
Subject: What becomes of DHS weights after region harmonization by IPUMS-DHS
Posted by [camilleatpik](#) on Tue, 03 Sep 2019 11:27:29 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

IPUMS-DHS did a very useful job of harmonization of subnational regions (with each region keeping the same geographic footprint across samples).

From what I understand, IPUMS does this by merging or splitting subnational regions based on historical redefinition of administrative sub-divisions. As a result, a given country has the same administrative sub-division over all its waves. For example, IPUMS-DHS have merged Bangladesh's region which have been split over time: Bangladesh has only 5 regions across all the waves in the IPUMS-DHS data while in the latest subdivision one can find 7 regions.

Now I am wondering how does the IPUMS-DHS deal with DHS weights when it merges or splits regions. DHS weights are put in order to adjust for the disproportionate sampling: small regions will be over-sampled and big regions will be under-sampled. This means that the DHS weighting is specific to the regional subdivision.

Does the IPUMS-DHS do some re-weighting to account for this? If so, could you explain how it works, or where to get useful resource?

I would really appreciate any help!

Thank you

Subject: Re: What becomes of DHS weights after region harmonization by IPUMS-DHS

Posted by [boyle014](#) on Wed, 22 Jan 2020 19:32:41 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Thank you for the question. The weights are not affected by the regional harmonization. This is because IPUMS DHS never splits a region to accomplish harmonization; we only merge regions. Within any merged region, the weights assigned to individuals are still valid.
