

WATER, SANITATION AND HAND WASHING MODULE

Rationale

Experience and Evidence

Experience

Evidence

As can be seen in the following table, most of the questions that are proposed here for the short and the long module on Water, Sanitation and Hand Washing have been used for many years by international survey programs —the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), the Joint Monitoring Program for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), the Study on Global Ageing and Adult Health (SAGE), and the World Health Survey (WHS). Most of the questions suggested in this document for the module come from the set developed by the JMP in collaboration with experts from DHS, MICS and WHS “...to solve the comparability problems that previously existed across the different surveys.”¹ A summary table with the JMP questions and other questions used in different programs is presented below.

WATER, SANITATION AND HAND WASHING QUESTIONS IN HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

QUESTION	JMP	SAGE	WHS	MICS	DHS
What is the main source of drinking water for members of your household?	X	X	X	X	X
IF "BOTTLED WATER" OR "PURIFIED WATER" ARE THE SOURCE: What is the main source of water used by your household for other purposes such as cooking and handwashing?	X	X		X	
Where is that water source located?				X	X
How long does it take to go there, get water, and come back?	X	X	X	X	X
Who usually goes to this source to fetch the water for your household?	X	X		X	
Have you had more than 2 days of discontinuity of water services in the last 2 weeks?			NEW		
Are there at least 20 liters of water per person (about one bucket) available per day (for drinking, cooking, personal hygiene, etc) in the household?			X		
Do you treat the water in any way to make it safer to drink?	X				
What do you usually do to the water to make it safer to drink?	X			X	X
Can you please show me where members of your household most often wash their hands?				X	X
PRESENCE OF WATER FOR HAND WASHING IS OBSERVED				X	X
PRESENCE OF SOAP, DETERGENT OR OTHER CLEANSING AGENTS IS OBSERVED				X	X
What kind of toilet facility do members of your household usually use?	X	X	X	X	X
How far is the facility from your dwelling/house?			X		
Do you share this toilet facility with other households?	X	X		X	X
How many households use this toilet facility?	X			X	X
The last time the youngest child under three in the household passed stools, what was done to dispose of the stools?	X				

¹WHO and UNICEF. 2006. *Core questions on drinking-water and sanitation for household surveys*.

Indicators on Water, Sanitation and Hand Washing in the Global Reference List

The water, sanitation and hand washing indicators included in the Global Reference List of Core Health Indicators: Working Version 4 (WHO: Geneva, 03 October 2014) are included in the following table.

No.	Name	Definition	Numerator	Denominator
76	Population using a safely managed drinking water service	Percentage of population using an improved drinking water source on premises accessible to all members of the household, which delivers sufficient water to meet domestic needs (non-functional \leq 2 days in the last 2 weeks), meets WHO guideline values for E.coli, fluoride and arsenic, and is subject to a verified risk management plan.	Number of households (or population) with safely managed drinking water service	Total number of households (population)
77	Population using a safely managed sanitation service	Proportion of people who (1) use an adequate sanitation facility and (2) whose excreta is safely transported to a designated disposal/treatment site, or treated in situ before being re-used or returned to the environment.	Number of households (or population) with safely managed sanitation	Total number of households (population)
77A	Population with basic hand washing facilities with soap and water at home	Percentage of population with soap and water at a hand washing facility commonly used by family members.	Number of households (or population) with soap and water at a hand washing facility commonly used by family members.	Total number of households (population)

Contents of the Modules

The questionnaire proposed here for the long module includes the core questions suggested by the JMP in 2006 (see table on page 2) plus a few additional ones included in the DHS and MICS questionnaires (also listed on page 2). The questions in each module are summarized in the next page and the corresponding questionnaires follow. The questions included in the modules allow the calculation of the three indicators that are included in the Global Reference List:

Core Indicator 76	Population using a safely managed drinking water service
Core Indicator 77	Population using a safely managed sanitation service
Core Indicator 77A	Population with basic hand washing facilities with soap and water at home

The question “have you had more than 2 days of discontinuity of water services” was added to comply with one of the conditions in the definition of Core Indicator 76. Other conditions included in the definition (i.e. meeting WHO guideline values for E. coli, fluoride and arsenic, for example) would require testing the water during the interview.

