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Subject: Re: Calculating Food Insecurity for Bangladesh DHS 2011

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 20 Jun 2024 14:11:27 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

It appears that this survey preceded the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) that is now used. An earlier version of the FIES is described on pages 191 and 195 of the final report on the 2011 survey. The relevant variables are s1001 through s1005 in the IR file:

. describe s100\*

variable name	storage type	display format	value label	variable label
s1001	byte	%8.0g	s1001	three square meals in the past 12 months
s1002	byte	%8.0g	s1002	skip entire meals in the past 12 months
s1003	byte	%8.0g	s1003	eat less food in the past 12 months
s1004	byte	%8.0g	s1004	eat wheat or rice in the past 12 months
s1005	byte	%8.0g	s1005	ask food from relatives or neighbors in the past 12 months

These 5 variables have the following response categories:

- 1 mostly
- 2 sometimes
- 3 rarely (1-6 times this year)
- 4 never

If you recode them, say as "gen s1001r=4-s1001", and then add them, the total will range from 0 to 15. The construction of the categories shown in table 11.10.1 is described on page 195.

The current FIES uses 8 questions, rather than 5. I expect there is a strong correspondence between the current version and the earlier version but you would have to be careful analyzing trends. Hope this helps.