
Subject: Low Birth Weight

Posted by [kweaver](#) on Fri, 24 Jul 2015 15:55:18 GMT

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We are interested in analyzing low birth weight data. We are looking at the table which combines children with a reported birth weight with mother's perception of their child's size at birth such as "very small" or "small". We are wondering if these categories are mutually exclusive. Therefore, if a child is weighed than they would be included in the less than 2.5 kg or 2.5 kg or more columns and if they were not weighed they would be recorded with mother's perception as "very small", "smaller than average", etc.

Thanks.

Subject: Re: Low Birth Weight

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Fri, 24 Jul 2015 20:07:07 GMT

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Dear User,

Here is a response from one of our nutrition experts, Dr. Monica Kothari:

Quote:The question on low birth weight and mother's perception of their child's size at birth are mutually exclusive. The question on mothers perception is asked before the birth weight, please see the attached file showing the related questions. Interviewers are instructed to not change QRE 430 once Q432 is filled. For example, if the child's birth weight was < 2.5 Kgs and mother had responded that the child was very large, that's what will be recorded and included in the data file.

Thank you!

File Attachments

1) [Birth weight questions from Core Questionnaire_DHS6.pdf](#),
downloaded 791 times

Subject: Re: Low Birth Weight

Posted by [k Morris](#) on Fri, 24 Jul 2015 20:51:57 GMT

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Thank you so much for this response, it is very helpful in understanding the intricacies of the weight and size indicators.

However, I think my colleague may be asking a slightly different question. Maybe it would be easier to write it in terms of denominators:

If the low birth weight indicators (in the tables in the reports) is (# babies < 2.5 kg/ # babies with reported weights) is the perception of size the inverse (# babies with X perceived size/# babies WITHOUT reported weights)--implying the denominators for low birth weight and size can be added to equal # births in the last 5 years?

We believe mother's perceived size at birth is actually (# babies with x perceived size/# births in the last 5 years) in which case we cannot use weight and size together.

Thank you for your assistance!

Subject: Re: Low Birth Weight
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Mon, 26 Oct 2015 18:51:28 GMT
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Dear User,

Do you still need assistance with this post? Dr. Kothari further responded:Quote:If you notice in the attached table " # of babies with X perceived size" is calculated for all live births in last 5 years adding up to 100% including don't know responses. This indicates that the below highlighted statement from the user is correct. Please let me know if the response is still not clear to the user.

"We believe mother's perceived size at birth is actually (# babies with x perceived size/# births in the last 5 years) in which case we cannot use weight and size together."

Thank you!

File Attachments

1)

[Table_10.1_Child's_size_and_weight_at_birth_Zambia_2013-14_P139.pdf](#), downloaded 736 times