The section on hand washing is taken from the DHS and MICS questionnaires. In the DHS questionnaire the information is obtained by observation only. In MICS, both observation and questions are used.

WATER, SANITATION AND HAND WASHING QUESTIONS IN THE SHORT AND LONG MODULES

QUESTION	SHORT MODULE	LONG MODULE
What is the main source of drinking water for members of your household?	X	X
IF MAIN SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER IS "BOTTLED WATER" OR "PURIFIED WATER": What is the main source of water used by your household for other purposes such as cooking and handwashing?		X
Where is that water source located?	X	X
How long does it take to go there, get water, and come back?		X
Who usually goes to this source to fetch the water for your household?		X
Have you had more than 2 days of discontinuity of water services in the last 2 weeks?	X	X
Do you treat the water in any way to make it safer to drink?		X
What do you usually do to the water to make it safer to drink?		X
Can you please show me where members of your household most often wash their hands?	X	X
PRESENCE OF WATER FOR HAND WASHING IS OBSERVED	X	X
PRESENCE OF SOAP, DETERGENT OR OTHER CLEANSING AGENTS IS OBSERVED	X	X
What kind of toilet facility do members of your household usually use?	X	X
Do you share this toilet facility with other households?		X
How many households use this toilet facility?		X
The last time the youngest child under five in the household passed stools, what was done to dispose of the stools?	X	X

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
31	The last time the youngest child under five in the household passed stools, what was done to dispose of the stools?	CHILD USED TOILET OR LATRINE 01 PUT/RINSED INTO TOILET OR LATRINE 02 PUT/RINSED INTO DRAIN OR DITCH 03 THROWN INTO GARBAGE 04 BURIED 05 LEFT IN THE OPEN 06 NO CHILD UNDER FIVE 07 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
32	How does your household usually dispose of its garbage or rubbish? Any other way? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	COLLECTION BY PUBLIC SERVICE A BURYING THE GARBAGE B BURNING THE GARBAGE C DUMPING IN CANAL/RIVER D DUMPING ON WASTE LAND E OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	
HAND WASHING			
33	Please show me where members of your household most often wash their hands.	OBSERVED 1 NOT OBSERVED NOT IN DWELLING/YARD/PLOT 2 NO PERMISSION TO SEE 3 OTHER REASON 4	} → 36
34	OBSERVATION ONLY: OBSERVE PRESENCE OF WATER AT THE PLACE FOR HANDWASHING.	WATER IS AVAILABLE 1 WATER IS NOT AVAILABLE 2	
35	OBSERVATION ONLY: OBSERVE PRESENCE OF SOAP, DETERGENT, OR OTHER CLEANSING AGENT.	SOAP OR DETERGENT (BAR, LIQUID, POWDER, PASTE) A ASH, MUD, SAND B NONE C	
36	END OF MODULE		

DRINKING WATER, SANITATION AND HAND WASHING: LONG MODULE

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
DRINKING WATER			
21	What is the main source of drinking water for members of your household?	PIPED WATER PIPED INTO DWELLING 11 PIPED TO YARD/PLOT 12 PUBLIC TAP/STANDPIPE 13 TUBE WELL OR BOREHOLE 21 DUG WELL PROTECTED WELL 31 UNPROTECTED WELL 32 WATER FROM SPRING PROTECTED SPRING 41 UNPROTECTED SPRING 42 RAINWATER 51 TANKER TRUCK 61 CART WITH SMALL TANK 71 SURFACE WATER (RIVER/DAM/ LAKE/POND/STREAM/CANAL/ IRRIGATION CHANNEL) 81 BOTTLED WATER 91 PURIFIED WATER 92 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	→ 26 → 23 → 26 → 23 → 23
22	What is the main source of water used by your household for other purposes such as cooking and handwashing?	PIPED WATER PIPED INTO DWELLING 11 PIPED TO YARD/PLOT 12 PUBLIC TAP/STANDPIPE 13 TUBE WELL OR BOREHOLE 21 DUG WELL PROTECTED WELL 31 UNPROTECTED WELL 32 WATER FROM SPRING PROTECTED SPRING 41 UNPROTECTED SPRING 42 RAINWATER 51 TANKER TRUCK 61 CART WITH SMALL TANK 71 SURFACE WATER (RIVER/DAM/ LAKE/POND/STREAM/CANAL/ IRRIGATION CHANNEL) 81 PURIFIED WATER 92 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	→ 26 → 26 → 28 → 28
23	Where is that water source located?	IN OWN DWELLING 1 IN OWN YARD/PLOT 2 ELSEWHERE 3	→ 26
24	How long does it take to go there, get water, and come back?	MINUTES <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> ON PREMISES 996 DON'T KNOW 998	→ 26

