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Subject: Unmet Need

Posted by [waltine](#) on Tue, 19 Mar 2013 06:12:25 GMT

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Hello all,

how can unmet need be calculated using the DHS.

Cheers.

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Subject: Re: Unmet Need

Posted by [maqsood2153](#) on Tue, 19 Mar 2013 11:31:03 GMT

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DHS female file has two variables

v624 -- unmet need

v626 -- unmet need (definition 2)

These two variable may be used to compute unmet need

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Subject: Re: Unmet Need

Posted by [Kerry](#) on Tue, 19 Mar 2013 14:12:30 GMT

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Actually, the definition and accompanying algorithm for calculating unmet need has changed recently. Please see this post in the Reproductive Health forum, which explains a bit more: [http://userforum.measuredhs.com/index.php?t=msg&goto=18&#amp;#msg\\_18](http://userforum.measuredhs.com/index.php?t=msg&goto=18&#amp;#msg_18)

The revisions were made to simplify the calculation of unmet need, and make the unmet need indicators more comparable across countries and survey years.

The NEW unmet need variable that corresponds with this revised definition is v626a (definition 3), not v626, and can be found in the more recent DHS datasets (it still may need to be calculated in some older datasets). v626 refers to the older definition of unmet need. The new definition of unmet need is also used to produce that indicator in Statcompiler for all surveys.

Hope this helps!

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Subject: Re: Unmet Need

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Tue, 19 Mar 2013 21:42:34 GMT

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The web page <http://www.measuredhs.com/topics/Unmet-Need.cfm> also includes links to code in

SPSS and Stata for calculating the new revised definition of unmet need (v626a) for older surveys. There are two sets of code - one for the general definition of unmet need, and one that contains the survey-specific logic needed to handle survey-specific differences for older surveys.

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