
Subject: Re: Stata do file for U5 mortality analysis
Posted by [Reduced-For\(u\)m](#) on Mon, 22 Apr 2013 20:38:34 GMT
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You are just gonna hate me for this:

You want to compare rates four years apart, but using the same survey? I'm actually a bit afraid that that won't work very well. I'm linking to a paper on child age misreporting, and I've been worried for a while in my work. The paper focuses on calculating total fertility rates, but the problem extends to mortality (since the denominator is number of children born). The gist is that there are a "surprising" number of children born about 5 years before a survey, and "surprisingly" few born 4 years before a survey. The author thinks it is so that enumerators can avoid doing some of the long child health/anthropometry sections. It is worse in some surveys than others, so you should check on your survey and see what it says (you could plot total births by year too and see if you get a funny jump).

Here is the paper. Check out Figures 5 and 8 for what can go wrong.
<http://paa2010.princeton.edu/papers/101547>

Can you use two different surveys? They are usually 4-5 years apart, and if the exact 4/5 years doesn't matter, you could use survey means to compare and make things easier.

Sometimes I feel like I just make everything worse. But I'm glad that the demo code was at least a little bit helpful.

I'll keep an eye out here for your response.
