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Subject: From questionnaire to the variable

Posted by [kinsukmanisinha@gmail.com](mailto:kinsukmanisinha@gmail.com) on Tue, 31 Mar 2015 23:04:26 GMT

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Hi,

I am new to using DHS dataset. Hence, may be my question is very naive.

So, I read the manuals, recode maps and downloaded the respective databases to study child health and the features of mother. However, I have a doubt:

How can I find out the precise question which translates into a specific variable ?

The recode map and the manuals helped me in understanding what a variable stands for and what is measured by it. But I would like to know which precise question was asked for a specific variable.

I would appreciate any help.

Many thanks..!!!

Regards

Kinsuk

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Subject: Re: From questionnaire to the variable

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Thu, 02 Apr 2015 02:57:14 GMT

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Dear User,

All the questionnaires used for a survey are contained in the back of the final report in an appendix. All our final reports are on our website <http://dhsprogram.com/publications/publication-search.cfm>. Most questions are standard questions from our core documentation or questionnaires, also on our website <http://dhsprogram.com/What-We-Do/Survey-Types/DHS-Questionnaires.cfm>. The standard recode manual guides users with our recoded data sets, which take the standard questions and recodes them into the recoded data sets. If a survey contains questions different from the standard, then these would be country-specific variables. Country specific variable start with the letter 'S' and follow the question number in their respective questionnaire. For example: if Q533 in the woman questionnaire is country specific, in the recode it would be S533. If it was in the household it would be SH533, if it was in the man's questionnaire it would be SM533. When you download your datasets, there should be a Word document which contains the specifics about your data and survey, including a list of the country specific variables and their labels. You can look at your questionnaires, the documentation, the data, the dictionary, the frequencies, etc. to help make sense of your data. You may also want to check our website for tips on using the data. Using Data for Analysis <http://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>. Hope this helps. If you have additional questions, please feel free to post again.

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