Subject: Classification of mother's education in Central Asian countries
Posted by Kamola on Thu, 28 Jun 2018 07:16:42 GMT
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I have a question regarding classification of mother's education in the region of Central Asia.

To be exact, I'm using Kyrgyz Republic 2012 dataset, which has a variable (v106) of mother's education and the classification is as follows:
- No education (1)
- Primary (14)
- Secondary (2,426)
- Higher. (1,922)
()-number of observations

The dataset also has a country-specific variable (s105a) for mother's education with classification:
- No education (1)
- Primary level 1 grades 1-4 (14)
- Basic general (397)
- Secondary general (2,029)
- Professional primary (239)
- Professional middle (512)
- Higher (1,169
- Post-graduate (2)
() - number of observations

As far as I understood the variable v106 combines "basic general" and "secondary general" into "secondary", and combines "professional primary", "professional secondary", "higher" and "post graduate" into one "higher" category.

Coming from Central Asia I have to say that such classification is not exactly correct, since Professional Secondary or Specialized secondary education is not equivalent to Higher education. So, my question is why DHS variable v106 has classified education into such categories combining Specialized secondary and Higher education into one group?

Beforehand thank you.

Subject: Re: Classification of mother's education in Central Asian countries
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Thu, 28 Jun 2018 20:44:20 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Gulnara Semenov:

Thank you for your questions and your interest with The DHS Program and the 2012 Kyrgyz Republic DHS.

Standard recode V106 has the same categories across DHS surveys.

0-No education
1-Primary
2-Secondary
3-Higher

In the 2012 Kyrgyz DHS for educational categories we used the 1997 National educational system classification according to the UNESCO International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED or MCKO in Russian) that was provided to us by the implementing agency. This classification is available at http://uis.unesco.org/en/isced-mappings.

In this classification, Professional Primary and Professional Middle are classified as post-secondary levels. Professional Primary is higher than Secondary general level, but is considered as a non-tertiary level. Professional Middle, University degree (i.e. bachelor's degree) and Master's degree are all considered as First stage of tertiary education. Ph.D. is the Secondary stage of tertiary level. So according to this classification, in the standard recode file, any level of education attained/completed that is higher than Secondary (basically >grade 11) have been combined together under variable "higher".

The Standard Recode variable is there for purposes of comparing across countries, but you can choose to group them how you find it necessary for your research purpose. For example, In the 2012 Kyrgyz Republic DHS final report, educational categories are standardized according to the levels of education used in country classification and country specific needs, kindly see below. You can download the full report from our website at https://www.dhsprogram.com/publications/publication-FR283-DH S-Final-Reports.cfm.

Thank you for the opportunity to answer your questions and let me know if you have any further questions.

File Attachments

1) educ.png, downloaded 856 times

Subject: Re: Classification of mother's education in Central Asian countries
Posted by Kamola on Fri, 29 Jun 2018 04:01:32 GMT
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Thank you very much for such detailed reply.

I'll explore the UNESCO ISCED.