Subject: Specifying variable for last birth in spss
Posted by chikafuh on Tue, 21 Jan 2014 23:59:48 GMT
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I would be grateful if you would assist me on this one.

I am researching on maternal health services utilization wherein i want to assess levels of use focussing on the last birth. Which variable in the spss file should i use in splitting cases such that the data i get pertains to the last birth a woman had in a five year period.

Regards

Subject: Re: Specifying variable for last birth in spss
Posted by user-rhs on Mon, 27 Jan 2014 19:03:57 GMT
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In DHS, the pregnancy and child related variables are named such that the most recent instance ends in "_1" (for example m17_1 is whether the respondent had a C-section for her most recent delivery, whilst m17_2 is whether she had a C-section for her next-to-last delivery). See documentation [http://www.measuredhs.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode6_DHS_22March 2013_DHSG4.pdf, top of page 40].

This can also be verified in the data. For example, if you look at V201 (total children ever born) compared to the birth order of the youngest child, they should match, i.e.:

. list v201 bord_01 in 1/20

```
     ----------------
      v201   bord_01
     ----------------
  1.    1       1
  2.    4       4
  3.   10      10
  4.    0       .
  5.    0       .
     ----------------
  6.    5       5
  7.    0       .
  8.    0       .
  9.    0       .
 10.    6       6
     ----------------
 11.    2       2
 12.    0       .
 13.    1       1
 14.    1       1
 15.    2       2
```

```
      ----------------
16.    2       2
17.    2       2
18.    4       4
19.    0       .
20.    0       .
      ----------------
```

HTH,
rhs