Introduction

The *RIQUEZA* dataset is composed primarily of variables compiled and calculated from ownership, wealth, and debt related variables from the original raw survey data.

The structure of the dataset is such that it includes one entry for each person in every household included in the survey. People are identified with the variable *persona* and are nested within households that identified with the variable *idhogar*.

There are 12,062 people within 2,892 separate households.

The *RIQUEZA* dataset also includes variables identifying the province, canton, parrochia, and segment (the primary sampling unit) where the household was drawn. Therefore, this file can be easily merged with other files and can be evaluated adjusting for the complex sampling design.

Finally, the dataset contains some basic demographic information- sex, age, relation to the respondent, and marital status- as well as a variable for filtering by households and the household expansion factor weights.

Method

The values for the included wealth measures were calculated through the following process:

1) The owner(s) of the asset(s) in question are identified[1], including those who may not be members of the household;
2) The value of the asset, as measured by the amount the respondent reported the asset would sell for, is then divided equally among all owners[2]

[1] In the case of immovable assets, including principal dwellings, land, other real estate, and business this involved a reconciliation process in those cases where a couple reported separately on the asset and were in disagreement over the owners. For these cases, information on who is listed as an owner in documents was evaluated to see if this was in agreement with one or the other respondent. If the owners reported on the document agreed with one respondent then these were taken as the reconciled owners. If there was no document reported or the owners on the document were also not in agreement with either respondent then an inclusive rule was applied such that disagreements result in all those named as owners by both partners and on documents (if available) are considered owners of the asset.
[2] There was a reconciliation procedure in the case of disagreements between partners over the value of assets. For these cases, if only one partner is considered an owner according to the reconciliation process for owners then the value reported by this partner is taken as the value of the asset. If only one partner provides a non-missing value then this is taken as the value regardless of who is an owner. If both partners are owners according to the reconciliation process for owners and both provide valid values then the average of the two values is taken as the value of the asset. In the event of missing values on an asset, whether because there is only one respondent and the value is missing or whether because both partners report missing values, then values were imputed. The method of imputation differed depending on the type of asset. For principal residences, for instance, values were imputed based upon a regression equation that included characteristics of the residence, whereas for consumer durables values were imputed as the average value reported for that type of asset. For minor assets, such as durables, mean hot decking

3) The values for similar assets (i.e. across all animals) are summed within person for the individual wealth measures;
4) The values for all similar assets are summed across people within households for the total household wealth measures.

Note that wealth belonging to those who are migrants or otherwise not residing in the household is not included in gross or net wealth calculations. This would occur in the case of joint asset ownership.

All cases of joint ownership have wealth ascribed equally across those identified as owners. Likewise, all cases of joint debt are ascribed equally across those identified as responsible.

Variables

The variable names share a common structure so as to be relatively self-explanatory; e.g. *prefix_asset_suffix*.

Prefix

The prefix *bruta* refers to variables that provide gross wealth calculations. The prefix *neta* refers to variables that provide net wealth calculations.[3]

Asset

The body of the variable name refers to the specific asset in question. Vivienda refers to both the lote and the principal residence on that lote.

Suffix

The suffix refers to the level of the variable. The suffix *persona* denotes that the variable provides a measure that is at the level of the individual person. The suffix *hogar* denotes that the variable provides a measure that is aggregated across individuals within the household and is thus at the level of the household.

Therefore, the variable *bruta_animales_hogar* will provide the gross wealth from animal assets at the level of the household (i.e. personal wealth summed across members within the household).

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within type of asset was used for missing counts and values; those who provided a value of '0' retain that value and contribute to the imputation. For more detailed information on these procedures, please contact the GAGP.

[3] Those who would like more detailed information on the debt reconciliation process are encouraged to read the documentation and examine the data for the file *SECCION 24 DEUDAS POR SEPARADO RECONCILIADO* that is also included as part of the public release.

Finally, note that this file can also be used to easily construct estimates of individual and household level debt because it includes both *bruta* and *neta* in the same file.

Values

Note that there are no missing values in the *Riqueza* file. This is not by accident. This file is based upon imputations made for counts and values where those values were missing. There are numerous values of 0 and these are taken to be the actual zero values of wealth and debt.

The decision to impute was based on the relative paucity of missing values and considerations of nesting. For instance, missing values propagate since assets are nested both within and across people and people are nested within households. Therefore, a person may be listed as the owner of multiple vehicles and only have missing information for one of those vehicles. Were we to treat this is a missing information for vehicles for this person then we would also be inclined to treat as missing the information for vehicles for this household.

The imputation methods differ according to the asset. Dwellings were imputed based on a regression equation derived from objective characteristics of the dwelling, such as the material of the walls, roof, and floor. Other assets, such as consumer durables, were imputed using mean hot decking within type of asset. In the case of debt, we felt it was not suitable to use such approaches and instead implicitly treat missing values for outstanding debt as contributing 0 to debt. We do this because we consider those cases to be sufficiently few and doing so results in a predictable bias.

Please contact the Gender Asset Gap Project if you would like further information.