

DOCUMENTATION GUIDE #4: BIRTH YEAR AT TLT-1 AND TLT-2



Age reporting is notoriously error prone and also important for analyses, particularly of behaviors and beliefs that vary by age. TLT measured birth year in the household listing (reported by the household head or whomever completed the listing), by the respondent him/herself in the baseline interview, and then a third time at TLT-2. There is relatively high correlation between the TLT-1 and TLT-2 reported birth years ($r=0.91$ for women and 0.90 for random men) but some discrepancies. In order to allow analysts to make the decisions they feel most comfortable with, and to support transparency around the messiness inherent in data collection, the TLT-2 dataset includes both the TLT-1 birth year (**birthyear_TLT1**) and the TLT-2 birth year (**y11c**) as reported by respondents. Analysts can make their own decisions on which variable to use. Our suggestion would be to use **birthyear_TLT1** for TLT-1 or longitudinal analyses and **y11c** for cross-sectional analyses that leverage only the TLT-2 data. There are 13 women and 3 random men who report “don’t know” for their birth year in TLT-2. Analysts may want to impute the birth year reported in TLT-1 for these cases.

Women’s TLT-2 Sample

age_reporting	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Same year	981	67.52	67.52
within 2 years	351	24.16	91.67
2+ years off	108	7.43	99.11
year DK at TLT2	13	0.89	100.00
Total	1,453	100.00	

Random Men’s TLT-2 Sample

age_reporting	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Same year	259	63.64	63.64
within 2 years	120	29.48	93.12
2+ years off	25	6.14	99.26
year DK at TLT2	3	0.74	100.00
Total	407	100.00	

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