

Recoded Variables – General Health (GEN)

(Tracking and Comprehensive Assessments)

There are two recoded variables (RVs) in the General Health (GEN) module: perceived health and perceived mental health. These RVs are created for participants in both the Tracking and Comprehensive assessments. For simplicity, we describe them here for the Tracking assessment, however, the process of creating the variables for the Comprehensive assessment is identical. Distinguishing the two are the variable name endings; all variable names in the Tracking assessment end in ‘TRM’ and in the Comprehensive assessment in ‘COM’. For example, the variable named GEN_DHDI_TRM in the Tracking assessment is named GEN_DHDI_COM in the Comprehensive assessment.

1) Perceived Health

Recoded Variable Name: GEN_DHDI_TRM

Description: This variable indicates the respondent's health status based on his/her own judgement. It is a recoded version of the questionnaire responses so that higher scores now indicate a more positively perceived health status.

This variable is similar to the variable “GENDHDI” in Statistics Canada’s Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) – Healthy Aging.

Based on: GEN_HLTH_TRM

Recoded Variable Specifications:

Value	Condition(s)	Description
9	GEN_HLTH_TRM =(8, 9)	Required question was not answered
0	GEN_HLTH_TRM = 5	Poor
1	GEN_HLTH_TRM = 4	Fair
2	GEN_HLTH_TRM = 3	Good
3	GEN_HLTH_TRM = 2	Very Good
4	GEN_HLTH_TRM = 1	Excellent

2) Perceived Mental Health

Recoded Variable Name: GEN_DMHI_TRM

Description: This variable indicates the respondent's mental health status based on his/her own judgement. It is a recoded version of the questionnaire responses so that higher scores now indicate a more positively perceived mental health status.

This variable is similar to the variable “GENDMHI” in Statistics Canada’s Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) – Healthy Aging.

Based on: GEN_MNTL_TRM

Recoded Variable Specifications:

Value	Condition(s)	Description
9	GEN_MNTL_TRM = (8, 9)	Required question was not answered
0	GEN_MNTL_TRM = 5	Poor
1	GEN_MNTL_TRM = 4	Fair
2	GEN_MNTL_TRM = 3	Good
3	GEN_MNTL_TRM = 2	Very Good
4	GEN_MNTL_TRM = 1	Excellent