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Subject: Re: Age variables

Posted by [Sarah-DHS](#) on Mon, 15 Dec 2014 19:50:37 GMT

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Bill,

Here is a response from analysts Cameron Taylor and Rebecca Winter.

Thank you for your question, this can be a confusing subject. The disagreement in individual age reports between the various standard DHS recode files is due to the origin of the age information. Information in the PR file comes from the DHS household roster, which is provided by one member in the household, often the household head. Information in the IR and MR files, by contrast, comes from individual interviews. In the IR file, for example, v012 provides the respondent's report of her current age, while in the PR file, hv105 provides this same woman's age based on the report of the household member who provided information for the household roster. While the two reports generally agree, they do not always. If you are conducting an analysis using the IR file, it is best to use the age information provided in that file.

Please let us know if you need additional clarification.

Sarah-DHS

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