
Subject: Re: Child mortality variables

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Thu, 01 Sep 2022 20:29:30 GMT

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

The BR file includes almost all of the variables for the mother that are in the IR file, so an IR/BR merge may not be needed.

The variables that give age at death are b6 and b7 (b7 is a recode of b6). If these variables are coded NA (".") then the child is still alive (and b5=1). The easiest constructions are that a death is neonatal if $b6 < 128$, infant if $b7 < 12$, under-5 if $b7 < 60$. Whether and how you deal with heaping is up to you. The age of the child in months is given by hw1 and age in days is given by b19. We use $365.25/12$ as the number of days in a month.

We apologize for the delay in this response and hope it will still be useful.
