
Subject: Mali Household Electricity Access and Child Health
Posted by [HPALSOTON](#) on Mon, 22 Jul 2024 20:59:25 GMT

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Hi there,

I am just wondering how to get data on under five mortality having downloaded the DHS 2018 survey for Mali (child recode downloaded). I know from the DHS website (https://www.dhsprogram.com/data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/Early_Childhood_Mortality.htm) that there is a way of calculating it but I am unsure of whether I need to do this calculation in order to use under five mortality as a variable in my research using SPSS software. Would anyone be able to give advice on whether I need to calculate under 5 mortality using the information on the DHS website or whether I could just use StatCompiler Data on under 5 mortality and somehow add a new variable to the Mali 2018 data set that I have downloaded on my computer using StatCompiler stats on Mali under 5 mortality for 2018?

If I do need to calculate the under five mortality using SPSS using variables already in the data set that I have downloaded, how do I go about this? (asking anyone with SPSS experience).

Or, if I should add in a variable using StatCompiler data on under 5 mortality from 2018, how should I go about doing this in SPSS?

For wider context, I plan to look at the correlation between household electricity access and under five mortality in Mali using binomial logistic regression in SPSS. If anyone has advice on how to prepare my variables such as household electricity access, under 5 mortality, and covariates (such as household access to improved sanitation, improved water, and maternal literacy, then please do let me know.

Subject: Re: Mali Household Electricity Access and Child Health
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 24 Jul 2024 12:28:21 GMT

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

Mortality rates are complex and are only defined for aggregates of children. For an individual-level measure, I suggest you just use the KR file and define a variable that is 1 if b7<12 and 0 otherwise. b7 is completed months of age IF the child died, and b7<12 identifies children who died before the first birthday. This is analogous to the Infant Mortality Rate but is not the same because the KR file includes children born in the last year who have not had full exposure to the risk of dying before the first birthday. You can analyze this binary outcome with logit regression. You can also use b5, which is 1 if the child died (at any age) before the survey. Statistically speaking, it is hard to get statistical significance with these outcomes because they are so skewed (relatively rare). Other indicators of child health may be more useful. Other users may have other suggestions.

Subject: Re: Mali Household Electricity Access and Child Health

Posted by [HPALSOTON](#) on Thu, 25 Jul 2024 19:07:32 GMT

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Hi there,

Thank you for that feedback. I will consider this in my research, ideally I would want to use under 5 mortality as a measure as I had based this off of another paper that seems to look at household factors such as electricity and their correlation with under 5 mortality.

Best wishes

H
