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Subject: Re: Birth order and Antenatal Care NFHS-5 India  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2023 12:53:49 GMT  
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Staff Member, Tom Pullum:

Yes, that's tricky. In this table (and some others, including the others in chapter 8 of the NFHS-4 and -5 reports), birth order does not distinguish between the children born in the same multiple birth. For example, suppose that a woman has had 4 live births (4 children) but they arrived as two pairs of twins. She would have had only two birth events, for the purposes of these tables. In the following construction, I start with "bord" and then construct a variable "border". I then recode "border" it into a variable with categories 1, 2-3, 4-5, and 6+, which is called "birth\_order".

\* Birth order

\* To match birth order in the tables, bord must be modified to include multiple births

```
gen border=.
forvalues ll=1/5 {
  replace border=`ll' if (bord==`ll' & b0==0) | (bord==`ll'+1 & b0==2) | (bord==`ll'+2 & b0==3)
}
gen birth_order=1 if border==1
replace birth_order=2 if border>1
replace birth_order=3 if border>3
replace birth_order=4 if border>5
label variable birth_order "Birth order"
label define birth_order 1 "1" 2 "2-3" 3 "4-5" 4 "6+"
label values birth_order birth_order
tab birth_order [iweight=wt]
drop border
```