
Subject: Re: Stillbirth calculation for Philippines
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2023 21:44:54 GMT
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Please refer to Tom Pullum if you have any other questions he is the one responding to your questions.

Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

In the Zambia 2018 survey, the only information about stillbirths seems to be in vcal_1. This covers the interval from the start of the calendar (see the questionnaire for that) to the month of interview. The interval can be more than 60 months. The strings that indicate a stillbirth can be left-censored, that is, some of the months of pregnancy may be before the first month of the calendar, so it may not be possible to determine the length of those pregnancies.

The Stata lines below will identify whether the woman had a stillbirth, to the extent that it can be determined. The crucial command is "regexm", one of Stata's "string" commands. It produces a variable that is either 0 or 1.

- * Identify stillbirths in the calendar, using the Zambia 2018 DHS survey.
- * In this survey, miscarriages, abortions, and stillbirths are not given separate codes.
- * Pregnancies that did not end in a live birth have code "T" in the month of termination.
- * Stillbirths are T preceded by 6+ months with P. The calendar is in vcal_1.

```
use "..ZMIR71FL.DTA" , clear
```

```
gen had_stillbirth=regexm(vcal_1,"TPPPPP")  
label define noyes 0 "No" 1 "Yes"  
label values had_stillbirth noyes  
tab had_stillbirth
```

```
list vcal_1 if had_stillbirth==1, table clean
```