
Subject: Re: Working through Odds Ratios
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 24 Apr 2024 21:29:19 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

If you search the forum you will find many related exchanges. For your purposes you can ignore b6, and just use b7, which is months of age at death for children who died. However, for ages 2+ years, the months are constructed as years x 12. Thus, for "2 years" the number of months is "24". Then the only codes should be 36, 48, 60, 72, etc. I don't know where a value of "335" would have come from....

The NMR, IMR, CMR, U5MR are rates for synthetic cohorts, following life table procedures. Except for the factor of 1000, the IMR is $1q_0$, the CMR is $4q_1$, and the U5MR is $5q_0$. Rates refer to aggregates and can only be calculated for an aggregate. You are apparently looking for an individual-level analog. You can certainly construct binary (0/1) variables corresponding to age at death. For example you could initialize $d_nmr=0$, $d_imr=0$, $d_cmr=0$, and $d_u5mr=0$ and then construct $d_nmr=1$ if $b7=1$, $d_imr=1$ if $b7<12$, $d_cmr=1$ if $1\leq b7<60$, and $d_u5mr=1$ if $b7<60$. The only problem is how you then deal with censoring,

The DHS approach can calculate the U5MR for deaths during the past 5 years, because of the synthetic cohort approach, but children with full exposure to the risk of death in the past 5 years were actually born 5-9 years ago. Please look at the Guide to DHS Statistics, DHS reports on mortality, or other literature. The bottom line is that there is no easy way to translate rates for aggregates into individual-level indicators, which is what you want to do.
