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Subject: Re: Kenya 2022 calendar data  
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Fri, 06 Oct 2023 20:51:30 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

I believe the problem is that vcal\_2 is mostly blanks, including varying numbers of leading blanks and trailing blanks, and the purpose of the "trim" string commands is to remove leading and/or trailing blanks. The safest solution may be to not use the trim command on vcal\_2. With v017 and v018 (see below) you should be able to identify the columns you want to keep, such as the 60 columns before the month of interview, using the substr command. Then you can reverse those 60 columns (warning: that's risky).

Here are the relationships among mbi, cmc, col, v017, and v018, where col is the column of the vcal variables:

- \* mbi: months as months before interview.  $mbi = col - v018$
- \* cmc: months in century month codes.  $cmc = v017 + 80 - col$