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Subject: using NFHS I from India

Posted by [lucianabrondi](#) on Thu, 17 Sep 2015 09:39:37 GMT

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Hi, everyone. I am using NFHS 3 and 2 from India to study trends in child morbidity and care seeking behaviours and I use the child recode datasets. I noticed that with NFHS-1 the questionnaire available is a DHS II recode. Is it feasible to compare the NFHS-2 and NFHS-3 datasets with the household or individual raw datasets from the NFHS-1....since I am using the child as the unit of analysis?Thanks.

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Subject: Re: using NFHS I from India

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Thu, 17 Sep 2015 13:40:09 GMT

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Dear Luciana,

Here is a response from Technical Specialist, Dr. Tom Pullum:

Quote:

The child files (Stata versions) for these three surveys are IAKR23FL.DTA, IAKR42 FL.DTA, and IAKR52 FL.DTA, respectively. You can definitely compare them, but there will be some differences in the variables and categories. You will need to check the categories and codes of the variables very carefully and you may need to do some recodes to make them as comparable as possible. This applies to successive surveys in any country.

Thank you!

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Subject: Re: using NFHS I from India

Posted by [kingx025](#) on Sat, 21 Apr 2018 23:43:38 GMT

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FYI, all of the 4 DHS surveys for India are included in IPUMS-DHS (available at [idhsdata.org](http://idhsdata.org)). IPUMS-DHS gives variables consistent names and codes, so a given response always has the same code in all samples with that variable. IPUMS-DHS also included variable-specific documentation, where you can see, at a mouse click, the question wording for each sample for a variable, the codes and frequencies, and the universe (who was included in the question) for every samples. If you are only interested in data from India, you can limit the display to the Indian samples only (using the "Select samples" option). While it is important to take into account possible changes over time in the Indian surveys, IPUMS-DHS has done much of the work of imposing consistency where possible and highlighting differences where consistency can't be imposed. You can create a customized dataset from IPUMS-DHS at no charge, if you log in with your usual DHS email and password.

Let me know if you have further questions.

Miriam King

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