

South Africa - AHRI.Core Dataset:Migrations

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Identification

SURVEY ID NUMBER
AHRI.RD01-14.HDSS.Migrations

TITLE
AHRI.Core Dataset:Migrations

COUNTRY

Name	Country code
South Africa	ZA

ABSTRACT

Describes migrations, which can (and must be) linked to Individual and Household Residency Start and End Events (IRStartEvent and IREndEvent, HRStartEvent and HREndEvent) Hence this dataset is only useful in conjunction with the Individual and Household Residency datasets It cannot be used 'standalone' An internal migration, i.e. from one Bounded Structure to another within the DSA, will identify the two BSIDs in OriginBSIntId and DestinationBSIntId. The individuals (or Households) involved should have a Residency episode at OriginBSIntId which has an EndEvent which is the migration MIntId. They should also have subsequent Residency episode at DestinationBSIntId which has a StartEvent which is again the Migration MIntId. Note that this implies that for all internal migrations the EndEvent of the origin Residency episode and the StartEvent of the subsequent, destination Residency episode will be the same event. For InMigrations i.e. moves into the DSA from outside, the OriginBSID should be blank, but the Destination should not be. The individuals or Households involved should have a Residency episode at the destination BSIntId which has a StartEvent matching the MIntId, and which will be of Type EII or EHI. For Outmigrations i.e. moves away from the DSA, the destination BSIntId will be blank, but the origin will not. The individuals or households moving out will have a Residency episode at the Origin BSIntId which has an EndEvent matching the MIntId and which will be of Type EIO or EHO. Note there is redundancy in the Migrations vs Residencies datasets insofar as the BSIntIds involved are always identified in both. It would be good to investigate the extent to which they are in fact consistent. It would also be useful to investigate how many 'orphan' Migrations there are (i.e. ones that are no referred to in any Residency. In a perfectly clean dataset there should be no inconsistent BSIntIds at all and no 'orphans'.

UNIT OF ANALYSIS
Migrations

Version

VERSION DESCRIPTION
v8.0.0

Scope

TOPICS

Topic	Vocabulary	URI
Migrations	Africa Health Research Institute	Link

Producers and sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATORS

Name	Affiliation
Kobus Herbst	Africa Health Research Institute; South African Population Research Infrastructure Network

PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation
Africa Health Research Institute	AHRI

Data collection

DATES OF DATA COLLECTION

Start	End
2000-01-01	2018-12-31

Access policy

ACCESS CONDITIONS

Access to the data requires accurate completion of the online data access application form accessible on the AHRI Data repository (<<https://data.ahri.org/>>). Data users are required to abide by the data use conditions stipulated on the application for access to the data. Failure to do so may result in their data access privileges being revoked by the Data Custodian. In order to recognise the effort and intellectual contributions of AHRI investigators in producing and curating the data, users of AHRI data must acknowledge the source of the data and abide by the terms and conditions under which the data is accessed and must cite the dataset in publication using the citation provided as part of this documentation. All analytical datasets published on the AHRI Data Repository are assigned digital object identifier (DOIs) and the DOIs can be found on the Data Repository under Study Description tab - Access policy. AHRI data users are required to always cite the dataset using the relevant DOI.

CITATION REQUIREMENTS

Herbst, K. (2026). AHRI.Core Dataset:Migrations [Data set]. Africa Health Research Institute.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23664/AHRI.HDSS.MIGRATIONS>

Metadata production

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI.AHRI.RD01-14.HDSS.Migrations

PRODUCERS

Name	Abbreviation
Africa Health Research Institute	AHRI

Data Dictionary

Data file	Cases	Variables
RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations	345238	12

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Cases: 345238

Variables: 12

Variables

ID	Name	Label	Question
V13	MIIntId	Unique Id of Migration	
V14	OriginBSIntId	Bounded Structure where migration started	
V15	OriginOtherPlace	Place where migration started if not a BS in DSA	
V16	OriginOtherPlaceLocation	Location code where migration started if not a BS in DSA	
V17	OriginOtherPlacelsUrban	Is location in previous variable Urban or not?	
V18	OriginOtherPlacelsFormal	Is the location in previous variable Formal or not	
V19	DestBSIntId	Bounded Structure where migration ended	
V20	DestOtherPlace	Place where migration started if not a BS in DSA	
V21	DestOtherPlaceLocation	Location code where migration started if not a BS in DSA	
V22	DestOtherPlacelsUrban	Is location in previous variable Urban or not?	
V23	DestOtherPlacelsFormal	Is the location in previous variable Formal or not	
V24	MigrationReasonCode	Reason for Migration coded	

Total: 12

MINTID: Unique Id of Migration**Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations****Overview**

Valid: 345238 Invalid: 0 Minimum: 34 Maximum: 3432512 Mean: 1528929.349 Standard deviation: 968836.179
 Type: Continuous Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 34 - 3432512 Format: Numeric

ORIGINBSINTID: Bounded Structure where migration started**Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations****Overview**

Valid: 231108 Invalid: 114130 Minimum: 11 Maximum: 999998 Mean: 87953.766 Standard deviation: 266519.162
 Type: Continuous Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 11 - 999998 Format: Numeric

ORIGINOTHERPLACE: Place where migration started if not a BS in DSA**Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations****Overview**

