
Subject: Re: NFHS4: age at first intercourse, age at first cohabitation, age at first marriage

Posted by [Isha](#) on Tue, 04 Apr 2023 15:59:25 GMT

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Dear Bridgette and Tom,

Thank you for your help! I did some digging and was able to answer the question on if the husband is a first husband of the woman respondent in the couple data. I believe that v503 (number of unions) helps me know the percent of women who have been married once (hence the age at cohabitation/v511 is with current husband) and those who have been married more than once (hence the age at cohabitation/v511 is with a previous husband/marital partner). It helps me know if I should treat age at first cohabitation as an indicator of a couple's relationship or as an indicator of women's autonomy. But I cannot use it as an indicator of a couple's relationship since some currently women have been married earlier, unless I delete these cases.

I am sorry that it has not been easy for your team to interpret and recode these types of variables...yes there are many variables and aspects of reality that need to be rethought and verified. I agree.

Hope you have a lovely rest of the week!

Best,
Isha
