

---

Subject: Question about the occupation variable (v717)

Posted by [jkpo](#) on Wed, 31 Aug 2016 22:06:44 GMT

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

---

I am currently working with DHS data from Benin, Congo (DR), Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Togo and Tanzania. I noticed that some individuals are listed as having occupations (the variable called v717) while at the same time being listed as not employed (the variable called v714). Does this mean that they are working, but not formally?

---

---

Subject: Re: Question about the occupation variable (v717)

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 01 Sep 2016 15:06:35 GMT

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

---

Following is a response from DHS Senior Research Associate, Wenjuan Wang:

v714 is whether the respondent is currently working. This variable comes from Question#807 in woman's questionnaire: "Aside from your own housework, have you done any work in the last 7 days?"

v717 is the occupation category, it's for women who are currently working (worked in last 7 days) or who have worked in the last 12 months; that is when v731=1 or v731==2

When v717 has a response but v714 is coded as not working, it means the woman did not work in the last 7 days but she could have worked in the last 12 months.

I suggest you to read the DHS recode manual for more details of a number of variables on working status and occupation:

[http://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6\\_DHS\\_22March 2013\\_DHSG4.pdf](http://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6_DHS_22March 2013_DHSG4.pdf)

---