
Subject: Unmet Need and No Demand Categories
Posted by [cgreenba](#) on Wed, 17 Feb 2021 19:23:00 GMT
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Dear DHS users,

I am using recent DHS surveys across various countries to look at the breakdown of family planning status among young women. I am looking to categorize women into the following categories: 1) no demand for family planning, 2) unmet need, and 3) met need for family planning. I would then like to further divide the no demand group further into 1) women who do not have demand for planning because they are not at risk of pregnancy and 2) women who do not have a demand for family planning because they would like to have another child within the next two years.

It seems like using the new definition of unmet need with the v626a variable, that you can categorize women into the following groups:

- 1) no demand: v626a=0 (never had sex), v626a=7 (no unmet need), v626a=8 (no married and no sex in last 30 days), v626a=9 (infecund, menopausal)
- 2) unmet need: v626a=1 (unmet need for spacing), v626a=2 (unmet need for limiting)
- 3) met need: v626a=3 (using for spacing), v626a=4 (using for limiting)

Would it then be accurate to say that the no demand group can be divided by categorizing women with v626=7 (no unmet need) as those who want another child soon, while the other women with v626a=0 (never had sex), v626a=8 (no married and no sex in last 30 days), or v626a=9 (infecund, menopausal) as those not at risk of pregnancy? Is there another way to get at this distinction? Any help or additional information would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Best regards,
Charlotte
