

Standardised Variables Descriptions

2024-03-15

Introduction

The Opgaafrolle were cleaned and standardised through the creation 153 standardised variables. The goal of this document is to list these variables along with descriptions of each. Due to the nature of the data, many variables are not present across all of the Opgaafrolle and as such unfortunately do not contain observations for these variables. See Opgaafrolle Statistics below for a statistical breakdown of each district. For more detailed information on which variables are present across which years, see the files ****_opgaafstats.xlsx** in each respective series' folders.

Notes

- If you note any errors, please contact Jan-Hendrik (email: jhpretorius@sun.ac.za).
- Variable descriptions are subject to change and have been attributed based on historical context.
- **pounds** are in reference to 'Rijksdaalders' (Dutch Imperial Dollar) and all monetary values are assumed to be Dutch denominated currency.
- Should you wish to make use of the demographic variables (i.e. ****_died** ; ****_born**; ****_married** please contact Jan-Hendrik (jhpretorius@sun.ac.za) for guidance – they are tricky variables.

Standardised Variable Names Descriptions

Variable	Description
nr	Identifier assigned to each observation in the dataset, not necessarily unique.
year	The year in which the census was conducted.
add_info	Supplementary information relevant to the observation.
district	The district or geographical area where the observed individual or entity resided.
field_cornet	The administrative subdivision within the district, under the authority of a field cornet, which may supersede the district classification.
names_men	The recorded name of the adult male (typically the head of household or husband) in the observation.
names_women	The recorded name of the adult female (typically the wife) in the observation.
settler_men	The tally of adult men residing on the premises involved in the observation.

Variable	Description
settler_women	The tally of adult women residing on the premises involved in the observation.
settler_sons	The count of sons or young males living on the premises.
settler_daughters	The count of daughters or young females living on the premises.
settler_children	The total count of offspring (sons and daughters) residing on the premises.
servants	The total number of individuals employed as servants on the premises.
servant_coachman	The count of servants specifically employed as coachmen.
servant_personal	The count of servants employed for personal or individual service.
servant_home	The count of servants employed for domestic duties within the home.
servant_cook	The number of individuals employed as cooks.
slave_men	The number of enslaved adult males owned.
slave_women	The number of enslaved adult females owned.
slave_sons	The count of enslaved young males (sons or boys).
slave_daughters	The count of enslaved young females (daughters or girls).
slave_children	The total count of enslaved offspring, regardless of sex.
khoe_men	The count of male Khoe individuals in servitude or employed as workers.
khoe_women	The count of female Khoe individuals in servitude or employed as workers.
khoe_sons	The count of young male Khoe individuals in servitude or employed as workers.
khoe_daughters	The count of young female Khoe individuals in servitude or employed as workers.
freeblack_men	Number of free black adult men not categorized as slaves or workers.
freeblack_women	Number of free black adult women not categorized as slaves or workers.
freeblack_sons	Number of free black boys/sons not categorized as slaves or workers.
freeblack_daughters	Number of free black girls/daughters not categorized as slaves or workers.
prizenegro_men	Number of men categorized as 'prize negroes,' typically captured and freed from illegal slave ships.
prizenegro_women	Number of women categorized as 'prize negroes.'
prizenegro_sons	Number of boys/sons categorized as 'prize negroes.'
prizenegro_daughters	Number of girls/daughters categorized as 'prize negroes.'
cattle_bull	Number of bulls.
cattle_breeding	Number of cattle designated for breeding.
cattle_work	Number of cattle/oxen used for labor, such as pulling plows or carts.
cattle_cows	Number of adult female cattle.
cattle_heifers	Number of young female cattle that have not yet had calves.
cattle_calves	Number of young cattle.
horses	Total number of horses.
horse_foals	Number of young horses.
horse_work	Number of horses used for labor or working purposes.
horse_breeding	Number of horses designated for breeding.
horse_pleasure	Number of horses kept for riding and non-labor purposes.
donkeys	Total number of donkeys, often used for carrying loads.
sheep	Total number of sheep, animals kept for wool, meat, and breeding.
sheep_breeding	Number of sheep designated for breeding.
sheep_wool	Number of sheep primarily kept for their wool.
sheep_wether	Number of castrated male sheep, typically kept for meat.
goats	Total number of goats, kept for milk, meat, and wool.
sheep_goats	Number of animals that are either sheep or goats, not distinctly categorized.
pigs	Total number of pigs, kept for meat production.
sheep_goats_pigs	Combined number of sheep, goats, and pigs, possibly in mixed herds.
wheat_seed	Quantity of wheat seed held or used for planting purposes.
wheat_vol	Volume or amount of harvested wheat.

