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Subject: Missing cases in Severe Burn question- NFHS India

Posted by [RSDHS](#) on Tue, 01 Apr 2014 04:07:03 GMT

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Hello, I am trying to understand the "Ever had severe burns" measure in the NFHS India database. There are two sets of missing data, one system missing and another coded as 9. Can someone please let me know how I can look up this info to understand who these 'missings' are, or explain who are included in these missing cases? Thank you.

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Subject: Re: Missing cases in Severe Burn question- NFHS India

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 01 Apr 2014 16:06:45 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior Data Processing Specialist, Ladys Ortiz.

System missing means "not applicable" - these are cases where the respondent was not asked the question because of a skip or a filter.

Code 9 (missing) are valid cases, but the information was omitted due to interviewer's mistake.

There are many questions throughout the data set that will have system missing and/or missing. If you want to know who these "sysmis/ missings" are, you should refer to the questionnaires. As a matter of fact, my recommendation to any data user is to have the questionnaires handy when analyzing any survey. The question Q1008B "Result of what husband did: ever had severe burns?" is asked to women who had said they experienced domestic violence in question Q1005A-I (at least one "yes").

Following is the answer to your question on the variable (Ever had severe burns):

- a) System missings are women who did not answer "yes" to the series of questions: Q1005A - I.
- b) Missings ("9") are women who answered at least one "yes" to the series of questions: Q1005A-I, but somehow, the information about "ever had severe burn" was omitted due to interviewer error.

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Subject: Re: Missing cases in Severe Burn question- NFHS India

Posted by [RSDHS](#) on Mon, 07 Apr 2014 16:20:32 GMT

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Thanks!

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Subject: Updated question-Re: Missing cases in Severe Burn question- NFHS India

Posted by [RSDHS](#) on Wed, 16 Jul 2014 18:04:16 GMT

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Hi, I have been trying to determine who the system missing cases are for various violence related questions in the NFHS. It was recommended that I consult the questionnaire, which I have, however I would like to confirm that I am correctly following the path of questions (skip/filter etc). Is there another way to determine which cases comprise system missing? Is this documented somewhere? I would like to know who the system missings are for the following questions:

1005A- Did your husband ever do any of the following to you....?

1025-Did your father ever beat your mother?

1014- From the time you were 15, has anyone ever hit, slapped, kicked....?

Your help would be much appreciated. Thank you.

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Subject: Re: Updated question-Re: Missing cases in Severe Burn question- NFHS India

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Wed, 16 Jul 2014 20:06:52 GMT

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Dear User,

It might help if you looked at the frequencies. All the domestic violence variable start with the letter D. the frequencies for each variable will show you the number of missings (if they apply) and the NotAppl (if they apply). for example Q1025 is recode variable D121 Did her father ever beat her mother. If you have additional questions, please feel free to post again. It is also useful to reference the Guide to DHS Statistics

[http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG1/Guide\\_to\\_DHS\\_Statistics\\_29Oct2012\\_DHSG1.pdf](http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG1/Guide_to_DHS_Statistics_29Oct2012_DHSG1.pdf), The Standard Recode Manual [http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6\\_DHS\\_22March2013\\_DHSG4.pdf](http://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6_DHS_22March2013_DHSG4.pdf) and the section Using Data for Analysis on our website

<http://dhsprogram.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>.

Thank you!

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Subject: Re: Updated question-Re: Missing cases in Severe Burn question- NFHS India

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 17 Jul 2014 15:51:41 GMT

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In general there are two types of missing. The ones caused by a skip or filter in the question; in which case the respondent was not asked the question at all. And the other type of Missing (coded 9, 99, 999....), where the information was omitted due to an interviewer's mistake.

The best way to determine the type of missing information is to check the questionnaire, and observe the skip pattern if any. This will allow you to identify which ones are the result of a skip, and which ones are the result of omitted information. This general rule applies to all questions.

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