
Subject: Re: About the 'CALENDAR' variables

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Tue, 28 Mar 2017 17:50:39 GMT

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Pre-term births are determined using the calendar (VCAL\$1), and the duration of pregnancy prior to a birth. This can be determined by looking at the number of "P" letters preceding a "B" in the calendar string. One character in the calendar string in VCAL\$1 represents one month.

Below is an example of what a calendar might look like:

Position	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	...5...	0...	5...	0...	5...	0...	5...	0...
Date	<-2015-><---2014---><---2013---><---2012---><---2011---><---2010---><---2009--->							

AJJMAMFJDNOSAJJMAMFJDNOSAJJMAMFJDNOSAJJMAMFJDNOSAJJMAMFJDNOSAJJMA
MFJDNOSAJJMAMFJ

VCAL\$1

11111111000BPPPPPPPP888880000000011111110000000033333300TPP00000000

VCAL\$2 1 4 5

In VCAL\$1 at the time of interview in September 2014 in this example, the respondent was using pill (code 1). October 2013 in this example the respondent had a birth (code B) which was preceded by an additional 8 months of pregnancy (8 P's) for a total of 9 months including the month of birth. For pre-term births you would see fewer than 8 P's.