Variable	Description
barley_seed	Quantity of barley seed held or used for planting purposes.
barley_vol	Volume or amount of harvested barley.
rye_seed	Quantity of rye seed held or used for planting purposes.
rye_vol	Volume or amount of harvested rye.
oat_seed	Quantity of oat seed held or used for planting purposes.
oat_vol	Volume or amount of harvested oats.
hay_vol	Volume or amount of hay harvested or stored.
maize_vol	Volume or amount of harvested maize.
potatoes_vol	Volume or amount of harvested potatoes.
peas_vol	Volume or amount of harvested peas.
barleyrye oat_vol	Combined volume of harvested barley, rye, and oats.
grains_vol	Total volume or amount of all harvested grain crops.
zkoorn	A term likely referencing a specific type of grain or harvest volume (this might require historical or regional context to define accurately).
wheat_bz	A measurement or specific classification of wheat, possibly related to quality or use.
rye_bz	A measurement or specific classification of rye, similar to wheat_bz.
barleyzk_vol	Volume or amount of a specific type or classification of barley.
bzkoorn	Could be related to a particular measurement or classification of grain.
bzkoorn1	Similar to bzkoorn, possibly denoting a different measurement or classification.
vines	Number of grapevines or the area covered by vineyards.
wine	Volume or amount of produced wine.
brandy	Volume or amount of produced brandy.
swords	Number of swords possessed or available.
side_arm	Number of side arms, such as pistols or short blades, possessed or available.
pistols	Number of pistols possessed or available.
rifle	Number of rifles possessed or available.
wagons	Number of wagons for transport or agricultural use.
carts	Number of carts for goods transport or agricultural use.
wagons_pleasure	Number of wagons specifically designed for personal or leisure use.
carts_pleasure	Number of carts designed for personal or leisure use.
farm_name	The official name or designation of the farm.
years_owned	Number of years the farm has been under the current ownership.
years_cultivated	Number of years the land has been actively cultivated.
years_occupied	Number of years the farm has been occupied or settled.
freehold_places	Number of places held as freehold property.
freehold_erfs	Number of urban lots or allotments owned outright.
freehold_morgen	Area of land owned outright, measured in morgen (a unit of land measurement).
freehold_srods	Area of land owned outright, measured in roods (a unit of land measurement).
freehold_sfeet	Area of land owned outright, measured in square feet.
quitrent_places	Number of places held under quitrent tenure.
quitrent_morgen	Area of land held under quitrent, measured in morgen.
quitrent_srods	Area of land held under quitrent, measured in roods.
quitrent_sfeet	Area of land held under quitrent, measured in square feet.
loan_places	Number of places held under loan tenure.
area_cultivated	Total area of land currently being cultivated.
area_grazing	Total area of land designated for grazing livestock.
area_uncultivated	Total area of land that remains uncultivated.
cap_tax_pounds	Capitation tax assessed in pounds.

