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Subject: Missing Data in 2014 Survey- V215, unmet need  
Posted by [mweinberger](#) on Fri, 21 Apr 2017 19:26:55 GMT  
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I am doing analysis using the 2014 DHS for Kenya, and noticed that when doing calculations on unmet need there was a huge number of missing cases (53%) on variable V626A. I traced this back through the unmet need calculation, and it seems to be coming from missing cases in V215, time since last period, which feeds into the unmet need calculation later.

I have looked in a few other datasets (other countries) and they have no or few missing cases on the unmet need variable, so what is happening in Kenya seems to be different somehow.

Any insights into this would be appreciated. I am trying to do analysis of unmet need at the county level, and with so many missing cases it is creating issues with having large enough sample sizes.

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Subject: Re: Missing Data in 2014 Survey- V215, unmet need  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 25 Apr 2017 13:36:11 GMT  
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

On page 6 of the report (<https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR308/FR308.pdf>) you will find this: "The 2014 KDHS sample was divided into halves.

In one half, households were administered the full Household Questionnaire, the full Woman's Questionnaire, and the Man's Questionnaire. In the other half, households were administered the short Household Questionnaire and the short Woman's Questionnaire. Selection of these subsamples was done at the household level--within a cluster, one in every two households was selected for the full questionnaires, and the remaining households were selected for the short questionnaires."

Apparently v215 was only included for women in the half the households with the "short form" questionnaire. Unfortunately, that means unmet need can only be calculated in that half. Note that the "missing" cases are actually "not applicable", because the question was not asked.