
Subject: Re: Missing BMI values in the DHS from 2011
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 04 May 2021 13:04:11 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

So-called "missing" cases are usually "Not Applicable" or "NA" cases. If a variable has a dot as a code (in Stata) it is NA, not missing. There should be other codes such as 9999 for refusals, for example. Sometimes extreme values are included and sometimes they are given a 9999 type of code. Sometimes extreme values are omitted during data processing, with arbitrary limits that are not specified anywhere, but this is rare. Such exclusions would usually be specified in the CSPro code. Imputations of biometric values are never made, so far as I know, although if there are multiple measurements, as with blood pressure, there are rules for coming up with a single value.

The analysis team at DHS cannot put further effort into this issue. We have sent you the relevant CSPro code. You have the standard recode files. We have nothing more to work with than you do. It is possible that there is an inconsistency or error in the CSPro program or in the data files. When we do our own reports, the analysis team sometimes (this is rare) has to accept that we cannot match an earlier value. We then proceed with our own value. You may have to do the same.