Variable	Description
cap_tax_shillings	Capitation tax assessed in shillings.
cap_tax_dimes	Capitation tax assessed in dimes.
servant_tax_pounds	Tax imposed on servants, measured in pounds.
servant_tax_shillings	Tax imposed on servants, measured in shillings.
servant_tax_dimes	Tax imposed on servants, measured in dimes.
horse_tax_pounds	Tax imposed on horses, measured in pounds.
horse_tax_shillings	Tax imposed on horses, measured in shillings.
horse_tax_dimes	Tax imposed on horses, measured in dimes.
stock_tax_pounds	Tax assessed on livestock, measured in pounds.
stock_tax_shillings	Tax assessed on livestock, measured in shillings.
stock_tax_dimes	Tax assessed on livestock, measured in dimes.
produce_tax_pounds	Tax assessed on agricultural produce, measured in pounds.
produce_tax_shillings	Tax assessed on agricultural produce, measured in shillings.
produce_tax_dimes	Tax assessed on agricultural produce, measured in dimes.
wagon_tax_pounds	Tax assessed on wagons, measured in pounds.
wagon_tax_shillings	Tax assessed on wagons, measured in shillings.
wagon_tax_dimes	Tax assessed on wagons, measured in dimes.
nonfarm_tax_pounds	Tax assessed on non-farming income or activities, measured in pounds.
nonfarm_tax_shillings	Tax assessed on non-farming income or activities, measured in shillings.
nonfarm_tax_dimes	Tax assessed on non-farming income or activities, measured in dimes.
income_tax_pounds	Income tax paid, measured in pounds.
income_tax_shillings	Income tax paid, measured in shillings.
income_tax_dimes	Income tax paid, measured in dimes.
total_tax_pounds	Total tax paid, aggregated in pounds.
total_tax_shillings	Total tax paid, aggregated in shillings.
total_tax_dimes	Total tax paid, aggregated in dimes.
nonfarm_income	Income generated from non-farming sources or activities.
persons_born	Number of individuals born within the recorded time frame.
persons_married	Number of individuals who got married within the recorded time frame.
persons_died	Number of individuals who died within the recorded time frame.
settlers_born	Number of children born to settlers within the recorded time frame.
settler_died	Number of settlers who died within the recorded time frame.
slaves_born	Number of children born to slaves within the recorded time frame.
slaves_died	Number of slaves who died within the recorded time frame.
khoe_born	Number of children born to the Khoe community within the recorded time frame.
khoe_died	Number of individuals from the Khoe community who died within the recorded time frame.
freeblacks_born	Number of children born to free black individuals within the recorded time frame.
freeblacks_died	Number of free black individuals who died within the recorded time frame.
prizenegro_born	Number of children born to 'prize negroes' within the recorded time frame.
prizenegro_died	Number of 'prize negroes' who died within the recorded time frame.
workers_farm	Number of individuals employed as farm workers.
workers_retail	Number of individuals employed in retail associated with the farm.
workers_factory	Number of individuals employed in factories associated with the farm.
mills_water	Number of water-powered mills on the farm.
mills_horse	Number of horse-powered mills on the farm.
tanneries	Number of tanneries (places where leather is processed) on the farm.
farm_owned	Number of farms owned outright.
farm_inherited	Number of farms acquired through inheritance.
farm_owned_loaned	Number of farms owned that are under some form of loan agreement.

Variable	Description
farm_loaned	Number of farms operated under a loan agreement, not owned by the operator.

Opgaafrolle Statistics

Stellenbosch

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
nr	131682	character		
year	140126	Date		
add_info	33014	character		
district	81109	character		
field_cornet	6	character		
names_men	133176	character		
names_women	68520	character		
settler_men	119032	numeric	1,092622	1
settler_women	80037	numeric	1,113685	1
settler_sons	48052	numeric	2,232332	2
settler_daughters	48721	numeric	2,278155	2
servants	3119	numeric	1,339211	1
slave_men	53633	numeric	5,410829	4
slave_women	41425	numeric	2,476113	2
slave_sons	20410	numeric	2,873885	2
slave_daughters	19767	numeric	2,579299	2
slave_children	1059	numeric	1,770538	1
cattle_work	17625	numeric	28,04522	20
cattle_cows	2634	numeric	15,87965	10
cattle_heifers	2702	numeric	18,22206	8
cattle_calves	2434	numeric	11,61915	7
horses	62667	numeric	6,576891	1
sheep	32986	numeric	336,9737	200
goats	8479	numeric	62,142	40
pigs	10178	numeric	30,64423	4
wheat_seed	21100	numeric	11,28174	7
wheat_vol	24144	numeric	80,69716	40
barley_seed	8113	numeric	3,64446	2
barley_vol	10012	numeric	57,30691	30
rye_seed	7039	numeric	2,503321	1
rye_vol	8361	numeric	28,64376	10
vines	25279	numeric	35061,73	24000
swords	54579	numeric	1,010957	1
side_arm	4190	numeric	1,221002	1
pistols	50006	numeric	1,010219	1
rifle	64062	numeric	1,060707	1
years_owned	2407	numeric	14,86581	14
years_cultivated	2738	numeric	13,00895	12
years_occupied	762	numeric	7,767717	7

