

---

Subject: DHS surveys for Malawi 2004/2010/2015-2016  
Posted by [pvenkova](#) on Thu, 05 Mar 2020 12:05:25 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hello ,

I am doing longitudinal analysis using the DHS surveys for Malawi for 2004,2010 and 2015-2016.

In all of the three surveys I have a variable with the name mv001( "Cluster number"). I am wondering is the cluster number the same for the three surveys and how the cluster is defined in general ?

Thank you very much in advance!

Kind regards,  
Plamenna

---

---

Subject: Re: DHS surveys for Malawi 2004/2010/2015-2016  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 24 Mar 2020 18:25:13 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The clusters are census enumeration areas--roughly villages or neighborhoods--that are selected randomly as the primary sampling units for the survey. They are definitely not the same in successive surveys. The ID codes (v001 or v021) have no relationship to the original numbering system for the enumeration areas.

---