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Subject: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014

Posted by [Md. Nurnabi Sheikh](#) on Wed, 22 Feb 2017 07:15:37 GMT

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I am working IYCF practice on BDHS child datasets for my MPH thesis, and trying to replicate Minimum meal frequency in table 11.6. But I am not able to get same percentages among breastfed children, non-breastfed children and all children age 6-23 months. I am working in stata and my algorithm as follows;

\* Last child in the last 2 years living with mother

\* age in months

gen age = v008-b3

\* drop if too old or not alive

keep if age<24 & b5==1

\* keep only those children living with mother ...

keep if b9==0

\* ... and keep the last born of those

drop if \_n > 0 & caseid == caseid[\_n-1]

drop if age<6

\*Minimum meal frequency

tab m39, m

\*Minimum meal frequency for breastfeed child age 6-8 months, 9-23 months

recode m39 (2/7=1 "2-7"), gen(mm1)

recode m39 (3/7=1 "3-7"), gen(mm2)

\*Minimum meal frequency for non-breastfeed child age 6-23 months

recode m39 (4/7=1 "4-7"), gen(mm3)

\*Age group

recode age (6/8=1 "6-8")(9/23=2 "9-23"), gen (age\_g)

\*Breastfeeding status

gen still\_feeding=1 if m4==95

replace still\_feeding=0 if still\_feeding==.

\*Minimum meal frequency applying all conditions

gen mmf1=1 if mm1==1 & age\_g==1 & still\_feeding==1

gen mmf2=1 if mm2==1 & age\_g==2 & still\_feeding==1

gen mmf3=1 if mm3==1 & still\_feeding==0

It would be very much helpful for me if any one help me with stata command.

Regards,  
Nurnabi

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Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Mon, 08 May 2017 19:10:19 GMT  
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I think your problem is that when you generate mm1, mm2, and mm3 you are not handling the values outside of the range you specify. For example,

```
recode m39 (2/7=1 "2-7"), gen(mm1)
should read
recode m39 (2/7=1 "2-7")(else=0), gen(mm1)
```

Without the else condition, values of m39 that you don't specifically recode are copied over, and thus m39==1 is transferred to mm1 and sets mm1 equal to 1!  
Adding the (else=0) will handle these cases.

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Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [Louis](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2018 14:01:56 GMT  
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hello,

i am working on the MMF for non breastfed children.  
i am a little stack at creating the milk and milk products. i would be glad to receive help.  
Thanks

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Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [Louis](#) on Thu, 01 Mar 2018 16:15:28 GMT  
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actually this is the little i have been able to do.

```
clonevar age= v222
codebook b9_01
keep if age<24
keep if b9_01==0
tab b9_01
drop if _n > 0 & caseid == caseid[_n-1]
drop if age <6
tab m4_1
```

```

codebook m4_1
*Weighting
gen v005_wgt= v005/1000000

*Age group recoding
*NB; clonevar age already deifned @ 26
recode age (6/8=1 "6-8")(9/11=2 "9-11") (12/17=3 "12-17") (18/23=4 "18-23"), gen (age_g)

*recode of m4_1 as number of breastfed and number of nonbreastfed children 6-23months
recode m4_1 (93/94=0 "Number of non-breastfed children 6-23 months") (95=1 "Number of
breastfed children 6-23 months"), gen (still_feeding)
replace still_feeding=0 if still_feeding==.

*****MINIMUM DIETARY DIVERSITY MMD*****
*** MDD 7 food groups**
capture drop grpa
gen grpa=1 if v411a==1| v411==1|v414p==1|v414v==1
label value grpa grpa
tab grpa
capture drop grpb
gen grpb=1 if v414e==1| v414f==1| v412a==1
label value grpb grpb
tab grpb
capture drop grpc
gen grpc=1 if v414k==1| v414i==1| v414j==1
label value grpc grpc
tab grpc
capture drop grpd
gen grpd=1 if v414l==1
label value grpd grpd
tab grpd
capture drop grpe
gen grpe=1 if v414g==1
label value grpe grpe
tab grpe
capture drop grpf
gen grpf=1 if v414h==1| v414m==1|v414n==1
label value grpf grpf
tab grpf
capture drop grpg
gen grpg=1 if v414o==1
label value grpg grpg
tab grpg
** 7 Food groups***
egen dietd = rsum(grpa grpb grpc grpd grpe grpf grpg) if grpa~=.| grpb~=.| grpc~=.| grpd~=.|
grpe~=.| grpf~=.| grpg~=.
** 4+ Foods FOR ALL CHILDREN***