Graaff-Reinet

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
nr	42350	character		
year	42350	Date		
district	30046	character		
names_men	42261	character		
names_women	27364	character		
settler_men	42187	numeric	0,979496	1
settler_women	41341	numeric	0,749353	1
settler_sons	40547	numeric	1,216194	1
settler_daughters	40543	numeric	1,21143	1
servants	11144	numeric	0,009871	0
slave_men	38765	numeric	0,587257	0
slave_women	38542	numeric	0,382258	0
slave_sons	38155	numeric	0,15762	0
slave_daughters	38055	numeric	0,139403	0
khoe_men	32092	numeric	1,206313	0
khoe_women	32105	numeric	1,352749	0
khoe_sons	32257	numeric	0,996838	0
khoe_daughters	32073	numeric	0,97883	0
freeblack_men	1524	numeric	0,000656	0
freeblack_women	1525	numeric	0	0
freeblack_sons	1525	numeric	0	0
freeblack_daughters	1525	numeric	0,007213	0
prizenegro_men	1525	numeric	0,002623	0
prizenegro_women	1525	numeric	0,003279	0
prizenegro_sons	1525	numeric	0,000656	0
prizenegro_daughters	1525	numeric	0,000656	0
cattle_bull	16210	numeric	50,16391	24
cattle_breeding	25209	numeric	33,10762	14
cattle_work	29876	numeric	9,897644	8
horses	11721	numeric	3,852146	1
horse_work	29950	numeric	2,143806	1
horse_breeding	29498	numeric	3,966608	1
donkeys	11689	numeric	3,360168	0
sheep	11442	numeric	364,5336	150
sheep_breeding	29846	numeric	589,8516	250
sheep_wool	27770	numeric	1,340511	0
sheep_wether	27662	numeric	1,525378	0
goats	29453	numeric	47,30622	0
pigs	31823	numeric	0,078104	0
wheat_seed	27728	numeric	0,292887	0
wheat_vol	34068	numeric	6,6564	0
barley_seed	28045	numeric	0,159734	0
barley_vol	33951	numeric	3,523214	0
rye_seed	28088	numeric	0,001273	0
rye_vol	28064	numeric	0,024101	0
oat_seed	27418	numeric	0,356682	0
oat_vol	27418	numeric	14,04902	0
vines	28183	numeric	332,8511	0
wine	32530	numeric	0,902519	0
brandy	27324	numeric	0,069371	0

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
swords	5015	numeric	0,557129	1
pistols	5015	numeric	0,715653	1
rifle	4986	numeric	0,715804	1
wagons	29690	numeric	0,834052	1
carts	25970	numeric	0,020803	0
loan_places	1265	numeric	0,43083	0
cap_tax_pounds	1442	numeric	4,963939	3
cap_tax_shillings	1442	numeric	2,201803	2
income_tax_pounds	3623	numeric	1,618272	0
income_tax_shillings	2341	numeric	3,785562	4
income_tax_dimes	880	numeric	2,782955	2
total_tax_pounds	567	numeric	2,934744	2
total_tax_shillings	941	numeric	3,565356	3
total_tax_dimes	891	numeric	3,268238	4
persons_died	10184	numeric	0,407806	0
settler_died	19854	numeric	0,024227	0
slaves_died	19622	numeric	0,010906	0
khoi_died	19843	numeric	0,02288	0
freeblacks_died	1526	numeric	0	0
prizenegro_died	1526	numeric	0	0

