Subject: Yearly Under-Five-Mortality Rate (Ghana, 1980-1990)
Posted by user_ha on Fri, 23 Jan 2015 11:10:39 GMT
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Hello everybody,

For an ongoing research project, I try to estimate the yearly Under-Five-Mortality Rate (U5MR)
and the Infant Mortality Rate for Ghana between 1980 - 1990 based on the Demographic and
Health Survey of 1988. As recommended by the DHS and the World Bank Institute, I utilize the
ltable command in STATA. However, I do not obtain the same (yearly) estimates reported by the
STATcompiler or by the Child Mortality Estimates reported by UNICEF for the DHS 1988 in
Ghana. Based on the example in the World Bank Institute's report "Analyzing Health Equity Using
Household Survey Data", my Stata code to estimate the U5MR & Infant Mortality in the year 1983
(as one example) looks as follows:

* Load Birth Recode, DHS 1988, Ghana
clear
use "GHBR02FL"

* Individual Age in Dec 1983 / CMC Dec 1983: 996
gen age_ref=(996-b3)
replace age_ref=. if age_ref<0

* Surviving time (in years)
gen timeyears=.
replace timemonths=age_ref
replace timemonths=b7 if b5==0
gen dead=(b5==0)

* ltbale command
ltable timemonths dead if age_ref<=60, int(0,12,24,36,48,60) saving("ltable_t.dta", replace)

* Use ltable data
use "ltable_t.dta", clear

* Infant Mortality Rate and U5MR
gen infant_mortality=failure*1000 if t1==12
gen child_mortality=failure*1000 if t1==60
drop if child_mortality==. & infant_mortality==.

Based on this code, my estimates are not accurate. I think that my setting of the individual age for
this year (i.e. the CMC for December 1883) as well as the specifications in the ltbale command
itself ("if age_ref<=60" / "int(0,12,24,36,48,60)") leave quite some room for variation. I tried
different "combiantions" of all these settings, however, never even came close to the reported
estaimtes in the DHS STATcomplier and the CME Info by UNICEF. Does anyone has experience
with calculating child mortality rates for particular years based on DHS Birth Recodes? Or can
anyone tell me what I'm doing wrong? I am very grateful for any help, comments or
recommendation. I have also familiarized myself with the procedures as stated in the Guide to

DHS Statistics (pp 90-94), which could not really help me with this specific problem.

Thank you very much in advance!