
Subject: Re: Determining date/date of death of child in KR/BR file

Posted by [paul](#) on Thu, 07 Dec 2023 00:26:54 GMT

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Dear Jane,

Thank you for getting back to me.

I am using the latest available DHS datasets from Uganda 2016, Kenya 2022, Tanzania 2022, Burundi 2016/2017, Rwanda 2019/2020 and Ethiopia 2019. I am analysing the effect of extreme weather events on neonatal, infant and under-fives mortality in the East African Region, focusing on the five years preceding the DHS. Thus, I am using the KR file. I intend to use the time-stratified case-crossover design with distributed lag nonlinear models, with the day of death (from the date of death) as the case day and other days as control days.

I can determine the date of death for newborns who die within a month by adding their day of death to the date of birth (computed from b1, b17 and b2 as instructed in the DHS guide). However, I cannot do the same for children who die after 1 month, as per the DHS guide because these are computed in completed months or years. I could use months rather than days for the analysis of infant mortality but not sure what would happen for those who die aged 2 years and above as the DHS states only completed years are given. Furthermore, using months rather than days won't be robust because I am looking at the transient effects of extreme weather events on mortality.

Is there a way I can determine the actual date of death (or completed days at death) for all children recoded b5 = 0 in the DHS? Do recodes 202 or 211 in b6 mean anything other than giving us the months of death only without days? From the DHS guide, I would assume those are deaths at 02 and 11 months respectively without days kindly guide me if I am wrong!

I am okay with both R and Stata.

I hope this is a clearer.

Kind regards,
Paul