

Households and the Environment Survey (2009)

Analytical Concepts Note Number 1 (May 2011)



Variable: EHD14A

Description: Indication whether a household's thermostat setting when household members were asleep was higher, lower or the same as when the household members were home and awake. It is based on EHD13, EHD14 and EH_Q14A.

Discussion: As implemented, households that reported a temperature during the period when household members were home and awake (i.e. EHD13 was not in {00,96,97,98,99}) and turned their air conditioning system off when asleep (i.e. EHD14=0) were classified as having lowered the temperature (i.e. EHD14A=2). Similarly, households that reported that their air conditioner was turned off during the period when household members were home and awake (i.e. EHD13=0) and turned their air conditioning system on when asleep (i.e. EHD14 was not in {00,96,97,98,99}) were classified as having raised the temperature (i.e. EHD14A=1). This may be counterintuitive as turning an air conditioning system off is conceptually similar to raising the thermostat setting because the air conditioning system is not cooling the dwelling.

To create a flag that identifies these households as having raised and lowered their thermostats, respectively, users may wish to use the following code in a data step in SAS:

```
EHD14A_REVISED=9;
if eh_q05=2 then EHD14A_REVISED=6;
else do;
  if ((ehd14>ehd13) and (ehd13 not in (00,96,97,98,99)) and (ehd14 not in (96,97,98,99))) or
    (eh_q14a=1) or (ehd13 not in (00,96,97,98,99) and ehd14=00) then
    EHD14A_REVISED=1; /* higher */
  else do;
    if ((ehd14<ehd13) and (ehd13 not in (96,97,98,99)) and (ehd14 not in (00,96,97,98,99))) or
      (eh_q14a=2) or (ehd13=00 and ehd14 not in (00,96,97,98,99)) then
      EHD14A_REVISED=2; /* lower */
    else do;
      if ((ehd14=ehd13) and (ehd13 not in (96,97,98,99)) and (ehd14 not in (96,97,98,99))) or
        (eh_q14a=3) then EHD14A_REVISED=3; /* same */
    end;
  end;
end;
end;
```

The resulting code set for EHD14A_REVISED is as follows:

1	Higher	1,703	1,409,920
2	Lower	1,053	953,205
3	Same	4,018	3,725,854
6	Valid skip	7,372	6,676,098
9	Not stated	608	617,098
		<u>14,754</u>	<u>13,382,175</u>