Valid: 112479 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Width: 100 Range: - Format: character

ORIGINOTHERPLACELOCATION: Location code where migration started if not a BS in DSA**Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations****Overview**

Valid: 112480 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Width: 50 Range: - Format: character

ORIGINOTHERPLACEISURBAN: Is location in previous variable Urban or not?**Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations****Overview**

Valid: 112480 Invalid: 232758
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Yes	57645	51.2%

2	No	53914	47.9%
90	SpecialQuery	0	0%
92	Deprecated	0	0%
93	Refused	0	0%
94	Query	0	0%
95	Default	0	0%
96	Other	0	0%
97	Not Applicable	210	0.2%
98	Don?t know	711	0.6%
99	Missing	0	0%
Sysmiss		232758	

ORIGINOTHERPLACEISFORMAL: Is the location in previous variable Formal or not

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Overview

Valid: 112480 Invalid: 232758
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Yes	55431	49.3%
2	No	28454	25.3%
90	SpecialQuery	0	0%
92	Deprecated	0	0%
93	Refused	0	0%
94	Query	0	0%
95	Default	0	0%
96	Other	26697	23.7%
97	Not Applicable	214	0.2%
98	Don?t know	1180	1%
99	Missing	504	0.4%
Sysmiss		232758	

DESTBSINTID: Bounded Structure where migration ended

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Overview

Valid: 218393 Invalid: 126845 Minimum: 11 Maximum: 999998 Mean: 222365.559 Standard deviation: 403238.127
 Type: Continuous Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 11 - 999998 Format: Numeric

DESTOTHERPLACE: Place where migration started if not a BS in DSA

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Overview

Valid: 124831 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Width: 100 Range: - Format: character

DESTOTHERPLACELOCATION: Location code where migration started if not a BS in DSA

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Overview

Valid: 124831 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Width: 50 Range: - Format: character

DESTOTHERPLACEISURBAN: Is location in previous variable Urban or not?

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Overview

Valid: 124831 Invalid: 220407
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Yes	76313	61.1%
2	No	45747	36.6%
90	SpecialQuery	0	0%
92	Deprecated	0	0%
93	Refused	0	0%
94	Query	0	0%
95	Default	0	0%
96	Other	0	0%
97	Not Applicable	251	0.2%
98	Don?t know	2520	2%
99	Missing	0	0%

Sysmiss		220407	
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DESTOTHERPLACEISFORMAL: Is the location in previous variable Formal or not

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Overview

Valid: 124831 Invalid: 220407
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 1 - 99 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Yes	73072	58.5%
2	No	26309	21.1%
90	SpecialQuery	0	0%
92	Deprecated	0	0%
93	Refused	0	0%
94	Query	0	0%
95	Default	0	0%
96	Other	21496	17.2%
97	Not Applicable	309	0.2%
98	Don?t know	3115	2.5%
99	Missing	530	0.4%
Sysmiss		220407	

MIGRATIONREASONCODE: Reason for Migration coded

Data file: RD01-14 ACDIS Migrations

Overview

Valid: 345238 Invalid: 0
 Type: Discrete Decimal: 0 Width: 12 Range: 1 - 999 Format: Numeric

Questions and instructions

CATEGORIES

Value	Category	Cases	
1	Accommodation	107633	31.2%
2	Built or bought house	13153	3.8%
3	Changed rented accommodation	8044	2.3%

4	Household formation	1374	0.4%
5	Education	8455	2.4%
6	Schooling	21289	6.2%
7	Finished School	4714	1.4%
8	Left School	492	0.1%
9	Employment	11094	3.2%
10	Searching	6341	1.8%
11	Changed jobs	3133	0.9%
12	Transfer	276	0.1%
13	Left Employment	12161	3.5%
14	Left employment as a domestic worker	756	0.2%
15	To be near place of work	24602	7.1%
16	To look after a Bounded Structure	1056	0.3%
17	Violence or conflict	81	0%
18	Domestic violence or disagreement	286	0.1%
19	Victim or fear of crime	183	0.1%
20	Perpetrator of crime	24	0%
21	Prison	346	0.1%
22	Faction fights	29	0%
23	Health	97	0%
24	Sickness	1054	0.3%
25	Well	1002	0.3%
26	Prevention	6	0%
27	Marriage or conjugal relationships	910	0.3%
28	Start of new marriage or conjugal partnership	905	0.3%
29	Split	548	0.2%
30	To be close to a spouse or a partner	2743	0.8%
31	Pregnancy	88	0%
32	Came to destination for delivery	192	0.1%
33	Return to usual place after of residence delivery	80	0%
34	Caring	3002	0.9%
35	To care for someone	737	0.2%
36	To be cared for	23722	6.9%
37	Was caring for someone	295	0.1%
38	Traditional Healing	208	0.1%
93	Dont Know or No Reason given	3307	1%
95	Default	9031	2.6%
96	Other	10512	3%
97	Not Applicable	61277	17.7%

999	Unknown	0	0%
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Download related resources

Technical documents

DDI:Migrations

Title	DDI:Migrations
Author(s)	Nompumelelo Mkwanazi
Date	2026-04-21
Country	South Africa
Language	English
Publisher(s)	Nompumelelo Mkwanazi
Filename	RD01-14.Core Dataset.Migrations.pdf
