
Subject: SPA Missing Data - "Don't know" answers
Posted by [smatthews8](#) on Thu, 22 Jul 2021 17:34:11 GMT
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I am looking at several countries' data for certain equipment to determine their presence and functionality. In looking at this data, I see that there is an option for "Don't know", which in the SPA recode data, has been aggregated with the answer that the equipment is not functioning. Is there a particular reason that the response "Don't know" is considered as a "No" rather than a missing value? The following indicators are the ones I am looking at:

- (q831c_1, q831c_2) Glucometer/Glucometer test strips Part C: Is the item in working order or expired?
- (q2331b_01/q700b_01, q2331b_02/q700b_02, q2331b_03/q700b_03) Adult/child/infant weighing scale - Part B: Functioning
- (q2331b_06/q700b_06) Thermometer Part B: Functioning
- (q2331b_08/q700b_08, q2331b_09/q700b_09) Digital/Manual BP Apparatus Part B: Functioning
- (q453) Ambulance fuel availability

The "don't know" option in the SPA recode data is aggregated with the not functioning/not present options for these. Is the assumption here that if someone does not know if the item is functioning/present, then it should be treated as a not functioning/present item?