```

```
recode dietd (1/3 .=0 "Not diverse") (4/7=1 "Diverse"), gen(diet4)
ta diet4 [iw=v005/1000000]
label value diet4 diet4
label var diet4 " Minimum dietary diversity"
tab diet4
```

```
**MDD for breastfed children**
```

```
gen mdd1=.
replace mdd1=1 if diet4==1 & still_feeding==1
replace mdd1=0 if diet4==0 & still_feeding==1
label define mdd1 0"Not Diverse" 1"Diverse"
label values mdd1 mdd1
label var mdd1 " Minimum dietary diversity for Breastfed children"
tab mdd1
```

```
***MDD for nonbreastfed children***
```

```
gen mdd0=.
replace mdd0=1 if diet4==1 & still_feeding==0
replace mdd0=0 if diet4==0 & still_feeding==0
label define mdd0 0"Not Diverse" 1"Diverse"
label values mdd0 mdd0
label var mdd0 " Minimum dietary diversity for nonbreastfed children"
tab mdd0
```

```
tab age_g diet4 [iw=v005/1000000], r
tab age_g mdd1 [iw=v005/1000000], r
tab age_g mdd0 [iw=v005/1000000], r
```

```
***** MINIMUM MEAL FREQUENCY MMF *****
```

```
*Minimum meal freq for group1*
```

```
capture drop mm1
gen byte mm1=.
replace mm1=1 if m39_1>=2 & still_feeding==1
replace mm1=0 if m39_1<2 & still_feeding==1
tab mm1
```

```
label define mm1 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
```

```
label values mm1 mm1
```

```
tab mm1
```

```
*Minimum meal freq for breastfed children aged 6-8months*
```

```
gen byte mmf1=.
replace mmf1=1 if mm1==1 & age_g==1
replace mmf1=0 if mm1==0 & age_g==1
label define mmf1 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
label values mmf1 mmf1
```

```
tab mmf1
```

```
tab age_g mmf1,r
```

```
*Minimum meal freq for group2*
```

```
capture drop mm2
```

```

gen byte mm2=.
replace mm2=1 if m39_1>=3 & still_feeding==1
replace mm2= 0 if m39_1<3 & still_feeding==1
label define mm2 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
label values mm2 mm2
tab mm2
*Minimum meal freq for breastfed children aged 9-11months*
capture drop mmf2
gen byte mmf2=.
replace mmf2=1 if mm2==1& age_g==2
replace mmf2=0 if mm2==0 & age_g==2
label define mmf2 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
label values mmf2 mmf2
tab mmf2
tab age_g mmf2,r
*Minimum meal freq for breastfed children aged 12-17months*
capture drop mmf3
gen byte mmf3=.
replace mmf3=1 if mm2==1& age_g==3
replace mmf3=0 if mm2==0 & age_g==3
label define mmf3 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
label values mmf3 mmf3
tab mmf3
tab age_g mmf3,r
*Minimum meal freq for breastfed children aged 18-23months*
capture drop mmf4
gen byte mmf4=.
replace mmf4=1 if mm2==1& age_g==4
replace mmf4=0 if mm2==0 & age_g==4
label define mmf4 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
label values mmf4 mmf4
tab mmf4
tab age_g mmf4,r
**Minimum meal freq for breastfed children aged 6-23months combined*
capture drop mmfb
egen byte mmfb= rowtotal (mmf1 mmf2 mmf3 mmf4), missing
label define mmfb 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
label values mmfb mmfb
tab mmfb
tab age_g mmfb,r
tab age_g mmfb [iweight=v005_wgt], r

```

\*\*\*\*MMF FOR NON-BREASTFED CHILDREN\*\*\*\*

\*\* GENERATING MILK OR MILK PRODUCTS\*\*

```

tab1 v411 v411a v414v, m
capture drop milk

