Subject: Re: Missing values in NDHS 2003, 2008 and 2013
Posted by kingx025 on Sun, 22 Apr 2018 20:45:32 GMT
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Liz-DHS has already given a good explanation of why the number of cases with non-blank values is smaller for some variables. I'm just going to suggest an easy way for you to check and see who is appropriately included in the data for a given question: Check the "universe" tab for the description of that variable on the IPUMS-DHS website.

Here's the universe for the variable 761, used condom during last intercourse, for Nigerian women:
Nigeria 1999: Women age 10-49 who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months.
Nigeria 2003: Women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months.
Nigeria 2008: Women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months.
Nigeria 2013: Women age 15-49 who had sexual intercourse in the last 12 months.

Here's the universe for the variable on whether the woman respondent thinks using a condom reduces the risk of AIDS
Nigeria 2003: Women age 15-49 who heard of HIV/AIDS and reported knowing a way to reduce the risk of contracting it.
Nigeria 2008: Women age 15-49 who have heard of HIV/AIDS.
Nigeria 2013: Women age 15-49 who heard of HIV/AIDS.

Obviously all of these preconditions for these questions will reduce the number of cases with meaningful responses.

Here's how to check universes from the IPUMS-DHS website:

1. Go to idhsdata.org
2. Click on Select Data
3. Choose the unit of analysis (women in this case)
4. If desired, restrict the samples shown (say, to just Nigeria), using the Sample selection tool
5. Enter the name of the variable of interest using the Search tool
6. Click on the variable name and read the online documentation for the variable, including the "Universe" tab
7. If you don't find the variable using the survey search tool (as I didn't for the variable about beliefs about condoms preventing AIDS, because the name of that variable changes across DHS surveys),
then look for a variable with the relevant content using the drop-down menu of variables organized by topic

Along with learning more about variables of interest, you can create a dataset with the variables and samples you need, in the format you prefer, if you log in using your DHS user name and password.

Miriam King