Cape District

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
nr	23469	character		
year	23469	Date		
add_info	2528	character		
district	325	character		
field_cornet	412	character		
names_men	21878	character		
names_women	8961	character		
settler_men	16931	numeric	1,002185	1
settler_women	12346	numeric	0,993763	1
settler_sons	6689	numeric	1,972941	2
settler_daughters	6997	numeric	2,098185	2
settler_children	84	numeric	2,809524	2
servants	2253	numeric	1,651576	1
servant_home	129	numeric	1,775194	1
slave_men	8645	numeric	6,366917	3
slave_women	6264	numeric	2,487388	2
slave_sons	2826	numeric	2,627742	2
slave_daughters	2801	numeric	2,556944	2
slave_children	84	numeric	2,107143	1
khoe_men	1792	numeric	3,254464	1
khoe_women	1874	numeric	2,197439	1
khoe_sons	942	numeric	2,069002	2
khoe_daughters	802	numeric	1,946384	1
freeblack_men	98	numeric	1,010204	1
freeblack_women	83	numeric	1,024096	1
freeblack_daughters	31	numeric	2,258065	2
prizenegro_men	403	numeric	3,841191	2
prizenegro_women	212	numeric	1,825472	1
prizenegro_sons	108	numeric	2,064815	1
prizenegro_daughters	66	numeric	1,833333	1
cattle_bull	953	numeric	73,65477	40
cattle_breeding	2591	numeric	25,90699	10
cattle_work	4740	numeric	32,21878	20
cattle_cows	1104	numeric	28,59239	20
cattle_heifers	1001	numeric	25,50749	10
cattle_calves	1008	numeric	19,30258	10
horses	3887	numeric	6,335477	3
horse_foals	71	numeric	1,591549	1
horse_work	4238	numeric	5,993157	4
horse_breeding	1775	numeric	20,47606	12
donkeys	343	numeric	7,364431	7
sheep	2244	numeric	567,934	300
sheep_breeding	548	numeric	99,18613	65
sheep_wool	132	numeric	326,2045	185
sheep_wether	539	numeric	42,4397	16
goats	1033	numeric	51,36689	30
pigs	2166	numeric	12,45429	4
wheat_seed	2894	numeric	13,9574	8,5
wheat_vol	2986	numeric	115,4692	57
barley_seed	1991	numeric	4,365101	3

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
barley_vol	1990	numeric	88,3934	37
rye_seed	1466	numeric	3,931787	1
rye_vol	1364	numeric	16,97755	10
oat_seed	1387	numeric	22,2673	14
oat_vol	871	numeric	177,2147	100
hay_vol	477	numeric	58543,13	30000
wheat_bz	140	numeric	53,34286	50
barleyzk_vol	46	numeric	9,467391	7
vines	2164	numeric	20894,82	10000
wine	1523	numeric	112,7279	6
brandy	222	numeric	1,474662	1
swords	4670	numeric	1,080728	1
side_arm	3176	numeric	1,173804	1
pistols	3953	numeric	1,08171	1
wagons	2716	numeric	1,99144	1
carts	1318	numeric	1,237481	1
farm_name	4357	character		
years_owned	755	numeric	18,26556	15
years_cultivated	885	numeric	17,96554	14
years_occupied	207	numeric	12,9686	10
freehold_places	1099	numeric	1,042766	1
freehold_erfs	289	numeric	1,487889	1
freehold_morgen	1361	numeric	61,52902	40
quitrent_morgen	375	numeric	232,2453	23
loan_places	85	numeric	1,011765	1
area_cultivated	245	numeric	9,180612	7
area_grazing	5	numeric	17,3316	13,529
area_uncultivated	204	numeric	20,95221	12
settler_died	216	numeric	1,203704	1
slaves_died	445	numeric	1,501124	1
khoi_died	126	numeric	1,301587	1
prizenegro_born	67	numeric	1,940299	2
prizenegro_died	41	numeric	1,121951	1

Swellendam

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
nr	31068	character		
year	31068	Date		
add_info	7629	character		
district	3771	character		
names_men	29530	character		
names_women	19406	character		
settler_men	28713	numeric	0,997353	1
settler_women	20219	numeric	0,976309	1
settler_sons	13934	numeric	2,117124	2
settler_daughters	14091	numeric	2,362572	2
servants	1621	numeric	0,210364	0
slave_men	9696	numeric	2,504744	2
slave_women	8281	numeric	1,72141	1
slave_sons	5280	numeric	1,627652	1
slave_daughters	5213	numeric	1,582774	1
cattle_bull	2450	numeric	48,70531	32
horses	3569	numeric	2,669095	1
sheep	2393	numeric	290,7534	200
pigs	3654	numeric	4,231527	2
wheat_seed	11487	numeric	3,470619	3
wheat_vol	10392	numeric	43,14102	25
swords	3357	numeric	1	1
pistols	3299	numeric	1	1
rifle	3532	numeric	1	1
farm_name	1	character		

