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Subject: Variables representative at the new province level for DRC (2013/14)

Posted by [advag](#) on Thu, 05 Jan 2017 19:10:23 GMT

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Hello,

On page 1 of the DHS 2013-14 Summary Report for DRC, the DHS Program notes that "The majority of indicators are representative at the national level, for urban and rural areas, and for each of the 11 provinces. Additionally, the majority of indicators are also representative for the 26 new provinces."

Is there a definitive listing anywhere of which variables in the DRC 2013-14 DHS are representative at which levels/ for which province demarkations? I would like to run analyses with survey weights that are provincially representative at the new province level (aka: for 26 provinces) and have been unable to find this information on the DHS website or in the full French country report thus far.

Thank you very much for your help!

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Subject: Re: Variables representative at the new province level for DRC (2013/14)

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 05 Jan 2017 20:03:25 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

Representativeness is a property of the sample, not of specific indicators. It was misleading for the report to include "the majority of". All of the indicators are representative of the population and the population and stratum level (the strata are combinations of province and urban/rural). However, and I think this is why "the majority of" was included, some indicators will have wide confidence intervals. These will be indicators that are calculated on relatively few cases--for example, very young children who may or may not be breastfed, children who had symptoms of illness and may or may not have been taken for treatment. Such estimates have a lot of statistical uncertainty--but they are still unbiased.

If you look at the Appendix on sampling errors, usually Appendix B, you can see the width of the confidence interval, and use that as a guide to which indicators are least stable.

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Subject: Re: Variables representative at the new province level for DRC (2013/14)

Posted by [advag](#) on Mon, 09 Jan 2017 22:04:03 GMT

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Many thanks for clarifying! I will use Appendix B as a guideline for the stability of different

indicators.