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Subject: Re: Teenage pregnancy  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 28 Sep 2023 16:19:53 GMT  
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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The beginning of childbearing is (a) the month of the first live birth or (b) the expected end month of the current pregnancy, for women who have never had a live birth but are currently pregnant. Otherwise, it is not defined. In all surveys, all women age 15-49 are asked whether they are currently pregnant and the month of the pregnancy. The month of delivery is estimated as the 9th month. DHS assumes that the current pregnancy will end in a live birth, although there's some uncertainty. It was defined the same way in the three surveys you listed and will not change. An earlier pregnancy, in the calendar or a pregnancy history, that did not end in a live birth, would not count toward the beginning of childbearing.

Beginning with the DHS-8 questionnaire and coding manual, standard DHS's include complete pregnancy histories for all women age 15-49. Yes, that includes asking whether they have ever been pregnant.

The 2020 Kenya survey was conducted within phase 8 of DHS but it did not use the DHS-8 questionnaire and coding manual. (If you open the IR file, for example, "tab v000" will give "KE7"; the third character of v000 is 7, not 8.)