Subject: Adverse birth outcome Posted by T Daba on Wed, 04 Oct 2023 21:59:19 GMT

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Hello dear,

I am currently engaged in a research project that involves the analysis of data from SSA DHS datasets, encompassing 20 countries. The primary focus of this study is to investigate the determinants of adverse birth outcomes among adolescent women. Specifically, I am interested in understanding adverse birth outcomes, which I define as the occurrence of one or more of the following events: low birth weight (LBW), preterm birth, stillbirth, early neonatal death, and macrosomia.

My inquiry pertains to the measurement of stillbirth and early neonatal mortality, which I find a bit confusing based on the available data in the dataset. Upon review, I noticed that stillbirth is available from variables V228 to V233 within the children's record (KR), and neonatal mortality is coded as b5, b6, and b7. However, I've also come across information in the DHS Forum and the DHS Contraceptive Calendar Tutorial suggesting that stillbirth and early neonatal mortality are generated from individual women's data.

My specific questions are as follows:

- 1. Which dataset should I rely on to measure stillbirth and early neonatal mortality, the children's record (KR) or the individual women's record (IR)?
- 2. Is it possible to create a single variable called "adverse birth outcome" by summing up these five events?

I would greatly appreciate your guidance and clarification on these matters.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your assistance!