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Subject: South Africa 2016 Child Measurements  
Posted by [MrZ](#) on Thu, 15 Apr 2021 09:26:58 GMT

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For some reason, there are no child measurements (e.g., hw5) in more than 200 survey clusters in the 2016 DHS from South Africa (ZAKR71FL.DTA). Is there any specific reason for that? Are these clusters urban areas such as Cape Town and Johannesburg, where maybe no children have been measured? Any guidance is appreciated!

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Subject: Re: South Africa 2016 Child Measurements  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 16 Apr 2021 15:14:47 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Joanna Lowell:

In this survey, every other household within a cluster was selected for biomarkers. The household response rate was low in many clusters, especially in Cape Town. The government of South Africa required written consent statements to be completed for all biomarkers, including anthropometry (which was not standard). Response rates for anthropometry were extraordinarily low due a combination of refusals and children not being present at the time of interview. We had "valid" data for only 73% of children overall, and the percentage varied widely by team and location. Thus, while I am surprised by the number 200, given the response rates and the fact that not every household was selected or had eligible children, it does seem possible.

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