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Subject: Definition of country-specific variables

Posted by [cpfeifer](#) on Mon, 02 Mar 2015 12:20:59 GMT

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Hello

I am trying to extract the livestock data from different countries. Many countries do have a country specific variables, as for example HV246H in the Ethiopia household dataset.

Where can i find the information about what the country specific variables represent in general ?

Or at least for the livestock data( in the case of Ethiopia,are these camels?).

Thanks a lot

Catherine

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Wed, 04 Mar 2015 16:28:31 GMT

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Dear User,

Country specific variables are assigned when something in the survey's questionnaire is non-standard from our model questionnaire and cannot be recoded into one of our existing recode variables. Country specific variables will be coded starting with the letter "S" and usually will match question number used in the questionnaire. However, for Ethiopia DHS 2011, there is no country specific variable for QH122C in the household questionnaire. Camels is one of the categories here and is coded as follows in the recode application:

```
HV246G = NAToZero( QH122C ); { camels }
```

The variable you want to look at if you are looking for camels is HV246G.

Thank you for your post.

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables

Posted by [cpfeifer](#) on Fri, 06 Mar 2015 13:24:19 GMT

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Great thanks for your reply. It helps me to go a step further.

I found the general DHS questionnaire on the website, showing the variable HV246 indeed refers to question 122 in the questionnaire. However where can i find the country adjusted questionnaires?

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Sat, 07 Mar 2015 14:47:15 GMT

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Dear User,

The adjusted questionnaires are in the back of each final report, in an appendix. When you download the data, you will be able to find the country specific variables in the documentation distributed with the data as well as in the dictionary, frequencies and map distributed with the data. There will be a section in the documentation showing all the country specific questions. These country specific variables should start with the letter "S" and correspond to the actual question number of the questionnaire used in the field. For example, For Ethiopia DHS 2011: SH110J Bed with cotton/sponge/spring mattress refers to QH110 the 10th choice in that question. This is something that could not be recoded into any of our existing recode variables. For a complete list and to download any of our final reports please visit this link <http://dhsprogram.com/publications/Publication-Search.cfm>  
If you have additional questions, please feel free to post again.

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables

Posted by [cpfeifer](#) on Mon, 09 Mar 2015 11:42:41 GMT

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Great thanks for the info! Still wondering why we have missed that when looking at reports!

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables

Posted by [cpfeifer](#) on Tue, 07 Apr 2015 12:25:16 GMT

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Dear Liz

I have an additional question on the same topic

In the questionnaire question QH110 contain standard questions (electricity) but there are also country specific ones (like table, bed, mitad). Where can i find those in the data? are these found in HV232C,D,E? or do i find them under and other code!

Thanks  
Catherine

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Sat, 11 Apr 2015 03:34:30 GMT

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Dear User,

Below you will see how these variables were recoded in CSPro and what they are called:

```

{ country specific variables }
{ variables coming from the household }
if QH05(QLINE) = 1 then
  S110E = yesno( QH110E ); { mobile phone }
  S110H = yesno( QH110H ); { table }
  S110I = yesno( QH110I ); { chair }
  S110J = yesno( QH110J ); { bed with mattress }
  S110K = yesno( QH110K ); { electric mitad }
  S110L = yesno( QH110L ); { kerosene lamp }
else
  S110E = 7;
  S110H = 7;
  S110I = 7;
  S110J = 7;
  S110K = 7;
  S110L = 7;
endif;
S105 = NaToZero( Q105 );

```

Please post again if you still have questions. Thank you!

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables  
 Posted by [cpfeifer](#) on Thu, 30 Apr 2015 13:14:53 GMT  
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Dear Liz

thanks a lot! I still don't understand to which variable it refers to in the dataset that is downloadable from the website.  
 All household variable start with HVxxx

mobile phone refers to HV243A, but the others (table chair? in the Ethiopian survey) i cannot find them.

Same goes for the Kenya 2008 survey, where can i find the data that corresponds to Q121A and Q121B in the dataset!

Thanks a lot for your continuous support.  
 Catherine

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables  
 Posted by [user-rhs](#) on Thu, 30 Apr 2015 21:34:05 GMT  
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Country-specific variables are described in the .doc file that comes in with your individual recode

dataset zip file. For example, for the Indonesia 2012 data, the file IDIR62FL.DOC inside the IDIR62DT.ZIP file (for the Stata data) tells you country-specific variables as well as country-specific coding of these variables. In addition, the FRQ file also in the zip has frequencies of all the variables in the dataset.

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables  
Posted by [cpfeifer](#) on Mon, 04 May 2015 13:00:49 GMT  
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Finally got it! R does not allow to see all the variables probably because the dataset is too big, however i can call upon the variables !

Thank you very much!

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Subject: Re: Definition of country-specific variables  
Posted by [kingx025](#) on Sun, 22 Apr 2018 04:19:29 GMT  
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Many but not all country-specific variables from the countries included in IPUMS-DHS (28 countries as of this writing) have been incorporated in IPUMS-DHS. In the drop-down menus on the select data pages, look for a broad topical area and then see if the country-specific variables are included for samples of interest. For example:  
Many variables on agricultural possessions are country-specific, without standard names, but are given standard names and codes in IPUMS-DHS:  
[https://www.idhsdata.org/idhs-action/variables/group?id=hhol\\_d\\_ag](https://www.idhsdata.org/idhs-action/variables/group?id=hhol_d_ag)

Similarly, many but not all variables on other household possessions are non-standard but included in IPUMS-DHS:  
[https://www.idhsdata.org/idhs-action/variables/group?id=hhol\\_d\\_possess](https://www.idhsdata.org/idhs-action/variables/group?id=hhol_d_possess)

While IPUMS-DHS does not include all of the non-standard, country-specific variables, several thousand of them have been incorporated in the database, and checking the online documentation about variable availability for various topics can help you identify which samples include such country-specific variables, and to learn about these variables by clicking on the variable names.

Miriam King

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