

Objectives of the Course

The course covering a total of 14 lectures will take the participants through various stages of the Household Income Expenditure Survey (HIES) that the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) administers periodically. In the process, they will be introduced to purposes of undertaking HIES; study design that includes sampling units, sampling frame and choice of samples; design of questionnaires; inputting of data and formats for data inputting; introduction to spss and stata software (statistical packages); various concepts around basic statistics to be estimated from HIES data; and introductory analyses of HIES data to estimate those statistics.

There are several purposes for which ERG took the initiative to offer the course. It is important that the researchers and academia in the country take interest in the data generated periodically by a large pool of staffs in the government payroll, and are processed and used (often) by external agencies to assess aggregate performance of the country in terms of achievements in poverty reduction. Absence of any systematic course and difficulties in accessing the data also hindered wider use of these data and for independent scrutiny of the various conclusions drawn at official level as well as by external agencies. Thus, enough demand for improving the quality of data never surfaced, nor was there adequate exchange within local polity drawing upon the findings of the data. It is hoped that a pool young minds, well versed with the nitty-gritty of the data set, will pave the way for fruitful interfaces between data collection, research and policymaking.

Eligibility

Applicants for the course ought to have completed their graduate degree from a university with proof that she/he had above-average performance in basic statistics and in intermediate economics. It is also mandatory that a participant is well-versed in using computer – word, excel and internet browsing; and have initial exposure to spss and/or stata environment.

Class Schedule:

Date	Time	Lecture Outline
3/04/2009	3pm – 6pm	L1: Purpose of Conducting HIES & Its Applications
4/04/2009	10am – 1pm	L2: Sampling
	2pm – 5pm	<i>Lab Session 1</i>
5/04/2009	3pm – 6pm	L3: Questionnaire Design
6/04/2009	3pm – 6pm	L4: Survey Methods
7/04/2009	3pm – 6pm	L5: Survey Operation and Data Inputting
8/04/2009	3pm – 6pm	<i>Lab Session 2</i>
9/04/2009	3pm – 6pm	L6: Poverty Measures
10/04/2009	10am – 1pm	L7: Other Interesting Exercises with HIES Data
	3pm – 6pm	<i>Lab Session 3</i>
11/04/2009	10am – 1pm	<i>Lab Session 4</i>
	3pm – 6pm	Group Presentation

Lecture 1: Purpose of Conducting HIES & Its Applications

- Introduction to various sources of data in Bangladesh
- Description of various types of data collected by BBS
- Brief history of HES/HIES
- Rationale for conducting HIES
- Illustrations of its importance from various reports

Lecture 2: Sampling

- Sampling unit and population/universe
- Sampling framework – PSUs drawn from Population Census
- Choice of samples – requirements to fulfill representativeness; illustrations for means and proportions
- Stratification – need for stratified sampling; strata commonly used in HIES
- Working out the sampling weights
- Comparison of sampling designs in different HE/HIE Surveys

Lecture 3: Questionnaire Design

- Summary on purposes – basic income-expenditure; additional modules to generate sector-specific information
- Questionnaire design
- Definitions of concepts introduced in the questionnaire
- Comparative analysis of different HIES questionnaires

Lab Session 1

Lecture 4: Survey Methods

- Diary method and period of diary keeping
- Recall methods – period of recalls
- Contrast between the two methods with illustrations on possible biases

Lecture 5: Survey Operation and Data Inputting

- Survey management
- Data inputting – introduction to alternative formats
- Ensuring data consistency and reducing entry error

Lab Session 2

Lecture 6: Poverty Measures

- Different methods of measuring poverty and their limitations
- Application of different methods using SPSS & STATA

Lecture 7: Other Interesting Exercises with HIES Data

Lab session 3

Lab Session 4

Group Presentation