**Supplementary Digital Content Table S2a: Birth Spacing by Characteristics in Central Africa**

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|  | **Chad** | **Congo DRC** |
|  | **Short birth interval** | **Appropriate birth interval** | **Long birth interval** | **Short birth interval** | **Appropriate birth interval** | **Long birth interval** |
| **All women** | 4,764 (30.18) | 10,134 (64.20) | 886 (5.61) | 4,019 (27.12) | 9,580 (64.64) | 1,221 (8.24) |
| **Age** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15-24 | 1,074 (33.66) | 2,059 (64.54) | 57 (1.80) | 765 (32.69) | 1,523 (65.06) | 52 (2.25) |
| 25-34 | 2,481 (29.00) | 5,619 (65.67) | 456 (5.33) | 2,318 (28.02) | 5,379 (65.02) | 576 (6.96) |
| 35+ | 1,209 (29.95) | 2,455 (60.82) | 372 (9.23) | 935 (22.25) | 2,677 (63.66) | 592 (14.08) |
| Child sex |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Male | 2,454 (30.45) | 5,174 (64.19) | 431 (5.35) | 1,944 (26.38) | 4,789 (64.98) | 637 (8.64) |
| Female | 2,309 (29.90) | 4,959 (64.21) | 454 (5.89) | 2,075 (27.85) | 4,791 (64.31) | 584 (7.84) |
| Survival of preceding birth |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not alive | 592 (51.71) | 545 (47.65) | 7 (0.64) | 483 (57.81) | 341 (40.91) | 10 (1.28) |
| Alive | 2,183 (34.48) | 4,142 (65.40) | 8 (0.12) | 2,177 (33.69) | 4,233 (65.48) | 53 (0.82) |
| Place of residence |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Urban | 882 (29.46) | 1,887 (63.02) | 225 (7.52) | 1,196 (27.09) | 2,759 (62.46) | 461 (10.46) |
| Rural | 3,881 (30.35) | 8,246 (64.48) | 661 (5.17) | 2,823 (27.14) | 6,821 (65.57) | 759 (7.30) |
| Marital status |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Never married | 15 (34.22) | 28 (65.68) | 0 (0.10) | 49 (23.09) | 139 (65.00) | 25 (11.91) |
| Currently married | 4,469 (30.10) | 9,574 (64.47) | 806 (5.43) | 3,703 (27.64) | 8,690 (64.86) | 1,005 (7.50) |
| Formerly married  | 279 (31.43) | 530 (59.59) | 80 (8.97) | 267 (22.11) | 751 (62.16) | 190 (15.73) |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| No education | 3,414 (31.68) | 6,794 (63.02) | 571 (5.30) | 887 (29.37) | 1,916 (63.41) | 218 (7.22) |
| Primary | 1,070 (28.38) | 2,481 (65.78) | 220 (5.84) | 1,826 (26.65) | 4,536 (66.20) | 489 (7.15) |
| Secondary | 260 (22.32) | 826 (70.83) | 80 (6.85) | 1,248 (26.03) | 3,054 (63.70) | 492 (10.27) |
| Higher | 18 (28.62) | 32 (49.68) | 14 (21.70) | 57 (38.11) | 73 (48.22) | 20 (13.67) |
| Occupation |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not working | 2,647 (31.57) | 5,303 (63.24) | 435 (5.20) | 917 (27.72) | 2,114 (63.90) | 277 (8.38) |
| Working | 2,051 (28.54) | 4,693 (65.32) | 441 (6.14) | 3,096 (26.97) | 7,439 (64.81) | 943 (8.22) |
| Wealth status |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Poor | 1,974 (29.67) | 4,317 (64.89) | 361 (5.44) | 1,792 (27.16) | 4,336 (65.69) | 471 (7.15) |
| Middle | 1,049 (31.78) | 2,084 (63.14) | 167 (5.08) | 812 (26.22) | 2,070 (66.84) | 214 (6.94) |
| Rich | 1,741 (29.86) | 3,732 (64.01) | 356 (6.12) | 1,414 (27.62) | 3,173 (61.95) | 534 (10.43) |