
Subject: Re: Variables on early initiation of breastfeeding (m34 and v426)

Posted by [Shekhar_GS](#) on Tue, 05 Jan 2021 00:47:54 GMT

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Hi Trevor,

I am looking the frequencies of both the variables (M34, and V426) in IAKR74FL (India, NFHS-4) but they seem to be very different. V426 exclusively says that its for 'last born' but M34 doesn't say so. So I am assuming that M34 would be including all the children under 3/5 years, but the frequencies show that for M34 only 1,79,855 are available, while for V426 2,45,112 entries are available.

So my query is - IF M34 includes all the children wherein MIDX == 1 then it should be equal to OR more than V426 but its not the case here.

In continuation to your answer, I need to understand the following

1. Does M34 include only the earlier born children (i.e. all children under 3/5 except for the last born child), OR does it include the last born too?
2. Is V426 only for the last born child?
3. If I use V426 for estimating the breast feeding practices for the last born, how should I justify using this particular variable in view of the large difference in both of them.

Thank you.
