Subject: Re: ITNs: other and dk brands classification

Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Thu, 13 May 2021 11:01:31 GMT

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Following is another response from DHS Lead Malaria Research Analyst, Cameron Taylor:

Yes the reclassification/recoding of nets that were obtained as part of a mass distribution campaign as ITNs is a new change that occurred around 2018-ish. In total this isn't a large portion of the nets. Senegal 2018 might not have instituted this recoding change before it was released.

To answer your second question, the timing of when the household obtained the net doesn't dictate if it is a treated net or not. The 12 months you are citing is about retreatment of nets using chemical packets. Prior to 2018 the definition of an ITN was the following: An insecticide-treated net (ITN) is a factory-treated net that does not require any further treatment (LLIN) or a net that has been soaked with insecticide within the past 12 months.

As part of questionnaire changes in DHS8 we dropped questions on retreatment of mosquito nets because bednets that require annual retreatment and the products used for retreatment are no longer distributed, so the distinction between ITNs and LLINs is no longer meaningful. https://blog.dhsprogram.com/dhs-7-malaria-indicators/

Now we just base the definition of an ITN on a factory-treated net that does not require any further treatment. This is based on brand. You can see the brand of ITNs in the questionnaires at the back of the final report. We also include a footnote about the definition of an ITN in both the tables and in the figures in the final report.

You can read more information about the ITN indicator definitions on page 11 https://www.malariasurveys.org/documents/Household%20Survey% 20Indicators%20for%20Malaria%20Control\_FINAL.pdf