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Subject: Re: Women's status module

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 31 May 2017 16:13:50 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Kerry MacQuarrie:

There are some very active discussions in the field around better developing the concepts of women's empowerment and related concepts of reproductive empowerment, economic empowerment, etc, what we get and don't get out of our current decision-making measures, and developing and testing validated measures of these concepts. [Women's Status is a term largely supplanted by agency and empowerment; DHS has somewhat kept up with these developments in the field but has hardly been at the forefront. The women's status module was retired as a separate module at the end of DHS 5 in favor of selected questions (the decision-making ones among them and new ones on earnings and control of economic resources) being in the core questionnaire.]

Please look at the DHS-7 model Women's questionnaire section 9 on Husband's Background and Women's Work. These have the items that should be present in any DHS 7 (and DHS 6) survey. However, as always, I'd advise to check the specific country questionnaires of any surveys you use. For background on changes to the questionnaire/recode manual, you may want to check out the user forum section on the questionnaire review (closed to comment but still viewable).