Subject: NFHS-4 Median Birth interval mismatch
Posted by dfnbcc on Tue, 13 Aug 2019 17:03:46 GMT
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Hello,

I am trying to calculate the median birth interval using STATA from the NFHS-4. However, I am getting the wrong median compared to the report. The report says the median in India is 32 months, however, I am getting 28 months.

I am subtracting 9 months from the variable as I want birth-to-pregnancy interval, not birth-to-birth. But even if I don't subtract 9, I get different values.

use IABR74FL.dta
gen weight=v005/1000000

rename sdistri shdistri
tostring shdistri, replace
gen strata = shdistri
svyset v021 [pweight=weight], strata (strata)

keep shdistri v008 b3 bord b0 b11 v106 hv024 v025 v190 v447a v133 s301 hv001 hv002 hvidx v005 v021 weight strata

*Births in the month of interview are included and births 60 months before the interview are excluded.
 gen monthssncbirth=v008-b3
 replace monthssncbirth=. if monthssncbirth<=60
 drop if monthssncbirth==.

*First-order births (and their twins) are excluded from both numerators and denominators.
 svy: tab bord
 gen birth_order=bord if (b0 > 1)
 svy: tab birth_order

*subtract by 9 months to find birth-to-pregnancy interval (WHO)
 gen birth_interval=b11-9
 replace birth_interval=. if birth_interval<0

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Median Birth interval (Median birth interval does not match NFHS-4 report)
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- NFHS-4 Median Birth interval [message #17992] Sun, 11 August 2019 11:28
dfnbcc is currently offline dfnbcc

Messages: 2
Registered: June 2019
Member
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Would appreciate some help please.

Thanks in advance.

Subject: Re: NFHS-4 Median Birth interval mismatch

Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Sat, 24 Aug 2019 10:37:07 GMT
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DHS staff are very busy right now, and we will try to answer in a couple of weeks?

Subject: Re: NFHS-4 Median Birth interval mismatch
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Mon, 30 Sep 2019 10:19:26 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research and Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Instead of the BR file, use the KR file to get births in the past five years. Look at the distribution of b11. There are some very short intervals and I would edit them out. Then enter the following line in Stata:

summarize b11 [fweight=v005] if b11>9, detail

The 50th percentile is 32 months. That matches the report.

To get a birth-to-pregnancy interval you could subtract 9 months, but that would be the interval to pregnancies that resulted in a live birth, and presumably you would want to include all pregnancies, not just those that resulted in a live birth. For that you would need to use the calendar, and probably include current pregnancies. That's more complicated, partly because of left censoring.