
Subject: Re: Documentation for wealth index
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Thu, 21 Feb 2013 15:41:07 GMT
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Wealth Index analysis was introduced to DHS by the end of the 90's. When the decision to include the wealth index as part of DHS was made, standard variables were introduced to the recode definition for both the household and individual questionnaires (HV270 and HV271 for households; V190 and V191 for women; and MV190 and MV191 for men). For previous surveys a file containing the score and the quintile variables, was created. Essentially wealth index files were created for all DHS surveys except surveys carried out as part of the first DHS phase. This file can be linked to any of the files described in the previous section.

The wealth index divides the population into quintiles, that is 20 percent in each group, moving from lowest to highest quintile. The ranking is determined by things such as possession of household items and materials used to build the structure in which the household lives (it is not based on income - we do not ask income questions). More information on the wealth index(a description, how it is calculated) can be found on our website:

<http://www.measuredhs.com/topics/Wealth-Index.cfm>
