

---

Subject: Re: Adverse birth outcome

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Mon, 09 Oct 2023 18:19:50 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

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

The information on these outcomes varies across countries and across surveys within the same country. You may find that a separate analysis of each country will make the most complete use of the data--at least I suggest that you keep that as an option.

I suggest that you first think of children in the KR file as the units of analysis. This file is limited to live births in the mother's birth history. For example, an early neonatal death is given by b6<107. Birthweight, if included, is m19, and many of the other m variables could be relevant, but some of them only apply if the child is still alive, and some of them only apply to the youngest child born in the past 5 years (children with bidx=1).

The most recent surveys include a pregnancy history and a variable (p32) that identifies stillbirths. Otherwise stillbirths have to be inferred from the calendar or from survey-specific questions. If a survey report includes a table on perinatal mortality, then you could think of a file that corresponds with the denominator of the perinatal mortality rate, that is, pregnancies of 7+ months duration, which would include stillbirths. But I would recommend that if the survey does not include a pregnancy history, then you keep stillbirths out of your main analysis and focus on risk factors for negative outcomes following a live birth.

---