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Subject: Women's status module

Posted by [ale\\_sovera](#) on Wed, 31 May 2017 15:09:07 GMT

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Good afternoon,

I've noticed from Recode Manual VI that there is a full section "Section WS1 (RECWS) Women's status" that has been cancelled so that in the recoded data file there are no one of the variables listed there. Does this mean that there is no way to get those information from DHS\_VI on for any country? If this is the case, why DHS does not provide this information anymore? They are pretty useful to evaluate, for example, women empowerment.

Thanks

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Subject: Re: Women's status module

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 31 May 2017 16:13:50 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Kerry MacQuarrie:

There are some very active discussions in the field around better developing the concepts of women's empowerment and related concepts of reproductive empowerment, economic empowerment, etc, what we get and don't get out of our current decision-making measures, and developing and testing validated measures of these concepts. [Women's Status is a term largely supplanted by agency and empowerment; DHS has somewhat kept up with these developments in the field but has hardly been at the forefront. The women's status module was retired as a separate module at the end of DHS 5 in favor of selected questions (the decision-making ones among them and new ones on earnings and control of economic resources) being in the core questionnaire.]

Please look at the DHS-7 model Women's questionnaire section 9 on Husband's Background and Women's Work. These have the items that should be present in any DHS 7 (and DHS 6) survey. However, as always, I'd advise to check the specific country questionnaires of any surveys you use. For background on changes to the questionnaire/recode manual, you may want to check out the user forum section on the questionnaire review (closed to comment but still viewable).

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Subject: Re: Women's status module

Posted by [ale\\_sovera](#) on Wed, 31 May 2017 17:24:42 GMT

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Thank you for your kind answer. I'll check those other sections.

But how about variables as parents level of education or dowry and brideprice? Are there other way to get those information as for the women empowerment ones?

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Subject: Re: Women's status module

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 31 May 2017 19:44:03 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Kerry MacQuarrie:

Most of those variables are not in the core questionnaire, but some may be included as country-specific questions. You need to go to the Final Report on the survey and look through the questionnaire for relevant country-specific questions.

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