

---

Subject: Reading Assessment -- Omit Skip Pattern  
Posted by [egs136](#) on Fri, 11 Apr 2014 14:32:51 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

The DHS reading assessment (v155) provides valuable data on adults' literacy skills. However, the data are limited by the exclusion of all secondary-educated adults. That is, the DHS automatically classifies all secondary-educated individuals as being able to read. The only country where this is not the case is Ghana. The Ghana data offer a glimpse into the problem with the current skip pattern: approximately 60% of secondary-educated women can fully read (v155==2) in Ghana. This means that the standard skip pattern would have misclassified 40% of Ghanaian women as being able to read when, in fact, they can't. Expanding the administration of the reading assessment to all individuals--regardless of educational attainment--is unlikely to require significant time or financial resources. These minor adjustments will, however, help to advance the literature on literacy and demographic and health processes in meaningful ways.

---