
Subject: ages at first marriage and first birth
Posted by [sowmyarajan](#) on Mon, 08 Jul 2013 18:08:07 GMT
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I'm studying the ages at first marriage and birth using the NFHS using survival analysis. I have a couple of questions:

1. In 1992-3, I can't seem to find the century month codes for age at first marriage. Is this variable not available for the first round of the survey?
2. Does the CMC for date of first marriage (v509) refer to the marriage date pre- or post- gauna in 1998-9 and 2005-6?

Thanks!
sowmya.

Subject: Re: ages at first marriage and first birth
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 16 Jul 2013 13:50:17 GMT
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Here is a response from Trevor Croft, one of our DHS experts

In answer to the question concerning the marriage dates in the NFHS surveys:

1) The CMC of first marriage was not calculated in the 1992-93 survey, however, you can approximate it using the following calculation:

$$v509 = v011 + 12 * v511 + 6$$

This places all marriages 6 months after the respondent turned the age given in v511.

Alternatively you could use

$$v509 = v011 + 12 * v511 + \text{int}(12 * \text{runiform}())$$

to randomly distribute the dates of marriage (roughly as was done for the 1998-99 survey, but without additional constraints see below). This is in line with the procedure that DHS uses when only age is reported and no month and year of marriage is reported.

2) For the 1998-99 survey, v509 is based on the age at which the woman started living with her first husband (question 112 or question 115 depending on whether she had married before or not). As we don't have a month and year that she started living with her first husband, v509 is imputed using the age started living together and with some constraining information (e.g. to avoid births before she started living with her husband).

For the 2005-06 survey, the date recorded in v509 is the date that the woman started living with her husband (from question 312).

Subject: Re: ages at first marriage and first birth
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Thu, 18 Jul 2013 21:42:07 GMT

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After further review and checking of the original programs, I discovered that in the 1992-93 survey v511 actually contains the age the woman started living with her current husband, and not the first husband. The information on the age of the woman when she started living with her first husband is in s113. Thus, I would adjust the instructions given for calculating v509 as follows:

```
generate age1stm = v511  
replace age1stm = s113 if s113 < 96
```

```
replace v509 = v011 + 12 * age1st + int(12*runiform()) if age1stm < 97
```

Note the added condition to exclude a small number of cases where the age started living together was not available.

We will be making a correction to the dataset to correct v511 and will release the corrected dataset in the near future.

Subject: Re: ages at first marriage and first birth
Posted by [psuarez](#) on Thu, 15 Jan 2015 01:47:54 GMT
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Hello,

I was wondering if the above correction was made and, if so, when was the updated dataset released?

I downloaded the India 1992-3 DHS survey in the fall of 2013, and the variable S113 only has 1,604 non-missing observations out of the 89,777 individual respondents.

Should I make the above adjustments to age at first marriage or is V511 now reliable?

Thank you,
Paola Suarez

Subject: Re: ages at first marriage and first birth
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Tue, 03 Feb 2015 16:45:13 GMT
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The correction given has not been made in the dataset, so you should use the corrections given here.
