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Subject: Re: Variables on early initiation of breastfeeding (m34 and v426)

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Mon, 13 Jun 2016 17:53:09 GMT

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Variables m34 and v426 provide the same information, but from two different perspectives. m34 is from the child's perspective and v426 is from the woman's perspective and only about her last birth. v426 relates only to the last birth and when the woman put the last child to the breast. m34 and v426 will be the same for the last child (that is when midx==1)

Thus for the last birth, you can use either m34 or v426 as they are the same, but for earlier births, only use m34 as this relates to the child. Don't use v426 as this is a woman level variable about the last birth that is copied to each child's record for convenience (or, as it seems in this case, confusion).

Thus you will find some cases where m34 is missing (typically because the child was never breastfed), but v426 is not missing (because it refers to a different child), and vice versa.

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