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Subject: Re: NGHR7BFL

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 12 Oct 2022 13:37:44 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS staff member Tom Pullum:

Beginning with DHS-7, most surveys include hv270a in the PR file, v190a in the IR, KR, and BR files, and mv190a in the MR file. The "a" indicates that the wealth quintiles are residence-adjusted, i.e. calculated separately for urban and rural areas. A problem with the original, unadjusted wealth quintiles is that, in most surveys, there are very few households in the top quintile in rural areas and very few households in the bottom quintile in urban areas. If you use the unadjusted wealth quintiles in a model, much of the information is actually an urban/rural distinction. If you use the unadjusted wealth quintiles in a model, AND include urban/rural (hv025, etc.) then you have a better separation of wealth and residence, but the model may run into estimation issues because there are (typically) so few cases in the two combinations I mentioned.

Bottom line: if your model includes urban/rural, which it probably should, then you may want to use the adjusted wealth quintiles rather than the unadjusted. But there's no law saying you have to do that. It would be good to tell the reader which version you are using.