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Subject: Re: high-risk fertility behaviour

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Mon, 02 Feb 2015 16:39:09 GMT

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Dear User,

At this time we do not have this code in STATA format for distribution. There is an entire section dedicated to this topic in The Guide to DHS Statistics. The document is bookmarked. The section on HIGH-RISK FERTILITY BEHAVIOR RISK RATIOS begin on page 98. You can download the Guide to DHS Statistics here:<http://dhsprogram.com/publications/publication-dhsg1-dhs-questionnaires-and-manuals.cfm>

Quote:HIGH-RISK FERTILITY BEHAVIOR RISK RATIOS

Statistics: Ratio of Children in Elevated Fertility Behavior Risk Categories to Children in Non-Elevated Risk Category

Definition

A. Coverage:

1. Population base: Children born to all women.

2. Time period: Births in the five years preceding the survey.

B. Numerator: Proportion of dead children born in the five years preceding the survey by risk category.

C. Denominator: Proportion dead of children in non-elevated risk category.

D. Elevated-behavior fertility risk categories:

1. Children born to mothers under age 18 years.

2. Children born to mothers 35 years and older.

3. Children of birth order 4 or higher.

4. Children born less than 24 months since a preceding birth.

E. Unavoidable elevated risk category--First birth order children born to mothers between ages 18 and 34 years.

F. Children not in any elevated risk category

1. Second- and third-birth-order children born to mothers between ages 18 and 34 years

2. The elevated risk categories are also combined into two-way and three-way combinations of elevated risk.

Calculation

A. To calculate relative risk ratios by categories of elevated risk due to fertility behavior, first the proportions dead for each category need to be calculated. For each proportion--

1. Numerator: Number of children born in the five years preceding the survey who died at any age.

2. Denominator: Number of children born in the five years preceding the survey.

3. Proportion dead: Numerator divided by denominator.

B. Then the ratio of the proportions need to be calculated:

1. Risk ratio Numerator: Proportion dead among children in each risk category.

2. Risk ratio denominator: Proportion dead among children not in any elevated risk category (see definition above).

3. Relative risk ratios: Risk category numerators divided by the non-elevated risk category denominator.

Handling of Missing Values

None of the information needed to calculate relative risk ratios is allowed to have missing or unknown

data. Note that age at death is not used, only survival status at the time of the survey.

#### Notes and Considerations

To provide a more robust estimate of the elevated relative risk, proportions dead are used instead of

period mortality rates in the calculation of relative risk, since period mortality rates have higher sampling

errors. In DHS reports, risk ratios are not shown where the proportion dead is based on fewer than 25

births. Risk ratios where the proportion dead is based on 25 to 49 births are placed in parentheses to

indicate large variability due to sampling.

#### Assumptions

It is assumed that the number of births and death rates do not vary substantially by time period within the

preceding five years.

#### Changes over Time

Originally, the denominator for the risk ratio included the unavoidable risk category of first-order births to

mothers between 18 and 24 years of age.