
Subject: SMART Methodology

Posted by [Sara Estecha Querol](#) on Wed, 07 Feb 2018 08:46:09 GMT

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Dear Forum,

I was wondering whether the DHS datasets have used a Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART). I am interested in some anthropometric measures in order to carry analysis on children under age 5 malnutrition from developing countries. I would need datasets that have used the SMART Methodology, so age, sex, weight, height and mid-upper-arm circumference (MUAC) are key variables to my analysis. After careful examination of some datasets, I can't find the MUAC measure, so I am also wondering if any DHS datasets have collected this variable.

Thanks very much for your help.

Best wishes,

Sara Estecha Querol
European Commission
Food Security Unit

Subject: Re: SMART Methodology

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Thu, 07 Jun 2018 10:32:18 GMT

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Dear User,

Surveys which measured upper arm circumference:

Burundi DHS 2016-17

Colombia DHS 1995

Colombia DHS 2000

Colombia DHS 2005

Ghana DHS 1993

Ghana DHS 1998

Jordan DHS 1990

Lao DHS 2017 (MICS)

Myanmar DHS 2015-16

Papua New Guinea DHS 2017

Paraguay DHS 1990

South Africa DHS 1998

Namibia DHS 1992 (children)

Burkina Faso DHS 1993

Dominican Republic DHS 1991

Malawi DHS 1992

Niger DHS 1992

Peru DHS 1991-92

Philippines In-Depth 1993

Turkey DHS 1993

Thank you!

Subject: Re: SMART Methodology
Posted by [Jana_S](#) on Tue, 23 Jul 2019 14:02:07 GMT
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Hello,

I am planning to analyze anthropometric data including mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) in children. Using the search engine on the DHS website, 21 household surveys should include MUAC as a variable, but unfortunately most of these surveys only contain data for MUAC in women (usually variable "v436"), while data are frequently missing for children (usually variable "hw20").

Furthermore, some surveys use a variable that is not defined in the Recode Manual.

More specifically, the Burundi 2016-17 survey (DHS VII) has a variable called "SHB107A, brachial perimeter" which contains data that seem to match children's data. However, I couldn't find a clear definition in the recode manual or final report, and wonder whether it would be ok to assume them to be children's data or not.

Similarly, in the Lesotho 2014 survey (DHS VII), the final report states that MUAC was measured in children. However, I cannot find any plausible variable in the datasets (neither the household member recode nor the children's recode). There is a variable called "S102D, arm circumference" which is not defined in the recode manual, but this one seems to contain values that are rather from adults than from children.

If anyone has encountered similar problems: how did you deal with them? Is there any official document other than the recode manuals/maps and the final reports where I might find definitions for the variables?

I very much appreciate any help,
Jana
