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Subject: Using weight

Posted by [massoud](#) on Wed, 05 Apr 2017 04:56:03 GMT

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Hi DHS users,

I faced a challenge on the use of weight in Rwanda DHS data set(RDHS2014-15).

RW70PRFL.SV .I tried to apply a weight integrated in data set which is hv0005 with objective to get the population currently attending with reference to Rwanda Population and Housing Census 2012.My question is why the number of population does change when we apply weight(DHS).For example sample household is 12,669 but when we apply a weight it gives the same number while we expect to have 2 millions and more.The same when we use population data set (PR),I m getting the same number as I get when I apply the weight.

I need your support.

Regards

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Subject: Re: Using weight

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Wed, 05 Apr 2017 16:57:28 GMT

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A response from sampling expert,DR. Ruilin Ren:

Quote:

The DHS surveys use "Normalized" weight which is a relative weight without scale, the weighted number of cases (household, women and men) will be exactly the same as the unweighted number of cases at national level, as you found. This means that the weight variable in the DHS data set will not be valid for estimating population totals, it is valid only for estimation relative indicators such as means, proportions, ratios and rates. In order to estimate population totals, the weight variable must be rescaled. I believe the weight rescale is a popular topic in the DHS forum, you can search for the word "weights" to see other messages regarding this topic.

I am not clear with what you mean "with objective to get the population currently attending with reference to Rwanda Population and Housing Census 2012". If you can specify your problem more precisely, let me see if I can be further helpful.

Thanks

Ruilin

More on using weights can be found here:<http://blog.dhsprogram.com/sampling-weighting-at-dhs/>

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