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Subject: Re: Question regarding NFHS variable definition  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 21 Feb 2013 17:39:17 GMT  
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Here is a response from one of our DHS experts Fred Arnold, that should answer your question.

The NFHS-2 sample is based on the 1991 Census as a frame. Therefore, the survey adopts the Census definitions of urban and rural. In the Census, the dichotomy between urban and rural is based partly on an area's ability to satisfy established urban criteria (population size, percent of males working on non-agricultural pursuits, and population density) and partly on the basis of statutory notifications. I can send you a more precise definition if you need it. In short, the "rural/countryside" category in HV026 coincides exactly with the census definition of rural areas. Towns are urban areas that do not fit the criteria for either large cities or small cities that you already have.

I hope this helps.

Bridgette-DHS

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