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Subject: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Sami](#) on Tue, 17 May 2016 12:28:04 GMT  
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Dear DHS forum:

My name is Sami. I have been trying to reproduce table number 8.4 as shown in Nepal Demographic and Health Survey 2011 report, page number 117. I used NPIR60FL and NPBR60FL data files and with the help of message number 8646 and 8648, I have been able to re produce similar table but I am still struggling to calculate previous pregnancy interval in months.

which variables I should be using to calculate pregnancy interval in months that match with number of pregnancies of 7+ months' duration.

I would be thankful if you can guide me through to calculate this.

Regards

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Tue, 28 Mar 2017 21:13:19 GMT  
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Dear User, Do you still need help with this post?

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Sami](#) on Mon, 05 Jun 2017 23:56:18 GMT  
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Dear Liz,

I am struggling to calculate pregnancy interval in months for both Nepal DHS 2006 and 2011.

Your help on this would be great relief because I would like to use this variable in my analysis.

Many thanks

Regards  
Sami

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Sami](#) on Thu, 23 Aug 2018 01:32:31 GMT  
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Dear DHS forum

I have posted above post for a long time ago, but i have not heard anything since then. Can anyone please help me to resolve this issue?

Regards  
Sami

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Sami](#) on Fri, 24 Aug 2018 11:58:11 GMT  
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Dear Liz,

I have been waiting since you asked me if i need help on above post. Is there any help i can get from any senior members?

Thank you.

Sami

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Mon, 27 Aug 2018 15:12:47 GMT  
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Dear Sami,  
Our experts have been very busy. I will follow up on this and get back to you as soon as I have a response. Thank you for following up.  
Thanks!  
Liz

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Mon, 27 Aug 2018 20:34:00 GMT  
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A response from Senior Data Processing Expert, Mr. Guillermo Rojas:

Quote:

To calculate the pregnancy interval for that table it is necessary to use the calendar. Essentially from the beginning of the calendar look month by month for a birth "B" or termination "T". Once one of them are found, position in the month before the start of the pregnancy for that birth/termination and count the number of months until another birth or termination is found. In the case of births assume that duration of pregnancy is 9 months. In the case of terminations look for the first character different from a pregnancy "P" after the month where the "T" was found. It is also important to take into consideration the date of the last birth/termination before the beginning

of the calendar because that needs to be used to compute the duration for births/terminations that occurred in the last 5 years (59 months), but the previous birth/termination occurred before the calendar.

You may also want to visit the Calendar Tutorial

Thank you!

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Sami](#) on Tue, 28 Aug 2018 02:40:17 GMT  
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Dear Expert,

Thank you for your response. As suggested previously, i have used following code, but i have not been able to compute pregnancy interval in months. Can you please advise any variables/code i can use to compute pregnancy interval in months?

The code i have used is as follow:

```
* Using Nepal DHS 2011
use "C:\Data\DHS_Stata\NPIR60FL.DTA" , clear
gen pregs = 0

forvalues i = 1/80 {
  gen cmc`i' = v017 + 80 - `i'
  gen event`i' = substr(vcal_1, `i', 1)
  gen type`i' = .
  replace type`i' = 1 if substr(vcal_1,`i',1) == "B"
  replace type`i' = 3 if substr(vcal_1,`i',1) == "T"
  replace type`i' = 2 if substr(vcal_1,`i',7) == "TPPPPPP"
  replace pregs = pregs+1 if (substr(vcal_1,`i',1) == "B" | substr(vcal_1,`i',1) == "T")
}
* Drop cases with no pregnancies
drop if pregs == 0

* Decide what variables you want to keep first before the reshape, modify this list as you need to
add extra variables.
keep caseid v001 v002 v003 v005 v008 v011 v013 v017 v018 v019 v021 v022 v023 cmc* event*
type*

* The reshape is really really really slow if you don't select variables and cases first, and will most
likely fail otherwise.
reshape long cmc event type, i(caseid) j(ix)
```

```
lab def type 1 "Birth" 2 "Stillbirth" 3 "Miscarriage/abortion"  
lab val type type  
lab var type "Type of pregnancy"  
lab var cmc "Century month code of event"  
lab var event "Calendar event code"
```

```
* Set length of calendar to use
```

```
gen callen = v018 + 59
```

```
* If calendar is aligned right (as in original dataset), use the following:
```

```
gen beg = v018
```

```
gen end = callen
```

```
* If calendar is aligned left (as it is in some datasets), use the following:
```

```
*gen beg = 1
```

```
*gen end = 60
```

```
* Include only the five year period
```

```
keep if ix >= beg & ix <= end
```

```
* check the pregnancy types
```

```
tab type [iw=v005/1000000]
```

```
* Note that this will not match the 5444 pregnancies of 7+ months as that includes twins.
```

```
* This file excludes twins, but i believe that is what you really need.
```

```
* keep only births and stillbirths
```

```
keep if type == 1 | type == 2
```

```
*****add the twins*****
```

```
* sort by case identifiers and century month code of pregnancy end
```

```
sort v001 v002 v003 cmc
```

```
* save this file
```

```
save "pregnancies of 7 months or more.dta"
```

```
* Open birth history
```

```
use "C:\Data\DHS_Stata\NPBR60FL.DTA", clear
```

```
* Sort according to ID and CMC of birth
```

```
clonevar cmc = b3
```

```
sort v001 v002 v003 cmc
```

```
save "births.dta"
```

```
* Reopen the pregnancies files and merge in the twins
```

```
use "pregnancies of 7 months or more.dta", clear
```

```
merge 1:m v001 v002 v003 cmc using "births.dta", keep(master match) keepusing(b*)
```

```
tab type [iw=v005/1000000]
```

Thank you so much

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Subject: Re: pregnancy interval in months variable  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Tue, 28 Aug 2018 13:16:02 GMT  
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Sami, here is another response from another source:

Quote:

It seems we have to use calendar variable (pos( VCAL(1)[i:1], "T" or "P")) for still birth and check whether still birth or pregnancies are 7+ months of pregnancies. It seems straight forward for live births assuming all births are 7+ months of pregnancies.

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