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Subject: How to generate Month-Year birth Cohort  
Posted by [Atazonomics](#) on Wed, 15 May 2024 00:48:34 GMT  
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I working on research and I need to group children into month-year cohorts from the IR files of Uganda, Ivory Coast and Nigeria. In the survey rounds 6 or lower, I use the moth of birth and year of birth and use group (b1 b2)and for 7 or 8 wave, i used the following :

```
* Loop through each child's month and year of birth variables
foreach i of numlist 1/20 {
  * Check existence of the month variable
  capture confirm variable b1_`i'
  if _rc != 0 {
    display "Month variable b1_`i' not found. Skipping to next."
    continue
  }

  * Check existence of the year variable
  capture confirm variable b2_`i'
  if _rc != 0 {
    display "Year variable b2_`i' not found. Skipping to next."
    continue
  }

  * Only proceed if both variables are present and not missing
  if !missing(b1_`i', b2_`i') {
    * Convert month and year to strings with proper formatting
    local str_month_`i' = string(b1_`i', "%02.0f")
    local str_year_`i' = string(b2_`i')

    * Concatenate year and month into a cohort variable
    gen cohort_`i' = str_year_`i' + "-" + str_month_`i'
  } else {
    * Explicitly set cohort to missing if either month or year is missing
    gen cohort_`i' = "."
  }
}
```

Both methods did not work .

Please, i look forward to your help as this is holding me up

Thank you

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