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Subject: Re: Most recent born Vs All births in Five Years  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 29 Jan 2021 12:14:40 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The standard rates are calculated for all births in the past five years. The NNMR, other mortality rates, and other indicators of child health are generally better for the most recent birth than they are for all births--as you have found. Shea Rutstein prepared a methodological report in 2014 describing this:

<https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/MR14/MR14.pdf>

When you look at just the most recent birth, you tend to over-represent women who had only one birth in the past five years. Outcomes are generally better for such women and births.

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