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Subject: Can't find variables

Posted by [mari.gh8083](#) on Thu, 13 Apr 2023 04:06:19 GMT

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Hi, I am using the 2019 determinants of child obesity and overweight among under five children in Sierra Leone data set. However, I am having trouble finding the following variables of interests in the data set: maternal age, wealth index, handwashing observed, and birth registration of children under 5. Does anyone have any insight into these dataset variables.

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### File Attachments

1) [DHS data list - rev.xlsx](#), downloaded 98 times

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Subject: Re: Can't find variables

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Mon, 17 Apr 2023 12:44:12 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

I'm not sure why you attached that Excel file, or what data file(s) you are using, or what statistical package. Are you trying to match a table in the final report in this survey? There is a lot of related information on the website, including the Guide to DHS Statistics and other posts on the forum. Perhaps other users can help.

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Subject: Re: Can't find variables

Posted by [CrawfordKlein](#) on Tue, 07 Nov 2023 04:17:09 GMT

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mari.gh8083 wrote on Thu, 13 April 2023 00:06: Hi, I am using the 2019 determinants of child obesity and overweight among under five children in Sierra Leone data set. However, I am having trouble finding the following variables of interests in the data set: maternal age, wealth index, handwashing observed, and birth registration of children under 5. Does anyone have any insight into these dataset variables. getting over it

The variables of interest that you are looking for can be found in different files of the MICS data set, depending on the level of analysis and the unit of observation. Here are some suggestions on how to locate and use these variables:

- Maternal age: This variable is available in the HH file, which contains information on all household members, including women aged 15-49 who have given birth in the last two years. The variable name is HW1, which is the age of the woman at the time of the interview. You can use this variable to calculate the age of the woman at the time of the child's birth by subtracting the child's age in months (variable HC1) from the woman's age in years (variable HW1) and multiplying by 12. Alternatively, you can use the variable WM1 in the WM file, which contains information on all women aged 15-49, regardless of their childbearing status. The variable WM1 is the age of the woman at the time of the interview. You can use this variable to calculate the age of the woman at the time of the first child's birth by subtracting the age at first birth (variable WM9)

from the current age (variable WM1).

- **Wealth index:** This variable is available in the HH file, which contains information on all household members. The variable name is HV270, which is a composite measure of a household's living standard. The wealth index is calculated using principal component analysis based on household assets, such as ownership of consumer goods, dwelling characteristics, and access to basic services. The wealth index is divided into five quintiles: poorest, poorer, middle, richer, and richest. You can use this variable to compare the socioeconomic status of households and to examine the relationship between wealth and child health outcomes.
- **Handwashing observed:** This variable is available in the HL file, which contains information on all household members and visitors who stayed in the household the night before the interview. The variable name is HL9, which is a binary variable that indicates whether a handwashing station was observed by the interviewer in the dwelling or compound. A handwashing station is defined as a specific place where water and soap or other cleansing agent are present and are used for washing hands. You can use this variable to measure the availability and accessibility of handwashing facilities and to assess the hygiene practices of households.
- **Birth registration of children under 5:** This variable is available in the CH file, which contains information on all children under 5 living in the household. The variable name is HC70, which is a binary variable that indicates whether the child's birth was registered with the civil authorities. Birth registration is the official recording of a child's birth by the government, which establishes the existence of the child under law and provides the foundation for safeguarding many of the child's civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. You can use this variable to evaluate the coverage and quality of civil registration systems and to monitor the legal identity and protection of children.

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Subject: Re: Can't find variables  
Posted by [carterodell](#) on Mon, 29 Jan 2024 02:37:00 GMT  
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Please specify the data file(s) or statistical package you are using; I am also unsure of the purpose of the Excel file you supplied. In the end report, is matching a table something you're aiming for in this survey? Many relevant resources, such as the Guide to DHS Statistics and forum discussions, are available on the website. Who knows, maybe some of the other users can contribute.

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Subject: Re: Can't find variables  
Posted by [annamivivan](#) on Tue, 30 Jan 2024 10:00:01 GMT  
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Refer to the codebook or documentation that accompanies the dataset. It typically provides a

detailed list of variables, their definitions, and codes. Check for any documentation files that may have been provided along with the dataset.  
geometry dash meltdown

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Subject: Re: Can't find variables

Posted by [tenhornet](#) on Tue, 23 Apr 2024 09:40:48 GMT

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mari.gh8083 wrote on Thu, 13 April 2023 00:06Hi, I am using the 2019 determinants of child obesity and overweight among under five children in Sierra Leone data set. However, I am having trouble finding the following variables of interests in the data set: maternal age, wealth index, handwashing observed, and birth registration of children under 5. Does anyone have any insight into these dataset variables.

- **Maternal age:** The HH file includes details on every person living in the home, including all women who have given birth within the past two years, regardless of their age (1549). The woman's age when the interview was conducted is the variable referred to as HW1. By dividing the child's age in months (HC1) by the woman's age in years (HW1) and then multiplying by 12, you may find the woman's age at the time of the child's birth using this variable. Another option is to access data on all women in the WM file who are between the ages of 15 and 49 and who are not pregnant or have children by using the variable WM1. There is a female interviewee whose age is represented by the variable WM1. By deducting the age at first birth (WM9) from the current age (WM1), you may determine the woman's age at the time of the first child's birth using this variable.
- **Wealth index:** All members of the household's information can be found in the HH file. A composite assessment of a household's living standard, the variable is named HV270. Household assets, including consumer goods ownership, housing characteristics, and access to essential services, are used in the wealth index calculation through principal component analysis space bar clicker  
There are five quintiles in the wealth index: lowest, middle, highest, and poorest. Using this variable, you may compare homes based on their socioeconomic position and look at how affluence affects the health of children.
- **Observed handwashing:** The HL file includes details on everyone who slept in the house the night prior to the interview, including visitors. This information can be accessed using this variable. A binary variable called HL9 shows whether the interviewer noticed a handwashing station in the residence or compound. Any designated area with running water, soap, or some kind of hand cleaner is considered a handwashing station. You can gauge people's cleanliness habits and the ease with which they can wash their hands by looking at this variable.