Subject: Re: Child Health and WASH
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Mon, 07 Jun 2021 20:12:49 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Following is a response from DHS Lead Nutrition Research Associate, Rukundo Benedict:

It is possible to consider stunting, wasting, and underweight as continuous variables since these are defined based on WHO Z-score cut-offs. In a regression these can be considered binary (e.g. stunted or not) or continuous if using the height-for-age (HAZ), weight-for height (WHZ) or weight-for-age (WAZ) z-scores.

Child growth failure (CGF) is another way to describe undernutrition, that excludes micronutrient deficiencies. The indicator that you created for child growth failure is a composite and is based on those identified as stunted (HAZ<-2SD), wasted (WHZ<-2SD),and underweight (WAZ<-2SD) and as such the variable you created is binary. Since each of the variables (stunting, wasting, and underweight ) are unique measures of child growth failure, it's not possible to create or use z-score for the CGF. However, you could examine the three indicators HAZ, WHZ, and WAZ separately as continuous variables since they are all measures of child growth failure.