```

```
gen byte milk= v411+ v411a +v414v
label var milk "Milk or milk products"
tab milk
```

```
** Non breastfed MMF proper**
```

```
egen sm= rowtotal (m39_1 milk), missing
tab sm
```

```
capture drop mmfn
```

```
gen byte mmfn=.
```

```
replace mmfn=1 if sm>=4 & still_feeding==0
```

```
replace mmfn=0 if sm<4 & still_feeding==0
```

```
label define mmfn 0 "Not Freq" 1 "Freq"
```

```
label values mmfn mmfn
```

```
tab mmfn
```

```
tab age_g mmfn [iweight=v005_wgt], r
```

```
label var mmfn " Minimum meal frequency for non-breastfed children 6-23 months"
```

```
**Total minimum meal frequency for all children 6-23 months**
```

```
egen MMF= rowtotal (mmfb mmfn), missing
```

```
label var MMF " Minimum meal frequency for all children 6-23 months"
```

```
label values MMF MMF
```

```
label define MMF 0" Not Freq" 1" Freq"
```

```
tab MMF
```

```
tab age_g MMF [iweight=v005_wgt], r
```

my problem now is how to generate the breast milk, milk or milk products to match the values in the report.

Sincerely,  
Louis

---

Subject: Indonesian : child age in month

Posted by [Hai R](#) on Mon, 19 Mar 2018 05:17:56 GMT

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Hello,

I am working for IYCF indicators for Indonesia DHS 2012, how to generated child age in month (using stata)? I could not find this variable yet in the data set. Which file is the best to use, if I want to work on IYCF practice among children aged 0-23 months.

many thanks for your help,

warm regards  
Ha'i

---

---

Subject: Re: Indonesian : child age in month  
Posted by [Hai R](#) on Mon, 19 Mar 2018 05:46:48 GMT  
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---

Got the age in month, and I learn from the forum is using KR file is the best for IYCF. please your advice,

warm regards  
Ha'i

---

Subject: Re: Indonesian : child age in month  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Mon, 19 Mar 2018 13:52:57 GMT  
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---

Yes, use the KR file for IYCF indicators. for age in months, if b19 exists in the dataset (only datasets since about 2016) use that, if not calculate age in months as v008 - b3. See Calculating the age of children for more information.

---

Subject: Re: Indonesian : child age in month  
Posted by [Hai R](#) on Tue, 20 Mar 2018 00:57:14 GMT  
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Many thanks Trevor,

warm regards, Ha'i

---

Subject: Re: Indonesian : child age in month  
Posted by [Hassen](#) on Wed, 25 Apr 2018 14:54:48 GMT  
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---

Dear All, As a beginner of using DHS Data It is not clear to creat IYCF Index from KR file for me. Thus I need your genuine support how to creat IYCF Index? What are the variables in KR file? I didn't get them.  
Thank you for your assistance and guidance.

---

Subject: Re: Indonesian : child age in month  
Posted by [Hassen](#) on Thu, 26 Apr 2018 07:55:09 GMT  
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Dear Our Hero,How Can I Construct IYCF Index,Women's Impowerment Index? I didn't get the variables from KR file? All DHS forum users, Please help me My Respected members!!

---

Subject: Indonesia IYCF DHS 2012  
Posted by [Hai R](#) on Mon, 22 Apr 2019 07:14:46 GMT  
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Dear DHS team,

I would like to confirm my STATA analysis on 8 IYCF core indicators for Indonesian DHS 2012. I found slightly different rates for most indicators. I have followed the discussion in DHS forum and applied the syntaxes.

Here are my findings and the differences with the DHS report:

Indicator	My analysis DHS report Differences		
	Rate (%)	Rate (%)	
Early Initiation of breastfeeding (0-23mo)	50.02	49.30	0.72
Exclusive Breastfeeding (0-5mo)	42.61	41.50	1.11
Continued Breastfeeding at 1 year (12-15mo)	77.21	77.00	0.21
Introduction to Soft and Semi Solid Food (6-8mo)	90.37	91.00	-0.63
Minimum Dietary Diversity (6-23mo)	58.20	58.20	-
Minimum Meal Frequency (6-23mo)	65.80	66.10	-0.30
Minimum Acceptable Diet (6-23mo)	36.14	37.00	-0.86
Consumption of Iron-rich or iron-fortified foods (6-23mo)	54.21	n/a	

I am sending you my syntaxes in attachment, I have checked several times, but could not figure out the reason for such discrepancy.

many thanks for your help

warm regards

Ha'i

### File Attachments

1) [Indonesia2012\\_8IYCFcore indicators.do](#), downloaded 404 times

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Subject: Re: Indonesia IYCF DHS 2012  
Posted by [dnameispaone](#) on Fri, 26 Apr 2019 12:53:14 GMT  
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Hi there,

Could you briefly describe how can we create a variable for exclusive breastfeeding?

