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Subject: Re: Pregnancy History

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Sat, 10 Sep 2016 22:24:36 GMT

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Yes, there are inconsistencies in the reporting of the outcome and the duration of pregnancy, with some pregnancies reported as ending with miscarriages at 7 months or more, and some pregnancies reported as stillbirths, but with a duration of only a couple of months. These are almost certainly reporting errors, but the data have not been edited to remove them. You will need to decide how you want to handle them in your analysis.

If you compare the numbers in your first table above with those in table 5.15 then the results match. I suspect though that you are comparing to table 8.5. This table is produced in a very different way, based on the calendar data, and following the approach used in most DHS that do not use a pregnancy history. In these surveys, stillbirths are calculated based on reported duration of pregnancy in the calendar of 7 months or more. Based on your second table above, that would be 424 births. However table 8.5 reports just 412 births. Because of the way the calendar is collected, some stillbirths are not included in the calendar, and thus table 8.5 may slightly undercount stillbirths. The calendar only permits one code to be captured in each month of the calendar. In the case of stillbirths, if there are twins and one is a stillbirth and one a live birth, then only the live birth is captured in the calendar. Similarly if the pregnancy was twins and both were stillbirths, then again, only one stillbirth is captured in the calendar. Thus in these two cases, stillbirths would be missed and not counted in the numbers in table 8.5

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