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Subject: Question on Benin's Raw Service Availability Data 2006

Posted by [km\\_hki](#) on Mon, 18 Dec 2017 16:09:47 GMT

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Hello,

I am using the data file bjsq51dt - the Raw Service Availability Data, for Benin 2006.

(Firstly, I should state that my French is highly imperfect, but I hope that I have been able to make the necessary translations where required and that this isn't the main issue!)

My understanding is that the Service Availability Data is used to Section 19 of the Benin 2006 DHS Final report - from Page 303 onwards. This report is here:

<https://dhsprogram.com/what-we-do/survey/survey-display-289.cfm>

I'm particularly interested in the data in tables 19.3 and 19.4 - relating to distance and travel time to primary school. If I am not mistaken, the relevant questionnaire for this data is found on page 479 of the report (although I am confused by the fact that the table lists the number of females who responded - there is no data on this in the individual recode file, that I can see). So for example, I believe that question 112 01 on page 479 should relate to the top part of Table 19.3. However, when I access this data, it looks quite different. (I'm using the Stata version). If I summarise the variable Q112\_01, some 46% of answers are "95" which according to the questionnaire suggests that the closest primary school is 95km + away for almost half of the sample. This clearly differs from what appears in the table. This seems quite implausible to me. Indeed, if one considers "Q112\_02", it suggests that the average distance to a secondary school is much less than that to a primary school. Again, this seems implausible.

So I suppose my questions are: Am I missing something - e.g. is this the correct questionnaire section to correspond to that which is presented in section 19? If so, how can I reconcile these data with that presented in table 19.3, for example?

And also am I right in suspecting that these data are incorrectly labelled? The fact that for so many clusters, the nearest primary school is listed as > 95km away is quite strange. Especially given the size of Benin.

Thank you in advance for any assistance or advice you can provide.

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