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Subject: Re: Indonesia IYCF DHS 2012  
Posted by [Hai R](#) on Mon, 29 Apr 2019 03:44:54 GMT  
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---

Hi,



here is my commands, however, I got slightly different result compared to DHS report:

\*2. Exclusive Breastfeeding (EBF)\*

\*child age (0-5 months for EBF)

recode age (0/5 = 1 "0-5")(6/8 = 2 "6-8")(9/11 = 3 "9-11")(12/17 = 4 "12-17")(18/23 = 5 "18-23"),

gen(child\_age1)

tab child\_age1 [iw=rweight]

//Breastfeeding status.

gen water=0

gen liquids=0

gen milk=0

gen solids=0

gen breast=0

//Water

replace water=1 if (v409>=1 & v409<=7)

//Other non-milk liquids

//check for country specific liquids

foreach xvar of varlist v410 v411 v411a v412a v412c v413\* {

  replace liquids=1 if `xvar'>=1 & `xvar'<=7

}

\* Powdered or tinned milk, formula, fresh milk

foreach xvar of varlist v411 v411a {

  replace milk=1 if `xvar'>=1 & `xvar'<=7

}

\* Solid food

\* check for country specific foods

foreach xvar of varlist v412a v412c v413\* {

  replace solids=1 if `xvar'>=1 & `xvar'<=7

}

\*Still breastfeeding

replace breast=1 if m4==95

tab1 water liquids milk solids breast

\* Generate column variable used in table 11.3

gen feeding=1

replace feeding=2 if water==1

replace feeding=3 if liquids==1

replace feeding=4 if milk==1

replace feeding=5 if solids==1

replace feeding=0 if breast==0

tab feeding

```
label define feeding ///
  0 "Not breastfeeding" 1 "Exclusive breastfeeding" ///
  2 "+Water" 3 "+Liquids" ///
  4 "+Other Milk" 5 "+Solids"
label val feeding breastfeeding

tab child_age feeding [iw=rweight], row
tab child_age1 feeding [iw=rweight], row

replace feeding=1 if feeding==1
replace feeding=0 if feeding==0
replace feeding=0 if feeding==2
replace feeding=0 if feeding==3
replace feeding=0 if feeding==4
replace feeding=0 if feeding==5
recode feeding (1=1 "Yes") (0=0 "No") if child_age1==1, gen (EBF)
label variable EBF "Exclusive Breast Feeding"
tab EBF [iw=rweight]
```

---

Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Thu, 02 May 2019 19:03:28 GMT  
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See the Guide to DHS Statistics and search for Exclusive Breastfeeding to find the following page:  
[https://www.dhsprogram.com/Data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/Breastfeeding\\_and\\_Complementary\\_Feeding.htm](https://www.dhsprogram.com/Data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/Breastfeeding_and_Complementary_Feeding.htm)

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Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [rayhangog@gmail.com](mailto:rayhangog@gmail.com) on Thu, 16 May 2019 20:19:42 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hello,

I am trying to compute the Minimum Meal Frequency from the Indian DHS 2015-16, following the commands given by Nurnabi and Trevor's instructions. My computed percentage (28.66%) is not matching with the reported percentage (35.9%) in the DHS-4 report. However, the sample size (69,690) is matching,  
Could you anyone point out my mistake in the commands (below)? Or if possible, share the correct syntax for Minimum Meal Frequency and Minimum Acceptable diet, please.

