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Subject: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [kopa91](#) on Mon, 12 Sep 2016 07:33:59 GMT  
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Hello,  
I am doing an analysis using the HIV/AIDS status variables and I would like to comment on the HIV testing response rate, i.e. what share of the eligible respondents did not show up or refused testing. Is it possible to somehow obtain this information from the DHS datasets?  
Thank you in advance for your response.

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [kopa91](#) on Mon, 12 Sep 2016 11:18:41 GMT  
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Update: I found that in Household questionnaire, for example in dataset for Burkina Faso 2010, there are variables ha63\_01-...-ha63\_18 describing whether the blood was taken or not. Nevertheless, if I compare the data with the dataset containing only HIV/AIDS tests result, I come to completely different numbers, as the HIV/AIDS results dataset contains over 15,000 observations whereas if I sum all the Blood Taken observations, I get only approx. 8,500 observations. Can somebody explain what am I missing here? many thanks

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Tue, 20 Sep 2016 20:44:28 GMT  
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See ha63 (8845 observations) for women and hb63 (7734 observations) for men. The observations in the AR file are for both women and men.

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [behnamkkk](#) on Mon, 15 Apr 2019 05:53:23 GMT  
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hi  
sorry . what is the HIV rate?]

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [behayes4](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2020 19:29:37 GMT  
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Hi -- I am noticing discrepancies across the AR datasets and the number of respondents who have an HIV result. Did you find any more information on this?

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2020 19:35:57 GMT  
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Please provide more information on what you mean by discrepancies, with details of the issues you see, and then we can clarify or explain the reasons.

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [behayes4](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2020 19:39:55 GMT  
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As an example the Burundi 2016/2017 HIV dataset has 21,955 cases. I merged the HIV data into the individual respondent data (which resulted in 8,527 valid cases) and the male respondent dataset (which resulted in 7,377 valid cases). This is only 15,904 observations across the two datasets when there theoretically should be 21,955 - a difference of 6,051 cases. Burundi 2016/17 has one of the biggest dropoffs. I did this for 30 other datasets. The majority have a few hundred that drop when merged. Can you explain why each case in the HIV dataset does not merge into a case for either the IR or MR datasets? Where do the remaining respondents merge into?

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2020 19:55:42 GMT  
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In general the difference is likely due to the selection of only de facto respondents (those who stayed in the household the previous night) for the individual women and men datasets. You could confirm this by linking the AR data to the PR data, and seeing if the cases that are dropped are non de facto (did not stay in the household - hv103). For Burundi, in addition, there are more than 5000 children who were tested (see variable slage in the AR dataset), and who would not match with the individual women and men's datasets.

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [behayes4](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2020 20:25:55 GMT  
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This is very helpful!! In terms of female respondents, why are only about half selected for HIV testing while the majority of male respondents have this information? What measure would you use for stayed at the house the previous night? For instance, in Angola only 179 women of the 14379 respondents were visitors. Yet there is only HIV data for 6634 women. Thank you for all your help!!!

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Subject: Re: HIV testing response rate  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2020 20:50:27 GMT

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Check chapter 1 and Appendix A of the various survey reports for information on the sample design. In many surveys there is a subsample used for the men's survey and the HIV testing, where:

- a) All eligible women in all selected households are interviewed
- b) All eligible men in a subsample of 1/2 (or sometimes 1/3) of selected households are interviewed
- c) HIV testing is typically carried out for women and men in the same subsample of households selected for the men's interview

Variable hv103 from the PR dataset provides information on whether the person stayed in the household the previous night.

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