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Subject: Coding of grade attended in Nepal DHS data  
Posted by [huebler](#) on Thu, 02 Aug 2018 21:49:07 GMT

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In the 2006, 2011 and 2016 DHS data from Nepal, information on the current grade attended and the highest grade attended is coded in a peculiar way: grades 1 to 10 (primary and lower secondary education) are identified individually, but for higher grades (upper secondary and post-secondary education) the code 11 for "grade 11 and above" is used. In the 2001 DHS data, there are separate codes for grades 11 and 12, "Bachelor's not complete", and "Bachelor's complete/higher".

Because of the coding used in the 2006, 2011 and 2016 DHS data, it is impossible to calculate certain education indicators, including the upper secondary net attendance rate, out-of-school rate, and completion rate, as well as participation rates in tertiary education. This list includes indicators that are part of the official monitoring framework for SDG 4-Education 2030.

Is it possible to split the cases with the code 11 in a way that allows identification of the specific upper secondary or post-secondary level and grade attended or completed? I could not find this information in the DHS datasets.

Could you please also explain why the education variables for Nepal are coded like this since 2006? Presenting the information in this way reduces the utility of the Nepal DHS data as a source of information on participation in education, educational attainment, and disparities in education.

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Subject: Re: Coding of grade attended in Nepal DHS data  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Fri, 03 Aug 2018 13:30:52 GMT

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Dear User,

Quote:

It is correct that the level 'grade 11 and above' are coded as 11. As the data was collected this way, it is not possible to split the code 11.

Education as a background variable categorizes the levels as

- a) No Education;
- b) Primary (grades 1-5); Some secondary (grades 6-9);
- c) and SLC and above (grade 10+).

We do not disaggregate the education level at post-secondary education. Nepal has 9% of women and 13% of men with more than secondary education. The NDHS included net attendance rate for primary and secondary education. Analysis at the tertiary level was not included. However, this could be discussed for future surveys.

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Subject: Re: Coding of grade attended in Nepal DHS data

Posted by [huebler](#) on Fri, 03 Aug 2018 16:35:16 GMT

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Thank you for this explanation. Could you please consider modifying the questionnaire to collect more detailed information on higher levels and grades attended? UNESCO and other organizations are promoting DHS and other household surveys as a source of information for monitoring of the SDGs. Unfortunately, Nepal DHS data on education are currently coded in a way that prevents calculation of certain SDG 4 indicators because it is not possible to distinguish persons with upper secondary and tertiary education.

Tables 2.15.1 and 2.15.2 of the 2016 DHS report show that 9% of the female population and 13% of the male population aged 6 or more years have more than secondary education. The tables are erroneous because they combine persons with secondary education (grades 11 and 12) and post-secondary education in a group called "more than secondary". Grades 11 and 12 are called "higher secondary education" in Nepal. In the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), grades 11 and 12 in Nepal are considered "upper secondary education". This is documented in the ISCED mapping for Nepal, available on the website of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics (<http://uis.unesco.org/en/isced-mappings>).

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