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
25	Who usually goes to this source to fetch the water for your household?	ADULT WOMAN 1 ADULT MAN 2 CHILD UNDER 15 YEARS OLD MALE CHILD 3 FEMALE CHILD 4 OTHER _____ 6 (SPECIFY)	
26	Have you had more than 2 days of discontinuity of water (services) in the last 2 weeks?	YES 1 NO 2 DONT KNOW 8	
26A	Do you treat your water in any way to make it safer to drink?	YES 1 NO 2 DONT KNOW 8	→ 28
27	What do you usually do to the water to make it safer to drink? Anything else? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	BOIL A ADD BLEACH/CHLORINE B STRAIN THROUGH A CLOTH C USE WATER FILTER (CERAMIC/ SAND/COMPOSITE/ETC.) D SOLAR DISINFECTION E LET IT STAND AND SETTLE F OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY) DONT KNOW Z	
SANITATION			
28	What kind of toilet facility do members of your	FLUSH OR POUR FLUSH TOILET FLUSH TO PIPED SEWER SYSTEM .. 11 FLUSH TO SEPTIC TANK 12 FLUSH TO PIT LATRINE 13 FLUSH TO SOMEWHERE ELSE 14 FLUSH, DON'T KNOW WHERE 15 PIT LATRINE VENTILATED IMPROVED (VIP) 21 PIT LATRINE WITH SLAB 22 WITHOUT SLAB/OPEN PIT 23 COMPOSTING TOILET 31 BUCKET TOILET 41 HANGING TOILET/HANGING LATRINE ... 51 NO FACILITY/BUSH/FIELD 61 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	→ 31
29	Do you share this toilet facility with other households?	YES 1 NO 2	→ 31
30	How many households use this toilet facility?	NO. OF HOUSEHOLDS IF LESS THAN 10 <input type="text" value="0"/> <input type="text"/> 10 OR MORE HOUSEHOLDS 95 DONT KNOW 98	

NO.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODING CATEGORIES	SKIP
31	The last time the youngest child under five in the household passed stools, what was done to dispose of the stools?	CHILD USED TOILET OR LATRINE 01 PUT/RINSED INTO TOILET OR LATRINE 02 PUT/RINSED INTO DRAIN OR DITCH 03 THROWN INTO GARBAGE 04 BURIED 05 LEFT IN THE OPEN 06 NO CHILD UNDER FIVE 07 OTHER _____ 96 (SPECIFY)	
32	How does your household usually dispose of its garbage or rubbish? Any other way? RECORD ALL MENTIONED.	COLLECTION BY PUBLIC SERVICE A BURYING THE GARBAGE B BURNING THE GARBAGE C DUMPING IN CANAL/RIVER D DUMPING ON WASTE LAND E OTHER _____ X (SPECIFY)	
HAND WASHING			
33	Please show me where members of your household most often wash their hands.	OBSERVED 1 NOT OBSERVED NOT IN DWELLING/YARD/PLOT 2 NO PERMISSION TO SEE 3 OTHER REASON 4	} → 36
34	OBSERVATION ONLY: OBSERVE PRESENCE OF WATER AT THE PLACE FOR HANDWASHING.	WATER IS AVAILABLE 1 WATER IS NOT AVAILABLE 2	
35	OBSERVATION ONLY: OBSERVE PRESENCE OF SOAP, DETERGENT, OR OTHER CLEANSING AGENT.	SOAP OR DETERGENT (BAR, LIQUID, POWDER, PASTE) A ASH, MUD, SAND B NONE C	
36	END OF MODULE		

