

Events Calendar

Dark pink areas are for children not eligible for 6-59 months surveys.

Seasons	Religious Holidays	Other Events	Local Events	Months / Years	Age (M)
Rainy season (sowing)				June 2007	0
First Rains				May 2007	1
Heat				April 2007	2
Start of heat	Mouloud 30/03/2007			March 2007	3
End of cold				February 2007	4
Cold	Tabaski 31/12/2006			January 2007	5
Cold		Republic Day 18 December		December 2006	6
Start of cold				November 2006	7
End of harvest	End of Ramadan 23/10/06			October 2006	8
Start of harvest	Start of Ramadan 24/9/06			September 2006	9
Long rains				August 2006	10
Long rains				July 2006	11
Rainy season (sowing)				June 2006	12
First rains		Labour day		May 2006	13
Heat		Concord Day		April 2006	14
Start of heat	Mouloud 21/03/2006	Solar eclipse 29/03/06		March 2006	15
End of cold				February 2006	16
Cold	Tabaski 10/01/2006			January 2006	17
Cold		Francophonie 7-17/12/05		December 2005	18
Start of cold	End of Ramadan 03/11/05			November 2005	19
End of harvest	Start of Ramadan 2/10/05			October 2005	20
Start of harvest				September 2005	21
Long rains		Koffi Annan visit		August 2005	22
Long rains		King of Morocco visit		July 2005	23
Rainy season (sowing)				June 2005	24
First rains		Labour day		May 2005	25
Heat	Mouloud 21/04/2005	Katako market fire		April 2005	26
Start of heat				March 2005	27
End of cold				February 2005	28
Cold	Tabaski 24/01/2005			January 2005	29
Cold		Presidential elections		December 2004	30
Start of cold	End of Ramadan 15/11/04			November 2004	31
End of harvest	Start of Ramadan	Locust infestation		October 2004	32
Start of harvest				September 2004	33
Long rains		Tree festival		August 2004	34
Long rains		Local elections		July 2004	35
Rainy season (sowing)				June 2004	36
First rains	Mouloud 03/05/2004	Labour day		May 2004	37
Heat		Concord Day		April 2004	38
Start of heat				March 2004	39
End of cold	Tabaski 02/02/2004			February 2004	40
Cold				January 2004	41
Cold				December 2003	42
Start of cold	End of Ramadan 25/11/03			November 2003	43
End of harvest	Start of Ramadan			October 2003	44
Start of harvest				September 2003	45
Long rains		Tree festival		August 2003	46
Long rains				July 2003	47
Rainy season (sowing)				June 2003	48
First rains	Mouloud 25/05/2003	Labour day		May 2003	49
Heat		Concord Day		April 2003	50
Start of heat				March 2003	51
End of cold	Tabaski 23/02/2002			February 2003	52
Cold				January 2003	53
Cold	End of Ramadan 6/12/2002			December 2002	54
Start of cold	Start of Ramadan 6/11/02			November 2002	55
End of harvest				October 2002	56
Start of harvest				September 2002	57
Long rains		Tree festival		August 2002	58
Long rains				July 2002	59
Rainy season (sowing)				June 2002	60

How to Use a Local Events Calendar

Survey inclusion and exclusion criteria

Survey inclusion criteria: these are the cut-off birth dates for children to be eligible to participate in the 6-59 months sample.

- Included in the survey are all children born between July 2002 and December 2006.

Survey exclusion criteria: all children born as of these dates are excluded from the sample (i.e. they are over 59 months or under 6):

- Excluded from the survey are all children born before July 2002 or after December 2006.

When to use the events calendar?

- The events calendar is a tool that helps determine the approximate age of children who have no reliable administrative documents (birth certificate, child's health notebook, etc.)
- It includes all different events that occurred during the 60 months that preceded the survey, and serves as a reference and checklist for surveyors and surveyed populations.

How to use the events calendar

- Use a line of questions phrased as follows: "**<name> was he/she born before or after <event>?**"
- Choose the events in the most appropriate column of the calendar to reduce the range at each question.
- The child's mother usually knows either the age of the child in years, or the birth date (but without any official corroboration. In both cases, it is necessary to refine the age estimation by using the events calendar.

1. When the mother knows the age in years, convert the age in months using the calendar and ask her questions relating to the events that occurred around the child's birth. Specify with the mother:

- On the calendar, whether a particular event occurred about the time the child was born (e.g. end of Ramadan); ask the mother whether the birth occurred before or after this event;
- Ask her the season in which the child was born: rain, warm or cold season, etc.;
- This information will allow you to estimate the child's age in a more reliable and accurate way.

2. When the mother knows the child's birth date, but has no official document to prove it:

- Locate the birth date on the calendar;
- Ask the mother questions on events that occurred around the child's birth (religious holiday, celebration, season, etc.) in order to estimate the age in actual months.

3. When the mother knows neither the age nor the birth date, the events listed in the calendar will help her remember the circumstances of her child's birth and to estimate the age in months:

- Ask the mother, or the person who cares for the child, if she remembers the period or an event that surrounded the birth of the child;
- According to her answer, ask further questions to locate the month and year of the birth.

4. When it is absolutely impossible to get any reliable indication from the mother, look for a child of similar stature in the neighbourhood:

- Determine the age of the other child;
- Estimate the age difference between both children using the calendar;
- Deduce the age of the surveyed child.

*To determine the age of a child, the surveyor must enter on the questionnaire either the date of birth or the age in months, **but not both.***

If the child has a health notebook or an official identity document that indicates his/her birth date; write down the birth date on the questionnaire.