
Subject: Re: Year and Month Modification/Adjustment: Birth (b1, b2) & Survey (v006, v007, v008)

Posted by [admin](#) on Fri, 15 Apr 2022 20:04:46 GMT

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Following is response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

All dates in the data files for Ethiopia, Nepal, and Afghanistan are in the calendars for those countries. They are internally consistent. If you start replacing them, it is likely that you will not get them all and inconsistencies will develop. You CAN change the variables that give dates in century month codes (cmc) with lines such as these:

```
rename hv008 hv008_original  
gen hv008=hv008_original-681
```

You can then reconstruct month and year (e.g. hv006 and hv007; cmc=1 is still the first month of 1900 in the respective calendars) but there will inevitably be errors.

The dates of fieldwork are provided in the Gregorian calendar in the first chapter of the final report for each survey. I strongly suggest that you not change the dates in the data files, and only use the difference in dates to identify the dates of fieldwork and the reference dates/intervals for the rates and other estimates AFTER your analysis has been completed.
