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Subject: Age adjustment in DHS data

Posted by [huebler](#) on Mon, 11 May 2015 14:00:54 GMT

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The webinar is about "Weights and other adjustments for the survey design". My question concerns adjustments to the ages of household members. The DHS household questionnaire asks for the age in completed years at the time of the interview but not for the date of birth. For an accurate calculation of some indicators it is necessary to determine the ages of household members on a certain date before the interview.

For example, assume that in a country children should be 6 years old by September 1 to enter grade 1 of primary education. Assume further that an interview took place on February 1 of the following year and that a child in the household was 6 years old at that time. On September 1 this child may have been 5 or 6 years old; the exact age is unknown because the date of birth is not available. For the calculation of the primary school net attendance rate (number of children of primary school age attending primary school divided by the number of children of primary school age), only children of primary school age on September 1 should be included in the denominator.

Which methods do you recommend to adjust the ages of household members in DHS data?

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