# Understanding Society User Support - Support #2232

## Respondents own property before they were born

04/02/2025 11:54 AM - SHUQI LYU

| Status: | Feedback | Start date: | 04/02/2025 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Priority: | Normal | % Done: | 50% |
| Assignee: | Understanding Society  User Support Team | | |
| Category: | Data documentation | | |

**Description**

Hello. I have a question about variable hsyrbuy in wave 14 of the UKHLS. Some homeowners own the house before they were born, I want to learn about the possible reasons. Was it caused by respondents giving wrong answer to variable hsyrbuy?

Stata code to see the problem:

```
use "n_hhresp.dta",clear
gen owner=. /*identify homeowner's pno*/
forvalues i = 0/16 {
replace owner = `i' if n_hsowr1`i'==1
}
replace owner=. if owner==0 /*homeowner is not hh member*/
gen n_pno=owner
keep owner n_hidp n_pno n_hrpno n_hsownd n_addrchck n_ff_hsownd n_hsyrbuy n_intdatey

merge 1:m n_hidp n_pno using "xwaveid.dta", keepusing(pidp birthy)
drop if _merge==2
drop _merge

drop if n_hsyrbuy<0
drop if birthy<0
gen diff=n_hsyrbuy-birthy
order n_hidp n_pno pidp birthy n_hsyrbuy diff
```

The graph shows the respondents whose year of birth are before year own the property:
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Thanks.

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**History**

**#1 - 04/04/2025 11:10 AM - Understanding Society  User Support Team**

*- Category set to Data documentation*

*- Status changed from New to Feedback*

*- % Done changed from 0 to 50*

*- Private changed from Yes to No*

Hello Shuqi,

In the specific cases you mentioned, I've identified the following:
• hidp = 430746026 has two owners: n_hsowr11  1 and n_hsowr12  1.
• hidp = 1160114026 has two owners: n_hsowr10  1 and n_hsowr12  1.
• hidp = 1520568426 has two owners: n_hsowr11  1 and n_hsowr12  1.

However, your syntax only captures one owner:
• n_hidp = 430746026 has n_pno = 2 and owner = 2.
• n_hidp = 1160114026 has n_pno = 2 and owner = 2.
• n_hidp = 1520568426 has n_pno = 2 and owner = 2.

In the case of 1160114026, one of the owners is not a household member, so we don't have their birth year. For 1520568426, the owner (n_hsowr11 == 1) was born in 1946, before hsyrbuy.

Regarding n_hidp = 1092046026, it has n_pno = 3 and owner = 3, indicating shared ownership (hsownd = 3). There are four other household members, two of whom were born in 1961 (pidp = 1100641290) and 1970 (pidp = 1100641250). Based on the ownership scheme, it's likely that one

of them is the second owner.

As for n_hidp = 430746026, we don't have additional information to contrast because this is a new respondent from the 2022–2023 general population boost (fre n_hhorig if n_hidp == 430746026). Based on the available data, I would say this is likely an error.

I hope this information is helpful.

Best wishes,
Roberto Cavazos
Understanding Society User Support Team

**Files**

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| clipboard-202504021153-hkshu.png | 58.3 KB | 04/02/2025 | SHUQI LYU |