Subject: Re: Childlessness
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Mon, 09 Dec 2024 13:08:12 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The following lines in Stata will construct such a variable. Category 4 matches with "childless" as in the report. Categories 1-3 provide a useful breakdown of the other women.

The definition in Comparative Report #50 is not the only possible definition. You could consider alternatives, depending on what you want to do. It can be helpful to distinguish, so far as possible, between women who are childless by choice and those who are childless but would prefer to have children, just as it is useful to distinguish between women who have had children and wanted children, and women who would have preferred to be childless.


```
use "...PHIR82FL.DTA", clear

gen     ch_status=1 if v201>0
replace ch_status=2 if v201==0 & v512==.
replace ch_status=3 if v201==0 & v512<=4
replace ch_status=4 if v201==0 & v512>4 & v512<.

label variable ch_status "Childless status"
label define ch_status 1 "Has had children" 2 "No children, never in union" 3 "No children, <5 yrs
in union" 4 "Childless"
label values ch_status ch_status

tab ch_status
```