Subject: Re: number of pregnancies - Kenya DHS 2008
Posted by Liz-DHS on Mon, 10 Mar 2014 19:06:56 GMT

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Dear Pavani,

Here is a response from one of our experts, Dr. Shea Rutstein:

"The reproductive calendar is given as a string of positions, each representing a month. The first calendar string indicates, births (B), non-live birth terminations (T), each month of pregnancy (P), and numbers and letters that represent a month of use of contraception of various methods. See the data dictionary for the codes used. The position of the month of interview in the calendar is given by V018, the date of the start of the calendar by v017, and the length of the calendar string is given by V019. To use the calendar data, string functions are required that can be repeated for each position.

"Non-live births in column 1 of the reproductive calendar are given by "T"s. Live births are given by "B"s. Count the number of "T"s and "B"s in the 60 positions prior to the position of the survey date to get the number of pregnancies in the five years preceding the survey. For still births, only count the number of "T"s that are preceded by 6 to 8 "P"s (a month where the woman was pregnant) since we count as still births all those non-live birth terminations with pregnancy durations of 7 to 9 months (the T is the last month of the pregnancy). Note that for pregnancies that began prior to the calendar, the duration of pregnancy will not be given by the number of Ps.