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Subject: Re: Urban / rural variable

Posted by [Matt-DHS](#) on Fri, 08 Jan 2016 14:43:04 GMT

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Since the SPA datasets do not contain urban/rural classification, the other data sources you may use to determine urban/rural classification will ultimately depend on the availability of information in any particular country from a suitable time period. Typically, a country's national statistical office or census office will have their own definition of urban/rural areas---this is what the DHS Program often uses when conducting the sampling for household-based surveys. These urban/rural area classifications may not be publicly available, or not available in a way that is conducive to doing a spatial join to the facility locations, but the national statistical office or census office may be a good place to start looking for data. Another option would be to use population density rasters to estimate urban/rural classification based on the density around the facility location. Two projects that produce these kinds of rasters are GRUMP (<http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/data/collection/grump-v1>) and WorldPop (<http://www.worldpop.org.uk/>).

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