Subject: Help regarding the variable
Posted by baerissa on Fri, 10 Feb 2017 15:22:57 GMT
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Hello everyone,

I'm using the DHS dataset from the 2014 survey in Kenya. I'm interested in the survival of children.
As I was looking through the dataset I'd downloaded, I noticed that some files contained variables that i couldn't find in the recode manual. Those data started with the letter S (for example, in the birth recode dataset i see the following: s101c s101d s101e s307a s611a s613b s613c s617a)

From the "Bed net usage in the 2014 DHS" subject, it seems to me that those variable beginning with "s" would be country specific.

My questions are the following:
- Is it correct that the they are country specific?
- Do you know where I can find a description of the variables ? I've looked through the website but I wasn't able to find anything

I also have a question regarding the variable hc61 (mother education). In the household recode file, I can see that there are several sub number to these variable (in my case 7). I was wondering if with this we meant that:
- the education of the mother in the household (for example "mothereduc_1 would be the education of the mother of the children in the household)
or
- the education of the person in the household (or is it mothereduc_1 the education level of the mother of the head of the household) ?

I'm sorry if my questions seem basic, I'm just starting out with DHS data.

Best regards,

Subject: Re: Help regarding the variable
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Sat, 11 Feb 2017 20:20:01 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Data Specialist, Tom Pullum:

Yes, variable names that start with s are country-specific. The best source of information about them is the questionnaire, which is in an appendix at the end of every main report. Sometimes the report includes a chapter analyzing the responses.

In the HR file, subscripts such as _1 identify children. For a variable such as hc61_*, the education of the mother, the value should be the same for all children of the same woman. The mother has to be in the household for this to be coded. It will be much easier to work with the PR file, which has the same information as the HR file but with a record for each individual in the

household.