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Subject: Re: Pregnancy & Birth Order in DHS8  
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Tue, 19 Mar 2024 13:37:40 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The key variable for identifying a live birth is p32, not p30. Birth order (bord) should always be given if p32=1. Otherwise the pregnancy order, for all values of p32, is pord.

In the pregnancy histories, p4 (sex) is only given for live births (p32=1). You can see this if you enter "tab p4 p32".

Because the sex of the child is not given for outcomes other than live births, you cannot use these data to assess whether abortion is sex-selective. There are other variables in DHS surveys that describe preferences for boys or girls, such as v627-v629.

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