

## Understanding Society User Support - Support #390

### how to deal with inapplicable values

07/20/2015 03:42 PM - Jun Liu

<b>Status:</b>	Closed	<b>Start date:</b>	07/20/2015
<b>Priority:</b>	Immediate	<b>% Done:</b>	100%
<b>Assignee:</b>	Gundi Knies		
<b>Category:</b>	Data documentation		
<b>Description</b> Dear support team a lot of the variables in the Understanding Society dataset has a high percentage of inapplicable values. For example, the highest qualification variable, w_qfhigh, has around 85-90% of inapplicable values. How should I deal with the inapplicable values? Is inapplicable values the same as missing values? why is a variable like the highest qualification has so many inapplicable values? I would assume most of the people in the sample has some kind of education. Any other inputs on the questions will be much appreciated.  Thank you  Jun			

#### History

##### #1 - 07/22/2015 06:28 PM - Gundi Knies

- Category set to Data documentation
- Assignee set to Gundi Knies
- % Done changed from 0 to 90

Dear Jun,  
we differentiate between a number of different sources of missingness. The full listing is reported in Table 19 of the Understanding Society User Guide (2014).

You will see in the questionnaire routing that \_qfhigh is only asked when a respondent first enters the study, hence the large number of [-8 missing] from Wave 2 onward. Differences between \_qfhigh and \_qfhigh\_dv are explained in the variable level descriptions of the respective variables. \_qfhigh\_dv is a derived variable and the variable level description includes references to which variables are used in its construction. See, for example:

[https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/dataset-documentation/wave/2/datafile/b\\_indresp/variable/b\\_qfhigh\\_dv](https://www.understandingsociety.ac.uk/documentation/mainstage/dataset-documentation/wave/2/datafile/b_indresp/variable/b_qfhigh_dv)

Hope this helps,  
Gundi

##### #2 - 07/29/2015 10:45 AM - Gundi Knies

- Status changed from New to Resolved
- % Done changed from 90 to 100
- Private changed from No to Yes

##### #3 - 07/29/2015 10:47 AM - Gundi Knies

- Private changed from Yes to No

##### #4 - 08/06/2015 02:38 PM - Gundi Knies

- Status changed from Resolved to Closed

##### #5 - 11/10/2015 10:47 AM - Gundi Knies

- Target version set to X M