

GP Use

Age Cohorts	Younger,
Surveys	Surveys 2,3
Derived Variables:	Gpuse
Definition	General Practitioner Use
Statistical Form	Categorical variable
Index Number:	HSRV-133, HSRV-134
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Endorsed	

Background

This variable is an ALSWH variable.

GP USE

The ALSWH produces a derived variable GP Use, denoted as gpuse in the data. It has information on the number of times a family doctor or GP has been consulted in the last 12 months. This derived variable is a WHA construct. At present it has been produced for all the 1973-78 cohort (young) surveys for the 2nd and 3rd survey. This variable is categorical with values from 0 to 6 or 8.

Source items

	Survey	question	
			How many times have you consulted a family doctor or another general practitioner (GP) for your own health in the last 12 months for:
HSRV-065	2	Q1a	Pap tests, contraception, routine pregnancy checks (9 options)
HSRV-066	2	Q1b	All other reasons (9 options)
HSRV-107	3	q1a	Pap tests, contraception, routine pregnancy checks (7 options)
HSRV-108	3	q1b	All other reasons (7 options)
SIMILAR ITEMS			
HSRV-135	4, 5	Y4q1a, y5q1a	How many times have you consulted the following people for your own health in the last 12 months? A family doctor or another general practitioner (GP) (7 options)

GP Use Coding

Survey 2

Code	Response
0	None
1	Once
2	Twice
3	3 times
4	4 times

5	5-6 times
6	7-9 times
7	10-12 times
8	More than 12 times

Survey 3, 4, 5, etc

Code	Response
0	None
1	Once - Twice
2	3-4 times
3	5-6 times
4	7-9 times
5	10-12 times
6	More than 12 times

Note that the survey 2 and survey 3 GPuse variables have different coding. Also, that survey 4 and 5 have different derivation (see below.)

Derivation

For surveys 2 and 3 the derivation is as follows.

If either of the source items is missing then gpuse equals the value of the other, non-missing, source item.

Also, if either of the source items is equal to zero, then gpuse equals the value of the other, non-zero, source item.

If both source items are not missing nor zero then gpuse equals the result of these expressions:

Survey 2 $gpuse = \text{round}(1.84 + (0.24*gpuse1) + (0.569*gpuse2))$
If gpuse is greater than 8 then it equals 8.

Survey 3 $gpuse = \text{round}(1.189 + (0.23*gpuse1) + (0.58*gpuse2))$
If gpuse is greater than 6 then it equals 6.

The formulae used in Surveys 2 and 3 are from a regression performed using the ALSWH source items to predict GP use from an external source (HIC data).

SAS Code

Survey 2

```
/******  
**  
**  gpuse1 = y2q1a  **  
**  gpuse2 = y2q1b  **  
**  
*****/  
  
/***  temporary variables are set in main SAS code  ***/  
  
if (gpuse1=. and gpuse2=.) then y2gpuse=. ;  
  else if gpuse1 = . then y2gpuse=gpuse2 ;  
  else if gpuse2 = . then y2gpuse=gpuse1 ;  
  
  else if gpuse1 = 0 or gpuse2 = 0 then y2gpuse = gpuse1 + gpuse2 ;  
  
  else y2gpuse = round( 1.84 + (0.24*gpuse1) + (0.569*gpuse2)) ;  
  
if y2gpuse > 8 then y2gpuse = 8 ;
```

Survey 3

```
/******  
**  
**  gpuse1 = y3q1a  **  
**  gpuse2 = y3q1b  **  
**  
*****/  
  
if (gpuse1=. and gpuse2=.) then y3gpuse=. ;  
  else if gpuse1 = . then y3gpuse=gpuse2 ;  
  else if gpuse2 = . then y3gpuse=gpuse1 ;  
  
  else if gpuse1 = 0 or gpuse2 = 0 then y3gpuse = gpuse1 + gpuse2 ;  
  
else y3gpuse = round(1.189 + (0.23*gpuse1) + (0.58*gpuse2)) ;  
  
if y3gpuse > 6 then y3gpuse = 6;
```