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Subject: Protected Water Source

Posted by [mona abdelhady](#) on Fri, 14 May 2021 15:40:13 GMT

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I am using DHS dataset in order to answer a research question.  
Coincidentally, I find that there are some contradiction in the definitions.

For example:

Source of water can be improved or nimirived source:

I find this one available online:

[https://dhsprogram.com/Data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/index.htm#t=Household\\_Drinking\\_Water.htm](https://dhsprogram.com/Data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/index.htm#t=Household_Drinking_Water.htm)

But then I also find in this pdf file available online

[https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG1/Guide\\_to\\_DHS\\_Statistics\\_DHS-7.pdf](https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG1/Guide_to_DHS_Statistics_DHS-7.pdf)

In this file, page 95 defines the water source as improved and unimproved differently.

Can you urgently let me know which source is the one I must use?

In case I should ask this question to other contacts, please send me the contact information.

Thanks

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Subject: Re: Protected Water Source

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 14 May 2021 17:06:15 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

You are probably looking at 61 (tanker truck) and 62 (cart with small tank), which changed in the classification. DHS follows the latest guidance from WHO. Sometimes, based on actual empirical testing of water samples, the guidance changes. The latest (2020) version of the Guide to DHS Statistics gives the current classification. See [Guide\\_to\\_DHS\\_Statistics\\_DHS-7\\_v2.pdf](#). Note that such changes unfortunately imply a need to update earlier estimates from older surveys.

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