
Subject: Wealth Index variables
Posted by [agilmieva](#) on Mon, 03 Apr 2023 13:18:11 GMT
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Hello!

I am using data from all 5 waves to conduct analysis about efficiency of some family planning programs.

I am trying to find variable "Wealth Index" in NFHS-1 and NFHS-2 which is v190 in Women's datasets for NFHS-3 to NFHS-5.

I also checked Household data but could not find anything there as well. However, I have read some articles that use wealth index as a control for the first two rounds of survey.

I would be very grateful for Your help.

Subject: Re: Wealth Index variables
Posted by fred.arnold@icf.com on Mon, 03 Apr 2023 14:42:32 GMT
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At the time of NFHS-1 and NFHS-2, wealth indexes were not calculated for NFHS-1 and NFHS-2. The NFHS-1 household questionnaire included 20 durable goods items (listed in Table 2.14). At the bottom of Table 2.14, there is a standard of living index, showing a low, medium, and high standard of living, but this is not equivalent to the standard DHS wealth index or wealth quintiles. The national report for NFHS-1 describes in detail on Page 41 how the standard of living index was calculated. There is no corresponding standard of living index for NFHS-2. It is important to realize that the standard of living index is not a wealth index and it cannot be used across NFHS surveys when making comparisons. More recently, wealth indexes were calculated for NFHS-1 and NFHS-2. See the reply by Tom Pullum for information on the NFHS-1 and NFHS-2 wealth indexes.

Subject: Re: Wealth Index variables
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 03 Apr 2023 16:31:50 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

For these two surveys you should be able to find files IAWI22FL.dta and IAWI41FL.dta ("WI" for "wealth index"), which include hhid (the household id), wlthindf (the continuous wealth index, the same as v191, mv191, or hv271), and wlthindf5 (the wealth quintiles, the same as v190, mv190, or hv270). You need to merge the WI file with the other files (PR, IR, KR, MR). The wealth index is household-specific, so the merge does not need to specify the line numbers of individual household members.

For the PR merge, whhid is the same as hhid. You go through the usual steps of giving them the same name, sorting the WI file, saving the sorted file, and merging.

The IR and KR files include a string id called "caseid". You extract hhid from that with "gen hhid=substr(caseid,1,12)". You then do the merge, again just with hhid and whhid, not using line number. Similarly in the MR file if you want to attach the wealth index to that file.

You will find examples of merges on the forum, but let us know if this is not clear.