds of the same country, but you should be clear on what it means. Each survey is weighted to Ns - sample size of the survey. To re-normalize, you'd divide the DHS provided weight by the sum of the weights (which will be Ns or very close, if you lose some observations), and then they would sum to one. So, by re-normalizing, you are essentially weighting all the surveys to be of equal weight, regardless of sample size. The thought is that each survey is one nationally representative survey, and thus each woman in each survey is actually representing some real number of women. I think this is probably the right thing to do in most circumstances (I do it), but it is not intuitively clear to me it is always the right thing to do.

Subject: Re: weighting combined datasets
Posted by bsayer on Wed, 03 Jul 2013 22:27:07 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

I don't think re-normalizing is weighting all surveys to be of equal weight. It simply scales the weight to the total number of observations and the relative variability remains the same.

I also don't think it is necessary, if you use survey software. The scale of the weights is irrelevant.