
Subject: missing data for children >36 months?

Posted by [arijitnandi](#) on Tue, 05 Jul 2022 19:24:45 GMT

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I am using the NFHS-5 birth record file, IABR7AFL.DTA. For Section 5 (Child Immunizations and Health), the questionnaire indicates that responses are collected for all births in 2016 or later. However, for many variables information is available (non-missing) only for births/children <36 months of age. In other words, it's missing for all births ≥ 36 months. This is the case for several variables I've looked at, including vitamin A (h34), iron supplements (h42), drug for parasites (h43), and health/immunization card (h1). In Stata, this is observed through a cross tab, such as "tab b19 `var' if b2 \geq 2016, miss". This does not seem to be the case in NFHS-4, where this information is available for all children born in 2011 or later, even if they were >36 months of age at interview. Can you kindly clarify if there was a change in the sampling frame for this section between NFHS waves 4 and 5?

Subject: Re: missing data for children >36 months?

Posted by fred.arnold@icf.com on Wed, 06 Jul 2022 15:09:57 GMT

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The age range for the section on Child Immunizations and Health in the woman's questionnaire is different in NFHS-5 and NFHS-4. The fieldwork for both NFHS-5 and NFHS-4 was conducted in two phases.

In NFHS-5, the first-phase fieldwork was conducted from June 12, 2019, to January 30, 2020. The second-phase fieldwork was conducted from January 2, 2020, to April 30, 2021. The calendar years covered changed by one year between phase 1 and phase 2. The Child Immunization and Health section in the first phase covered each birth in 2016 or later. In the section phase, each birth in 2017 or later was covered. However, the vaccination variables in the KR file include only children born in the three years before the date of interview for each woman even though in some cases the questions were asked for children who were slightly older than 35 months.

The NFHS-4 fieldwork was conducted from January 20, 2015, to December 4, 2016. The calendar years for the Child Immunization and Health sections changed by one year between phase 1 and phase 2. The first phase covered each birth in 2010 or later and the second phase covered each birth in 2011 or later. Note that the tables in the Child Immunization and Health section cover different age groups in NFHS-4 and NFHS-5 for both vaccinations and vitamin A supplementation, iron supplementation, and deworming medication.
