
Subject: Preceding sibling survival status
Posted by [eibrahim](#) on Mon, 09 Nov 2020 00:16:36 GMT
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Greetings,

Please, I am working on determinants of under-five mortality using Nigeria DHS. Meanwhile, I could not find the variable indicating the survival status of the preceding sibling. Any help in this regard (variable name or derivation code in R) will be much appreciated.

Thank you,

EI

Subject: Re: Preceding sibling survival status
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 09 Nov 2020 14:41:33 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The preceding birth interval is coded on each child's record (as b11) but no b variables for the preceding child are copied. The following code, in Stata rather than R, will do this. It does not carry along any other variables--you need to specify them and be sure to use different names for variables for the index child and variables for older sibling. The mother's variables (including v005) will be the same for both children. You may want to drop, or treat differently, index children with b11=0 or b12=0 (or b0>0), because they will be part of a multiple birth.

```
cd e:\DHS\DHS_data\scratch
use "C:\Users\26216\ICF\Analysis - Shared Resources\Data\DHSdata\NGBR7AFL.DTA", clear

keep v001 v002 v003 b*

save index_children.dta, replace
save oldersib.dta, replace

use oldersib.dta
rename b* b*_oldersib
gen bidx=bidx_oldersib-1
drop if bidx==0
sort v001 v002 v003 bidx
save oldersib.dta, replace

use index_children.dta, clear
sort v001 v002 v003 bidx
merge v001 v002 v003 bidx using oldersib.dta
tab _merge
```

* _merge=1 if there is no older sib, i.e. if bord=1, and the child is the first birth.

* In this case all the b*_oldersib variables will be missing,

* survival of successive siblings

tab b5 b5_oldersib, m

tab b5 b5_oldersib, chi2

Subject: Re: Preceding sibling survival status

Posted by [eibrahim](#) on Mon, 09 Nov 2020 18:08:10 GMT

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Thank you very much for your quick turnaround time.

This puts me on the right path!

Much appreciated.

Best,

EI