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Subject: Age in months of the most recent child born in the last five years in the IR file of NFHS-4

Posted by [Varsha](#) on Tue, 07 May 2024 11:40:55 GMT

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Hello,

I was calculating the age in months of the most recent child born in the last five years in the IR file using the code: `gen age = v008 - b3_01`. I replaced the 'age' variable with a '.' when `b5_01` is 0. `hw1_1` in the same file also gives us the age in months, but when I run the code '`compare age hw1_1 if v208!=0`', there are differences between the two variables. Why is it so? It is mentioned in the VI recode that HW1 is calculated from the country month code of the date of interview less the century month code of the date of birth of the child. I have followed the same thing for calculating the 'age' variable, even then there are differences.

Please help.

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Subject: Re: Age in months of the most recent child born in the last five years in the IR file of NFHS-4

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 07 May 2024 17:58:53 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Staff Member, Tom Pullum:

The following Stata lines will calculate the age of the youngest child in a way that is consistent with `b8`. Here "age" is not restricted to children who survived but is completed years since birth for all children. When you compare with `b8_01`, that comparison will automatically be just for the children who survived, because `b8_01` is NA for children who died. Here is no need to condition on the value of `v208`; the calculation applies for any value of `v208`. Here, the last line restricts to the youngest child under 5. It shows that "age" and `b8_01` agree exactly.

In a previous post you used "round" in place of "int". Here, as in that context, you need to use "int" to get completed years of age.

```
* Calculate the age of the most recent child in the IR file
use "...IAIR74FL.DTA", clear
gen age=int((v008-b3_01)/12)
tab age b8_01 if age<=4
```

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Subject: Re: Age in months of the most recent child born in the last five years in the IR file of NFHS-4

Posted by [Varsha](#) on Tue, 07 May 2024 20:49:05 GMT

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Thank you, Tom.

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