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Subject: Re: Lesotho - how to identify migrant-sending HHs?

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Mon, 18 May 2015 15:01:27 GMT

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In most cases you are unlikely to be able to identify sending households from DHS data. Most migrants who moved from a household are not listed at all in the household. Some who relocate temporarily or migrate for work, but return to their family are listed, but most who have moved away from an area are not listed.

In the DHS standard, only those who either usually live in the household (de jure) or who slept in the household last night (de facto) are listed in the household schedule. That is, anyone who is neither de facto nor de jure should not appear in the household listing. In Lesotho, though, there is a lot of migration for work both within Lesotho and into South Africa and other neighboring countries. In this case the decision was made to include people who are part of the family, but who do not usually live in the household nor slept in the household the previous night. In many cases this is the head of the household.

It is not that migrants were inaccurately recorded as not usual residents. The general rule is that if someone has moved away for 6 months or more they are not considered as usual residents. You can see a tabulation of this data in table 2.11 in the Lesotho report.

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