PUERTO RICAN ELDERLY: HEALTH CONDITIONS
CONDICIONES DE SALUD DE LOS ADULTOS DE EDAD MAYOR EN
PUERTO RICO

Errors and Limitations identified in Data

PREHCO 2

December 2009

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There are some errors or known limitations in the database that the users should consider:

1. In Section G, where personal information from household members is collected (positions 1 to 20) some variables were skipped for those household members already in the first interview. Those members are located in positions 1 to 10, being the target the number one. Missing questions for those members were those about the ability to read and write (WC8R## and WC9R## respectively), educational level (WESC_R##) and age (WEDA_R##). The last one stores the calculated age at the time of the second interview, considering the date of the first one. Because a programming error the age considered to skip the question about education was that of the first interview. As consequence those being three years old or younger were not asked about their educational level. Although for some cases the information was obtained by phone, for others is unknown. In the database these cases are properly identified with the value -3.

2. In Section G on Health there is a series of gender related questions (WG132 to WG142 for female respondents about, breast self-exam, hysterectomy and hormones consumption, and WG143 to WG147 for male respondents). Because a programming error, some respondents did not answer the appropriate questions for their gender. In many cases the information was gathered by the interviewer using a copy of the questionnaire, recorded on paper and corrected in the electronic version of the interview. Those cases with missing information are properly identified in the database with the value -3.

3. In Section K the respondent is asked about health insurance. The beginning of the fieldwork in 2006 matched the release of the new Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage) in Puerto Rico. That fact caused some confusion about how to code the type of health insurance, specially Medicare, of the respondent at the time of the interview. Because of that the interviewers were instructed to gather detailed information for question WK1INS (variables WK1INS_1, WK1INS_2, WK1INS_3 and WK1INS_4). Afterwards that information was reviewed and the data coded accordingly. This situation applies to both target and spouse interviews.

4. In Section L, where data about the children is collected (positions 21 to 53) two different errors were identified. The first one is a programming error and is related with age and the skip patterns in the questions about education (WESC_R##), marital status (WMAR_R##) and number of children (WL9R##). This error affected only to children already listed in the first interview (positions 21 to 40). The second one was interviewer related and occurred while identifying if the child lived with the target. After gathering the child's data the interviewer confirmed if that child was a household member, that way a link was established with the household roster data and unnecessary duplication of data was avoided. If by error the child was identified as being a household member some information was lost: age (WEDA_R##), place of residence (WDON_R##), educational level (WESC_R##) and marital status (WMAR_R##). We call this an entity duplication error in the rosters. For many cases the information was obtained by phone, for others is

unknown. In the database, these cases are properly identified with the value -3.

5. In Section L, where data about the siblings is collected (positions 61 to 66) three different errors were identified. One of them was the same error described for the children in point 4. Because of this error the interviewer wrongly identified a sibling as a household member and those questions common to both rosters were not asked. This problem caused the lost of data about place of residence (WDON_R##), marital status (WMAR_R##) and educational level (WESC_R##). The other two errors affected the skip patterns for the total number of siblings (WL20A) and the reason why the target did not maintain a relationship with his/her siblings as closest as in the first interview (WL20CR61, WL20CR62, WL20CR63). For many cases the information was obtained by phone, for others is unknown. In the database, these cases are properly identified with the value -3.

6. In Section I on Functional Status the target's interviews in slightly different from that of the spouse since the spouse's has not rosters. As a consequence the spouse cannot identify the exact person he/she gives help to or receives help from, but if he/she receives/gives any help. Because an initial programming error some of the spouses did not answer the questions about the frequency of the help received (YWI1AB, YWI2AB, YWI3AB, YWI4AB, YWI5AB, YWI6AB, YWI7AB, YWI9AB, YWI10AB, YWI11AB, YWI12AB, YWI13AB y YWI14AB). In the database, these cases are properly identified with the value -3.

7. In Section M on Transfers an interviewer related error was identified. Questions WM10M2 and WM10O2 ask about the son/daughter being helped by the target taking care of the grandsons/granddaughters. In some cases the questions was confuse and the target identified the grandson/granddaughter instead of the son/daughter. The interviewer used the grandson/granddaughter code while the son/daughter was the right one. Cases where this error cannot be corrected were properly identified in the database with the value -3.

8. In Section U about Anthropometric Measurements was a programming error in question WU5C. As a result of that error 18 cases have missing information in variable WU5D. Those cases were participants in wheelchairs at the moment of the interview and skipped directly to question WU5 (knee height). The same applies to 7 spouse cases in question YWU5D. In the database, these cases are properly identified with the value -3.