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Subject: Re: Postnatal care Ghana

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 19 Jun 2017 12:21:21 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

In the IR file, variables that end with `_1` through `_5` refer to children born in the past five years. `"_1"` is for the youngest child born in the past five years, `"_2"` for the next youngest, etc. In the 1998 survey, the visits are for the mother AND child. Thus `s417b_1` applies to the most recent birth. If there was no birth in the past five years, it will be `"."` for NA ("Not Applicable"). It will be 1 if postnatal care was received, 0 if not. If `s417b_1` is `"."` or 0, then `s417c_1` will be `"."` If there is a numerical code for `s417c_1`, the first digit will be 1 if digits 2-3 give hours. The first digit will be 2 if digits 2-3 give days. Note that days and hours are always "completed" days/hours. There is no `"200"` because that would mean "completed days=0", in which case the response is given in hours, such as `"108"`. `"201"` means "one completed day", which is the same as 24-47 completed hours, or during the second day. `"202"` means " 2 completed days, etc.

In the 2003 survey, `m50_*` and `m51_*` are the corresponding variables. I found them with the `"lookfor"` command, as in `"lookfor check"`. Note that in the 1998 survey, these were country-specific questions. By 2003, they had become core questions and the variable name starts with `m` rather than `s`.