
Subject: Antenatal care utilization

Posted by [Amanda](#) on Fri, 15 Dec 2023 23:51:20 GMT

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hello

i would like to ask for assistance on how to find the variables in the DHS datasets on +4 antenatal visits, timing of first ANC visit and codes on multidimensional poverty, if they are available.

i am using the recent 2016 Malawi dataset that i have already obtained and i am analyzing the data in stata.

your assistance will be very helpful, thank you in advance.

Subject: Re: Antenatal care utilization

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Fri, 22 Dec 2023 14:17:46 GMT

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

A very useful command in Stata is "lookfor", which searches variable labels for key words. For example, if you open the IR file, MWIR7AFL.dta, which has one record per woman, and enter "lookfor visit" you will find that m14_1 through m14_6 give the number of antenatal visits. The subscripts _1 through _6 identify births, up to 6 of them, in the past 5 years. The most recent birth has subscript _1. It will be easier if you work with the KR file, which has one record per child, and think of the number of antenatal visits as a characteristic of the pregnancy or birth, rather than the woman. You will have to recode m14 into an indicator for 4+ (or 8+, which is another benchmark).

You can get a list of all the related variables with "describe m*_1". You will see that m13 is the variable for timing of the first antenatal visit. (If you use the IR file then you will have subscripts _1 through _6.)

The wealth quintiles are given by v190 in the IR and KR files. There is no pre-constructed variable or set of variables for multidimensional poverty. That would be a household-level variable. I suggest just using the wealth quintiles or the major components of the wealth quintiles. There is a great deal of information about the construction of the wealth quintiles on the forum, elsewhere on the DHS website, and in DHS methodological reports.

Subject: Re: Antenatal care utilization

Posted by [Amanda](#) on Mon, 29 Jan 2024 16:41:34 GMT

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thank you for your response, i had already done that. and it gives me the results that i have attached. unfortunately the dataset that you are referring me to use isnt the one that i was able to obtain from the DHS data. the one available is MWHR7IFL.DTA" and not MWIR7AFL.dta. and so

the variable m_14 is giving misleading information.

File Attachments

1) [Screenshot 2024-01-29 183526.png](#), downloaded 86 times

Subject: Re: Antenatal care utilization

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 31 Jan 2024 14:38:39 GMT

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

Filenames for Malawi with "7I" come from the 2017 MIS (Malaria Indicator Survey). Those with "7A" come from the 2015-16 DHS. The MIS's don't include as much information on RH and ANC as the DHS's. I just looked and there's almost nothing on those topics in the 2017 MIS. This was intentional, because the MIS was so close in time to the DHS.

Also this information is in the IR and KR files, not the HR file.

Your screenshot shows the distribution of hv017, which is not relevant...

I hope you can get access to the MWIR7AFL.dta and MWKR7AFL.dta files, because they have the variables I believe you are looking for. If you only have access to MWHR7IFL.dta, then you can look at anti-malaria interventions, not RH or ANC.
