
Subject: Re: Operationalizing Menopausal Status
Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Thu, 31 Oct 2024 21:09:59 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

You could improve your estimate of age at last menstruation as follows. The woman's age in months at the time of the survey is v008-v011. Her current age in years is given by $v012 = \text{int}((v008-v011)/12)$. Therefore her months of age at last menstruation is v008-v011-v226 and her completed years of age at that time is $\text{int}((v008-v011-v226)/12)$.

You are asking how to calculate age at menopause for women in the special categories of v226:

- 994 in menopause
- 995 before last pregnancy
- 996 never menstruated
- 997 inconsistent
- 998 don't know

I picked a survey (Philippines 2022) and entered "tab v012 v226 if v226 >=994". 998 does not occur (a response is required). The previous post dealt with 995. 996 is rare and mostly young women. The problematic categories are 994 and 997. I see that 994 is almost completely women age 40+ and 997 is almost never women age 40+. But I will not offer any suggestions for how to estimate when women with codes 994 or 997 last menstruated. Age at menopause is not a DHS indicator but I hope there is a literature that would give guidelines, or help you develop guidelines, for how to code these categories.
