
Subject: Re: Missing observations in Mali BR
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 11 Jan 2021 14:56:50 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Here are some examples of "Not Applicable" (NA or a dot in Stata). Age at death (b6 or b7) is NA if a child did not die (b5=1). The line number of the child in the household survey (b16) is NA if the child died (b5=0). The height and weight of a child in the KR file (hw2 and hw3) will be NA if the child was not in the household (not living with the mother) at the time of the survey (b16=0) or the child had died (b5=0). If a question about the child only applied to children born in the past five years, then variable will be NA for children in the BR file who were born more than 5 years ago (hw1>60). If the questions only applied to the youngest child born in the past five years, it will be NA in the KR file if bidx>1. Sometimes a set of questions will only be asked for a subsample of households, for example ½ or 1/3 of households. There are many such examples. Sometimes a variable only applies to the youngest surviving child who is living with the mother; otherwise it is NA. Most of these restrictions are indicated by the skips and filters in the questionnaire. Subsampling, when it occurs, is described in the first chapter of the main report.

I cannot say for sure about m19 without checking, but many of the m variables are restricted to the youngest child (bidx=1). You could check that, for example, with "tab m19 bidx, m".