Subject: Re: Anthropometric variables
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Mon, 17 May 2021 13:13:53 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

In the first place where you have "wa3=0, there is a typo. You should have "wh3=0". However, there are several other things I would modify. You seem to be using "keep" in situations where it would be better to use the NA code, rather than dropping cases. You have to be very careful about the impact of dropping cases on the remainder of the program. Avoid inventing variable names such as "wa3". Here's how I would get "stunted", for example:

```
gen stunted=.
replace stunted=0 if hc70<9990
replace stunted=1 if hc70<-200
```

This is ok because hc70-hc72 have already been forced to be in the ranges -600 to +600, etc. Otherwise your recode would have to use the legal limits for the Z scores.

Perhaps the most important problem is that "overweight" would be correctly indicated by high values of hc72, rather than hc71. This may seem counter-intuitive, but that's how it's defined.