
Subject: Re: R code for TFR estimation -SAE perspective
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 06 Jul 2022 13:34:15 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The TFR is a synthetic measure for an aggregate and cannot be calculated for small areas. The calculation requires the number of births and the women-years of exposure for each of the 7 age-specific fertility rates. I believe this error message comes up because at least one of your areas has no women-years of exposure (the denominator) for at least one of the age-specific rates. You have two options. One is to increase the size of the areas so that all the age-specific rates will have valid denominators. The other option, which I recommend, is to switch to a simpler measure of fertility, such as just the number of births in the past three years, with the number of women age 15-49 at the time of the survey, as the denominator. This will be very highly correlated with any more complicated measure that you could come up with.
