DATES in SAS, an example of Calculating Age From Dates

If you have the variables Year of birth, Month of Birth and Day of birth, and know the date of an interview, it is possible calculate age. SAS has a number of date (and other) functions. The function “MDY” can be used to create a number from a YEAR, MONTH, and DAY. This number is the number of days since January 1, 1960. Once dates are converted into days, they can be subtracted from other dates that have been changed into days, and months, years, weeks, etc, can be calculated. The following example demonstrates this.

* datesas.sas ;
title 1 'datesas.sas - Show how to add and subtract dates' ;
data ONE; input mb db yb mi di yi ;
label mb = 'Month of birth'
db = 'Day of birth'
yb = 'Day of birth'
mi = 'Month of interview'
di = 'Day of interview'
yi = 'Year of interview' ;
* use MDY function to create a number for Interview date. ;
idate = mdy(mi,di,yi) ;
* use MDY function to create a number for birth date. ;
bdate = mdy(mb,db,yb) ;
* Subtract birth date from interview date to calculate age at interview ;
ageint = idate - bdate ;
ageint2 = ageint / 365.25 ;
ageint3 = int(ageint / 365.25) ;
label ageint  = 'Age at interview (days)'
ageint2 = 'Age at interview (years)'
ageint3 = 'Age at interview int(years)' ;
datalines ;
1 1 1960 3 7 2001
1 2 1950 3 3 2001
2 4 1974 3 4 2001
4 4 1944 3 5 2001
;
proc print;
format ageint2 6.2 ;
run ;
datesas.sas - Show how to add and subtract dates
Obs   mb   db   yb   mi   di   yi   idate   bdate   ageint   ageint2   ageint3
1     1    1    1960  3    7   2001   15041    0    15041   41.18     41
2     1    2    1950  3    3   2001   15037  -3651   18688   51.16     51
3     2    4    1974  3    4   2001   15038   5148    9890    27.08     27
4     4    4    1944  3    5   2001   15039  -5750   20789   56.92     56