Subject: Re: Infant and child mortality
Posted by Trevor-DHS on Wed, 15 Oct 2014 18:01:42 GMT

Hi Jacob,

I'm not sure what variable you are referring to as there is no variable 'child', but I'm guessing that you are using the KR file (e.g. AOKR61FL), and you are trying to calculate simple ratios. This unfortunately will give you completely biased estimates. You need to use the births recode (BR) dataset as you need to include children who were born before the last 5 years, but were exposed to the risk of death within the last 5 years, and some of whom may have died in the last five years. Mortality rates are actually probabilities, and are typically calculated using life table approaches. Simple ratios as you have done won't given you good estimates. Please see the explanation in the Guide to DHS Statistics.

When I look at the data presented in the AMIS 2011 report I do not see a "sharp instant increase in death just from 12 months and higher". The table on page 38 shows a decrease in mortality rates in the last 5 years.