Subject: Exclusive Breastfeeding Variable
Posted by Didi on Tue, 05 Dec 2023 07:18:19 GMT
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Hello DHS team,
Am trying to come up with the exclusive breastfeeding variable using the variables m4, v409, v409A, v410, v411, v411a, v412, v412a, v412c, v413, v414e, v414f, v414g, v414h, v414i, v414j, v414k, v414l, v414m, v414n, v414o, v414p, v414r, v414s, v414v using children dataset Indonesia
How can I come up with the exclusive breastfeeding variable using the variables I have listed?

Subject: Re: Exclusive Breastfeeding Variable
Posted by Janet-DHS on Wed, 06 Dec 2023 22:03:34 GMT
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Thank you for submitting your question. Could you please provide some more detailed information so we can better advise you?

Can you let us know:

- Which survey you are using (Include country name and year)?
- Which data files you are referring to?
- Which software you are using (Stata, SPSS, R, etc.)?

If you are trying to match a Table in a final report, please also indicate which table and which estimate you are trying to match.

Subject: Re: Exclusive Breastfeeding Variable
Posted by Gizat on Thu, 21 Dec 2023 15:04:28 GMT
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I have also a similar question regarding this topic. I was trying to generate an exclusive breastfeeding practice variable (no, yes) or (0,1) from Ethiopian DHS 2016 using Stata. Could you please help me how can I construct a stata command?

Subject: Re: Exclusive Breastfeeding Variable
Posted by Janet-DHS on Fri, 22 Dec 2023 15:51:14 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

I recently re-wrote the Stata program to do this (). I have grouped the relevant variables into local lists, which I think makes it much easier to see what's counted as liquids or milk. The lists may need to be modified slightly for your survey, because of survey-specific questions on diet. Please

read the comments in the program and the notes to the table in the final report very carefully. Hope this works; let us know if it doesn't.

I'll also take this opportunity to publicize a recent paper on EBF that I co-authored: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fnut.2023.10581 34/full.

Subject: Re: Exclusive Breastfeeding Variable
Posted by Gizat on Tue, 02 Jan 2024 07:29:49 GMT
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Thank you for your explanation. However, I think you didn't get my question. I intended to define exclusive breastfeeding practice from the EDHS 2016 data KR file. I attempted to define as "gen EBF=1 if (b19<6 & m55==0)
replace NEBF=1 if NonEBF==." Nevertheless, the percentage was too small compared with the EDHS report. I hope you get my point.

Subject: Re: Exclusive Breastfeeding Variable
Posted by Janet-DHS on Mon, 08 Jan 2024 15:31:18 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

Sorry, but EBF is not defined just by m55=0. You have to construct the entire IYCF indicator. The general program has to be adapted to the specific variables in each survey, and there are some differences in how the "don't know" cases (code 8) are handled. The attached Stata program (see attachment) comes close to matching table 11.3 in the final report on the Ethiopia 2016 survey but is not exact. I don't know why the n is 15 cases too low (I get 1185 rather than 1200 weighted cases for 0-5 months) and I don't know how the NA cases, which are broken out in DHS-8, were allocated to the separate categories in this DHS-7 survey.

File Attachments
1) Ethiopia2016_breastfeeding_do_8Jan2024.txt, downloaded 410 times

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Subject: Re: Exclusive Breastfeeding Variable
Posted by Janet-DHS on Wed, 10 Apr 2024 16:18:43 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The indicator for exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) has to be calculated with the routine for infant and young child feeding (IYCF) in the generic Chapter 11. Here is a link to the Stata programs: https://

github.com/DHSProgram/DHS-Indicators-Stata/tree/master/Chap1 1_NT. It is necessary to specifically account for all of the liquids and foods that are alternatives to breastmilk. I wish there was a shortcut but there isn't.