
Subject: Re: What Should be Used "And (&)" "or "OR (|)"
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 13 Nov 2020 13:03:48 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialists, Tom Pullum & Shireen Assaf:

These restrictions are ok, but we recommend that you be explicit about them in the text or in a footnote. The restriction to `bidx=1` is unavoidable, since the data were only collected for the youngest child, but when relevant that restriction should always be stated, because some other indicators apply to all births in the past five years or all surviving births. You justify the restriction to singletons as a desire to avoid "information bias". You could be more specific about what that means. A child in a multiple birth is definitely at higher risk but would always be included in a neonatal mortality rate, for example. Otherwise the rate is biased downwards.

DHS treatment of births in the month of interview is to include them in the counts of children ever born and children born in the past five years, and include them as the most recent birth for questions about the most recent birth. They are not included in fertility rates, e.g. the fertility rates for the last three years. Births and exposure for the fertility rates begin with the month before the month of interview, because the month of interview has less than a full month of exposure, as you say.