I am using the following commands:

```

* Last child in the last 2 years living with mother
* age in months
gen age = v008-b3
* drop if too old or not alive
keep if age<24 & b5==1

* keep only those children living with mother ...
keep if b9==0
* ... and keep the last born of those
drop if _n > 0 & caseid == caseid[_n-1]

drop if age<6

*Minimum meal frequency
tab m39, m

*Minimum meal frequency for breastfeed child age 6-8 months, 9-23 months
recode m39 (2/7=1 "2-7")(else=0), gen(mm1)
recode m39 (3/7=1 "3-7")(else=0), gen(mm2)

*Minimum meal frequency for non-breastfeed child age 6-23 months
recode m39 (4/7=1 "4-7")(else=0), gen(mm3)

*Age group
recode age (6/8=1 "6-8")(9/23=2 "9-23"), gen (age_g)

*Breastfeeding status
gen still_feeding=1 if m4==95
replace still_feeding=0 if still_feeding==.

*Minimum meal frequency applying all conditions
gen mmf1=1 if mm1==1 & age_g==1 & still_feeding==1

gen mmf2=1 if mm2==1 & age_g==2 & still_feeding==1

gen mmf3=1 if mm3==1 & still_feeding==0

*Weight variable
gen wgt=v005/1000000

* Minimum meal frequency for all children (6=23 months)
gen MMF=0
replace MMF=1 if mmf1==1 | mmf2==1 | mmf3==1

tab MMF [iw=wgt]

```

Thank you,  
Sk

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Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 12 Nov 2019 15:32:21 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS Senior Analysis & Research Manager, Shireen Assaf:

The code below will match table 10.10 in the India 2015-16 final report. The problem may be that you had to take into consideration the breastfeeding status of the child using v404. Please see below. The first part of the code is the same as yours to select the youngest child under 2 years living with the mother.

\*\*\*\* Minimum Meal Frequency Code \*\*\*\*

\* Last child in the last 2 years living with mother

\* age in months

gen age = v008-b3

\* drop if too old or not alive

keep if age<24 & b5==1

\* keep only those children living with mother ...

keep if b9==0

\* ... and keep the last born of those

drop if \_n > 0 & caseid == caseid[\_n-1]

drop if age<6

gen wt= v005/1000000

\* among breastfed children 6-23 months, minimum meal frequency

\* defined as receiving solid or semisolid food at least twice a day for

\* infants age 6-8 months and at least 3 times a day for children age 9-23 months

gen minfreq1 = 0

replace minfreq1 =1 if (m39>1 & m39<8 & age>=6 & age<=8) | (m39>2 & m39<8 & age>=9 & age<=23)

\*this is for breastfed children

ta minfreq1 if v404==1 [iw=wt]

\* For nonbreastfed children age 6-23 months, minimum meal frequency is receiving

\* solid or semisolid food or milk feeds at least 4 times a day.

\* milk feeds

gen totmilkf = 0

replace totmilkf=totmilkf + v469e if v469e<8  
replace totmilkf=totmilkf + v469f if v469f<8  
replace totmilkf=totmilkf + v469x if v469x<8

\* adding solid or semisolids  
gen feedings=totmilkf  
replace feedings= feedings + m39 if m39>0 & m39<8

gen minfreq2 =0  
replace minfreq2 = 1 if feedings>=4

\*this is for non-breastfed children  
ta minfreq2 if v404==0 [iw=wt]

\*\*\*\*

\* Now we combine these variable to get the minimum meal frequency among all children  
gen minfreq3=0  
replace minfreq3=1 if minfreq1==1 & v404==1  
replace minfreq3=1 if minfreq2==1 & v404==0  
ta minfreq3 [iw=wt]

\*this gives 35.9% and 69,690 children as in the final report

---

Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [rayhangog@gmail.com](mailto:rayhangog@gmail.com) on Wed, 13 Nov 2019 09:23:27 GMT  
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Thank you. Now, it is matched.

---

Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014  
Posted by [shobhit](#) on Tue, 19 Sep 2023 11:13:49 GMT  
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Dear Sir/Madam,

Can get a Stata syntax for Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD) for DHS India. Moreover, the MDD and MMF do not match the Indian DHS 201921 report. Please clarify.

Thanks

---

Subject: Re: Minimum Meal frequency in BDHS 2014

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 19 Sep 2023 14:02:45 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The Stata syntax for the child nutrition tables is given on our GitHub site:

[https://github.com/DHSProgram/DHS-Indicators-Stata/tree/master/Chap11\\_NT](https://github.com/DHSProgram/DHS-Indicators-Stata/tree/master/Chap11_NT).

You should be able to find what you need there, but if you want to run the do file(s), be sure to read the setup instructions.

The standard code will often not match the NFHS reports exactly, but you should get close. If you have trouble, let us know but please be specific about which table(s) and numbers you cannot match.