Understanding Society User Support - Support #2149

Age of entry into parenthood

09/10/2024 03:41 PM - Luis Ortiz

Status:	In Progress		**Start date:**	09/10/2024
Priority:	Normal		**% Done:**	20%
Assignee:	Understanding Society User Support Team			
Category:	Data inconsistency			

Description

Dear colleagues,

I intend to generate a variable that captures the age at which individuals enter into parenthood. For this purpose, I'm using two derived variables in UKHLS:

ch1by_dv: date of birth of eldest child (year)
doby_dv: date of birth of the interview (year)

With these two variables, I proceed as follows for deriving the age of entry into parenthood

gen age_first_child= ch1by_dv2-doby_dv2

Before, I ensure that some marginal categories of the original variables (-9, -20...) are disregarded. I create new variables, similar to the UKHLS-derived variables, for this purpose:

recode ch1by_dv -9=. 0=., gen(ch1by_dv2)
recode doby_dv -9=. -20=., gen(doby_dv2)

At the end of the process, I found out that the new variable ('age_first_child') has some (very few) negative values. I explore these cases and I find out that this is because the year of
having the first child (ch1by_dv) is BEFORE the year they were BORN (doby_dv). Since they are derived variables, I am rather puzzled.

Could you, please, help me understand these cases and what to do with them?

Thanks for your attention

And kind regards

Luis Ortiz

History

#1 - 09/11/2024 08:41 PM - Understanding Society User Support Team

- Category set to Data inconsistency

- Status changed from New to In Progress

- % Done changed from 0 to 20

- Private changed from Yes to No

Hello Luis,

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. After running the analysis, I found the issue occurs in 71 observations (ch1by_dv - doby_dv < 0), with an additional 28 cases where both dates are the same (ch1by_dv - doby_dv = 0) and 64 cases where the difference is less than or equal to 10 (ch1by_dv - doby_dv <= 10). I'll raise this with the data team and get back to you as soon as possible.

Best wishes,
Roberto Cavazos
Understanding Society User Support Team