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Subject: Regarding skip pattern in occupation questions (IR) file of DHS 5 India  
Posted by [Mayanka](#) on Fri, 14 Jun 2024 09:30:36 GMT

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The occupation details of females of reproductive ages is acquired through the following question in woman's questionnaire -

"As you know, some women take up jobs for which they are paid in cash or kind. Others sell things, have a small business or work on the family farm or in the family business. In the last seven days, have you done any of these things or any other work? "

As per the skip pattern in DHS 4 (2015-16) of India, the above question is asked to all females of reproductive ages. However, for DHS-5 (2019-21) India, this question is applicable only to currently married females. In the data however, this question has been answered also by those not currently married.

Further, no such details provided in DHS guide to statistics that ratifies the skip pattern in DHS 5 woman's questionnaire.

Kindly suggest regarding the skip pattern- is it deliberate or a printing mistake?

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Subject: Re: Regarding skip pattern in occupation questions (IR) file of DHS 5 India  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 14 Jun 2024 15:18:51 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Staff Member, Fred Arnold:

Here's how the questions were asked in NFHS-5:

Overall, Sections 8-11 of the woman's questionnaire (including the section on husband's background and woman's work) are skipped if the household was not selected for the state module (see Question 732 for the skip pattern). Questions 911 to 915 are the women's work questions, but there are several skip instructions. In Question 901, women who have never married or are married with gauna not performed skip directly to Question 911, which is the first question on women's work. Those who are currently married or ever married go through a series of questions that eventually lead to Question 906 (which is another skip question). In Question 906, women who are currently married go through a series of questions on the husband's work, and all of them eventually get to Question 911, which is the first question on women's work. Question 911 asks whether the woman' has done any work in the last seven days aside from their own housework. Those who checked OTHER in Question 906 go directly to Question 913 so they skip questions 911 and 912.

Women who respond YES to Question 911 or 912 skip directly to Question 915, which is the question about women's own occupation. Those who say NO to Question 911 and 912 are asked Question 913 (Although you did not work in the last seven days, do you have any job or business

from which you were absent for leave, illness, vacation, maternity leave or any other such reason? If YES, they go directly to Question 915 on their occupation. If NO, they are asked Question 914 on whether or not they have done any work in the last 12 months. If YES, they are asked about their occupation. If NO, they skip the occupation question.

In NFHS-4, the questions appear to be identical, although the question numbers are somewhat different.

I hope this helps.

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Subject: Re: Regarding skip pattern in occupation questions (IR) file of DHS 5 India  
Posted by [Mayanka](#) on Thu, 20 Jun 2024 07:35:51 GMT

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Hi Fred,

Thank you for the clarification. There are two questions that are asked to females (15-49) about their own work in NFHS 5- questions 911 and 912. the equivalent of these question sin NFHS 4 are 909 and 910. While the skip pattern in NFHS 5 skips both 911 and 912 for those who are not currently married in NFHS 5, the skip pattern in NFHS 4 applies only till 909 and 910 is asked to everyone.

That's why i wanted to confirm. Also because in NFHS 5 IR file, when we tabulate the question on work in seven days (v714), we have responses from those not currently married.

Looking forward to hear from you

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Subject: Re: Regarding skip pattern in occupation questions (IR) file of DHS 5 India  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 21 Jun 2024 11:11:41 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Staff Member, Fred Arnold:

As indicated in an earlier response, the NFHS-4 questions are identical to the NFHS-5 questions, although the question numbers are somewhat different. However, in NFHS-5, if the woman is not currently married in Question 906, she skips directly to Question 913 (which is the question on whether she has any job or business from which she was absent for leave, illness, vacation, maternity leave or any other such reason), although the question makes the assumption that she has not worked in the last 7 days. In NFHS-4, women who are not currently married in Question 906, go to Question 909 ("Aside from your own housework, have you done any work in the last 7 days"). If the answer to Question 909 is YES, she skips directly to her occupation in Question 913. Therefore, the skip patterns in NFHS-5 and NFHS-4 are different for women who are not currently married.