
Subject: Re: BDHS2014-bdkr data set- Children nutrition- table 11.6 in BDHS report, 4+food group

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Sat, 03 Sep 2016 17:30:43 GMT

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Another response from Tom Pullum:

If you want to match table 11.6 in the BDHS report, then you have to select the cases as described, or in some other way that accomplishes the same objective. The requirement that the child lives with the mother is made because we have good evidence that the responses are much more accurate for such children. The interval from 6 to 23 months is used in order to match with indicators established by UN agencies.

Sometimes DHS data are collected for subpopulations that are larger than what will actually go into the tables. If these restrictions were applied in the field, rather than during data processing, we know that interviewers would tend to reduce their workload by shifting children or respondents out of the specified subpopulation. For example, if the interviewers were only required to collect the data on children 6-23 months of age, I'm sure we would find a tendency for children's ages to be shifted down or up to avoid the questions. These shifts can be very subtle, especially when the interviewers don't have really firm birthdates and ages for the children. It is only natural that they will tend to reduce their workload when there is ambiguity, no matter how well-trained they are.

You are certainly free to use all the children for whom data are in the files, but if you deviate from the UN indicators, you may have difficulty making comparisons with other data sources or getting your results published.

We cannot translate the Stata code into SAS. Stata commands are pretty intuitive and you should be able to figure out the logic. "keep if _merge==3" identifies the cases that are in both of the files that you are merging. "collapse (min) bidx, by(v001 v002 v003)" identifies the case with the smallest value of bidx, among the cases that have the same value of v001 and v002 and v003--that is, the woman's youngest child.