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Subject: Height, Age and Weight for (male) Adolescents and Adults

Posted by [nibiti](#) on Mon, 16 Apr 2018 15:04:52 GMT

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Hi everyone,

I've tried to find answer in existing threads and on the DHS website but I can't seem to figure it out.

I want to analyze anthropometric data (height, weight & age) for all age-groups and both genders. But I can only find height and age information for children (<5 years) and women. Even though the official Recode Manual says that HB2 ("Respondent's weight (kilos-1d)") and HB3 ("Respondent's height (cms-1d)") of the Household Record should have this information for men, I cannot find this variable in any of the records.

I've seen in some papers (e.g. Akresh et al. "War and Stature: Growing Up during the Nigerian Civil War") that the height of adult men should theoretically exist somewhere. My analysis is for Sub-Saharan African countries.

Does anyone have an idea of where I can find this information? Any help would be much appreciated!

Many thanks in advance!

Best  
Timo

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Subject: Re: Height, Age and Weight for (male) Adolescents and Adults

Posted by [kingx025](#) on Sun, 22 Apr 2018 01:01:34 GMT

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Have you tried looking for the following variables in the PR file for household members: HB2 and HB3?

Not all surveys collected information on men; which samples are you interested in?

For the 117 samples included in IPUMS-DHS, you can see which samples included biometric (height and weight) data for men, from the following display page. An X means the variable is available in that sample; a dot means there is no such data for that sample. Here, I chose "Household members" as the unit of analysis and Male Anthropometry variables as the group in IPUMS-DHS (at [idhsdata.org](http://idhsdata.org)):

[https://www.idhsdata.org/idhs-action/variables/group?id=bio\\_\\_anthm](https://www.idhsdata.org/idhs-action/variables/group?id=bio__anthm)

Miriam King

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Subject: Re: Height, Age and Weight for (male) Adolescents and Adults  
Posted by [nibiti](#) on Fri, 27 Apr 2018 12:51:21 GMT  
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Dear Miriam,

many thanks for your answer! That was really helpful. I didn't know the IPUMS-DHS page yet. I have now found the data for men's height and weight. Unfortunately not many datasets include that information, but I can live with that.

However, one more question remains open:

There seems to be no height and weight information at all for individuals that are between 6 and 14 years old: It seems that no height and weight information is collected for this age group, because this age group is neither included in the KR (up to 5 years), nor the IR or MR (both >15 years) definitions. I have checked all three variables (hc3 for children's height, ha3 for woman's height and hb3 for man's height) but none includes datapoints for children/adolescents between 6 and 14 years.

Can you confirm this? Or does this data exist and I just haven't been able to find them?

Many thanks!

All the best

Timo

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Subject: Re: Height, Age and Weight for (male) Adolescents and Adults  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Fri, 27 Apr 2018 21:11:57 GMT  
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Dear User,

The following surveys have anthropometry for children 5-14 in age:

Colombia DHS 2005

Guatemala DHS 2014-15

The following survey has anthropometry for children 5-19 in age:

Egypt DHS 2014

Thank you!

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Subject: Re: Height, Age and Weight for (male) Adolescents and Adults  
Posted by [nibiti](#) on Sat, 28 Apr 2018 11:25:20 GMT  
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Dear Liz,

so that means that indeed no Sub-Saharan African country has these anthropometric information for ages 5-15?

Thanks and best  
Timo

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Subject: Re: Height, Age and Weight for (male) Adolescents and Adults  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Tue, 01 May 2018 17:26:58 GMT  
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That's correct.

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