Tulbagh

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
nr	16033	character		
year	16033	Date		
district	4	logical		
names_men	15594	character		
names_women	3360	character		
settler_women	10213	numeric	1,041907	1
settler_sons	6348	numeric	2,240391	2
settler_daughters	6610	numeric	2,46823	2
slave_men	6555	numeric	3,815408	2
slave_women	5426	numeric	2,416144	2
slave_sons	3847	numeric	2,481154	2
slave_daughters	3606	numeric	2,476705	2
khoe_men	6045	numeric	2,597353	2
khoe_women	5687	numeric	2,874626	2
khoe_sons	4315	numeric	2,854461	2
khoe_daughters	4079	numeric	3,096102	2
cattle_breeding	8959	numeric	31,16765	18
cattle_work	9886	numeric	21,22486	14
horse_work	13023	numeric	3,971128	2
horse_breeding	8444	numeric	12,83243	8
sheep_breeding	7848	numeric	543,4322	256,5
sheep_wool	521	numeric	276,9923	200
sheep_wether	1642	numeric	71,44153	30
goats	6946	numeric	112,7244	71
pigs	2195	numeric	9,761617	6
wheat_seed	4900	numeric	9,446046	8
wheat_vol	4940	numeric	99,72664	75
barley_seed	3449	numeric	3,528414	3
barley_vol	3484	numeric	58,2914	40
rye_seed	2159	numeric	1,651517	1
rye_vol	2205	numeric	16,89688	12
oat_seed	1955	numeric	5,057417	4
oat_vol	1979	numeric	54,47241	38
vines	2193	numeric	9634,706	8000
wine	1724	numeric	5,474913	4
brandy	1631	numeric	0,814163	0,5
wagons	9116	numeric	1,823936	1
carts	1721	numeric	1,074956	1
farm_name	5418	character		
freehold_erfs	171	numeric	2,479532	1
freehold_morgen	757	numeric	1,091149	1
loan_places	2008	numeric	1,571215	1

Uitenhage

Available Variables	Non-NA Count	Type	Mean	Median
nr	4791	character		
year	4791	Date		
add_info	1366	character		
district	3507	character		
names_men	4352	character		
names_women	3369	character		
settler_men	4321	numeric	1	1
settler_women	3373	numeric	1,002668	1
settler_sons	2230	numeric	2,252018	2
settler_daughters	2241	numeric	2,213744	2
servants	33	numeric	1,787879	1
slave_men	773	numeric	2,058862	2
slave_women	609	numeric	1,663383	1
slave_sons	387	numeric	1,829457	1
slave_daughters	362	numeric	1,690608	1
khoe_men	1460	numeric	1,942466	1
khoe_women	1443	numeric	2,317394	2
khoe_sons	1165	numeric	2,145923	2
khoe_daughters	1032	numeric	2,280039	2
cattle_breeding	3615	numeric	47,99613	30
cattle_work	2788	numeric	17,76363	12
horse_work	2534	numeric	1,746251	1
horse_breeding	1878	numeric	4,757188	3
sheep_breeding	2676	numeric	434,67	216
sheep_wool	3	numeric	7,333333	1
sheep_wether	43	numeric	98,62791	30
goats	2127	numeric	119,733	70
pigs	64	numeric	4,884766	3
wheat_seed	823	numeric	2,165299	2
wheat_vol	884	numeric	25,7664	19
barley_seed	515	numeric	1,406269	1
barley_vol	508	numeric	16,95276	12
rye_vol	37	numeric	21,70946	6
vines	107	numeric	6590,533	5000
wine	73	numeric	1,57363	1
brandy	61	numeric	0,704467	0,375
wagons	2424	numeric	1,195545	1
carts	58	numeric	1,172414	1
farm_name	562	character		