
Subject: Re: Missing values on ANC visit
Posted by [kingx025](#) on Sun, 22 Apr 2018 05:32:37 GMT
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Missing values often reflect the fact that not all women in the survey were asked a particular question. For example, for a question about antenatal care, all women who did not give birth in the (usually) 5 years before the survey will not be asked about antenatal visits they made. Or, as the other person responding noted, the question may be confined to the most recent birth rather than all births in the preceding 5 years.

One way to check the reason for "missing" cases is to consult the "universe" tab for variables included in IPUMS-DHS. The IPUMS-DHS staff checks survey skip patterns and empirically checks numbers in the data to confirm just who was included in a question and who was left out (or in other words, was "not in the universe" for the question). There is such documentation written for all the thousands of variables included in IPUMS-DHS, available at idhsdata.org

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