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Subject: regarding the religion variable -v130  
Posted by [JaneQuan](#) on Mon, 20 Jun 2022 03:51:53 GMT  
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To Whom It May Concern,

There are no observations in some countries for the religion variable v130, is it because only one religion dominating in this countries?

These countries are as follows in my data set, and I only downloaded the most recent data of them:

NI Niger

TZ Tanzania

ZA South Africa

MR Mauritania

AF Afghanistan

MM Myanmar

MV Maldives

PK Pakistan

Since religion is a very important variable in my research, your answer could help me to get more robust result.

Thank you.

Best Regards.

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Subject: Re: regarding the religion variable -v130  
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Tue, 21 Jun 2022 20:51:10 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Religion and ethnicity (v130 and v131) are standard variables but several surveys omit one of them or both of them. The decision whether to include them is totally up to the country. DHS does not make the decision. In some countries, there may not be an interest, or there is little variation, but it can also happen that there is political sensitivity about religious or ethnic identity. If you don't see these variables in the data files, then the data were not collected. We do not have them.

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