

Dear DHS Representative,

I am working on Sub-population of neonates with Bw2500gms and above, looking for determinants of mortality among them in four provinces of Pakistan.

I recode the following variables using "Negative Coding" for dotted observations and Low birth weight babies using following commands;

\*\*\*\*Size of child at birth\*\*\*\*

```
recode m18 (4/.-1 "NotApp&Lower") (3=1 "Average") (2=2 "LargerThanAvg") (1=3 "VeryLarge"),  
gen (percievedsizeofbaby)
```

\*\*\*\*\*When the Child First put to breats \*\*\*\*\*

```
recode m34 (0/201=1 "DayofBirth") (202/207=2 "Between2nd-7thDayofBirth") (208/230=3  
"From8th-30thDayofBirth") (.-1 "NotApp"), gen (breastfeedingpractice)
```

\*\*\*\* Variable Birthorder bord recoding \*\*\*\*\*

```
recode bord (1=1 "First") (2=2 "Second") (3=3 "Third") (4=4 "Fourth") (5/15=5 "FifthorAbove"), gen  
(BirthorderofNewborn)
```

\*\*\*\*\*

I use these new variables for cox-model using command

```
svy linearized, subpop(subpopulationbw2) : stcox ib(last).breastfeedingpractice  
ib(last).BirthorderofNewborn ib(first).percievedsizeofbaby
```

\*\*\*\*\* My Question is on the following error message from stata 13.1 \*\*\*\*\*

```
subpop() != 0 indicates subpopulation  
(running stcox on estimation sample)
```

```
breastfeedingpractice: factor variables may not contain negative values
```

Kindly explain what mistake I am making in recoding & generating new variables and why got this error in stata.

Truely obliged and appreciate your quick responses for my questions asked earlier.

Best Regards

Dr. Hussain

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Subject: Re: Cox Model and Recoded Variables From BR File

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 08 Oct 2020 11:45:27 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Your recodes look fine. The problem is just with your specification of the subpop option for svy. What Stata expects for the argument (you have entered "subpopulationbw2") is a variable that has the value 1 for the subpopulation you want to restrict to. For example, you could have this line, "gen Punjab=1 if v024==1" and then specify the option with "subpop(Punjab)". Then to run the model for Sindh you would have "gen Sindh=1 if v024==2" and then specify the option with "subpop(Sindh)", etc. (If this doesn't work, try recoding as 0 or 1, but I think . or 1 is ok.) It's good that you are running the model with the subpop option rather than with "...if v024==1", etc. It's just that the specification of the argument is off.

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