
Subject: Determining child's birth order

Posted by [jangels1](#) on Wed, 26 Apr 2023 15:34:06 GMT

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I'm working with the birth recode file of the Bangladesh 2017-18 survey and I'm trying to tabulate child's birth order by place of delivery (in other words: does place of delivery vary by birth order of the child?). If it's easier, this could be equally well represented by a tab of mother's parity and place of delivery.

This dataset seems not to contain the BORD variable, and bidx doesn't really serve my purpose because birth order is what I'm after. Is there a way to calculate birth order? Thanks!

Subject: Re: Determining child's birth order

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 27 Apr 2023 11:57:18 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

If you have bidx or bord, but not the other, you can use this algebraic relationship: $\text{bidx} + \text{bord} = v201 + 1$. For example, if a woman had 4 children ($v201=4$), the most recent birth (with $\text{bidx}=1$) will be the 4th birth ($\text{bord}=1$). That is, $1+4=4+1$. You can get bord from bidx with $\text{bord} = v201 + 1 - \text{bidx}$.

If you are trying to match "birth order" in some tables, what's tabulated is not really bord but another variable that takes account of multiple births. For example, in the BD 2017-18 final report, tables 9.15-9.18, birth order is constructed from bord as follows. (For this table the loop for "border" only needs to go from 1 to 5 but for other purposes it could go as far as the maximum value of v201 in the survey.)

* Birth order

* To match birth order in the tables, bord must be modified to include multiple births

```
gen border=.
```

```
forvalues ll=1/5 {
```

```
  replace border=`ll' if (bord==`ll' & b0==0) | (bord==`ll'+1 & b0==2) | (bord==`ll'+2 & b0==3)
```

```
}
```

```
gen birth_order=1 if border==1
```

```
replace birth_order=2 if border>1
```

```
replace birth_order=3 if border>3
```

```
replace birth_order=4 if border>5
```

```
label variable birth_order "Birth order"
```

```
label define birth_order 1 "1" 2 "2-3" 3 "4-5" 4 "6+"
```

```
label values birth_order birth_order
```

Subject: Re: Determining child's birth order
Posted by [jangles1](#) on Thu, 27 Apr 2023 12:33:00 GMT
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Wonderful, thank you so much!
