Subject: Vaccination Coverage
Posted by Sancho on Sat, 23 Mar 2024 01:48:34 GMT
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Dear Assistant,

I am writing to seek guidance and clarification for a research project I am conducting on vaccination coverage in children in select countries of Sub-Saharan Africa. My name is Sancho Xavier, and I am a student and researcher in the field of Epidemiology.

The primary objective of my research is to determine the prevalence and determinants of complete vaccination coverage in children under 32 months, using a dichotomous variable indicating whether the child had complete vaccination coverage or not. I plan to conduct this analysis in selected countries of Sub-Saharan Africa.

I would like to request guidance on where I can find this variable of interest, along with other relevant explanatory variables for my analysis. Additionally, I would like to inquire whether it is appropriate to use the BR database for this purpose, or if there are other databases more suitable for my research.

Thank you in advance for your attention and assistance.

Best regards,

Sancho Xavier

Subject: Re: Vaccination Coverage
Posted by Janet-DHS on Thu, 28 Mar 2024 19:23:29 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

For your research on vaccination coverage in children under 32 months in Sub-Saharan Africa, you can find relevant data from the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS). The DHS collects data on vaccination coverage, among other health indicators, in many countries including those in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The variable of interest, indicating whether a child had complete vaccination coverage or not, can be found in the children's recode (KR) file of the DHS datasets. This file contains information for all children born in the five years preceding the survey. The variable is named v435 and it indicates whether a child is fully immunized or not.

In addition to the vaccination coverage variable, the KR file also contains other relevant explanatory variables for your analysis such as the child's age, sex, birth order, mother's education level, mother's age, place of residence (urban/rural), and wealth index, among others.

Regarding your question about the use of the BR database, it is important to note that the BR file

contains information for all births in the five years preceding the survey to women of reproductive age (15-49 years). If you are interested in all children under 32 months regardless of the mother's age, the KR file would be more appropriate for your analysis.

For questions regarding the DHS Program history or specific information about the surveys please go to dhsprogram.com. This chatbot is intended for answering UserForum questions.