
Subject: Calculating Food Insecurity for Bangladesh DHS 2011

Posted by [laurenbroyles](#) on Wed, 19 Jun 2024 03:02:39 GMT

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Hi, I see that in the Bangladesh DHS 2011 reports, there is data for levels of food insecurity. I am having trouble knowing which variables to use and which files they're stored in. I was referring to this page: https://dhsprogram.com/data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/Organization_of_DHS_Data.htm, but I don't see any variables labeled with anything like (hf1-hfs8, hfs_mod, hfs_sev) in any of the recode files.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Subject: Re: Calculating Food Insecurity for Bangladesh DHS 2011

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 20 Jun 2024 14:11:27 GMT

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

It appears that this survey preceded the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) that is now used. An earlier version of the FIES is described on pages 191 and 195 of the final report on the 2011 survey. The relevant variables are s1001 through s1005 in the IR file:

```
. describe s100*
```

| variable name | storage type | display format | value label | variable label |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--|
| s1001 | byte | %8.0g | s1001 | three square meals in the past 12 months |
| s1002 | byte | %8.0g | s1002 | skip entire meals in the past 12 months |
| s1003 | byte | %8.0g | s1003 | eat less food in the past 12 months |
| s1004 | byte | %8.0g | s1004 | eat wheat or rice in the past 12 months |
| s1005 | byte | %8.0g | s1005 | ask food from relatives or neighbors in the past 12 months |

These 5 variables have the following response categories:

- 1 mostly
- 2 sometimes
- 3 rarely (1-6 times this year)
- 4 never

If you recode them, say as "gen s1001r=4-s1001", and then add them, the total will range from 0 to 15. The construction of the categories shown in table 11.10.1 is described on page 195.

The current FIES uses 8 questions, rather than 5. I expect there is a strong correspondence between the current version and the earlier version but you would have to be careful analyzing trends. Hope this helps.

Subject: Re: Calculating Food Insecurity for Bangladesh DHS 2011

Posted by [laurenbroyles](#) on Thu, 20 Jun 2024 14:18:11 GMT

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Thank you very much! I really appreciate it!
