
Subject: Re: Problem with dates in the Ethiopia datasets
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Wed, 20 May 2020 14:16:13 GMT

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The dates in the Ethiopia surveys have not been converted to the Gregorian calendar but they have been "squeezed" from a 13 month calendar down to fit a 12 month calendar (comparable to other countries). In this "squeezing" process the years are unchanged and only the month and day are affected. For dates that only have month, but not day, the 13th month is recoded to the 12th month. For dates with month and day, the dates are squeezed by moving the dates back into 12 months, with some months having 31 days and some 30 days, similar to Gregorian months.

The century month codes are based on these squeezed Ethiopian dates.

For Gregorian dates, the simplest thing to do is to add 92 months to the CMC. This won't be perfect as it doesn't take into account the day of birth or interview, but you could adjust for that by subtracting 1 month from the CMC if the day was less than 12.

See the Guide to DHS Statistics and search in the PDF for Ethiopia for more information.
