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Subject: Re: underfive children HW data: why missing a lot in IR files

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 11 Mar 2022 12:56:45 GMT

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Following is response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The height and weight of children under five are measured as part of the household survey, for all children in the household. The measurements and the Z scores appear in the PR file. For children who are alive and living with the mother they also appear in the KR and IR files. The KR file is easier to use than the IR file for characteristics of children.

I opened the PR file for that Nigeria survey and entered the following line in Stata: "tab hc3 if hc1a<.,m". This gives the distribution of height for children under 5 and includes the cases with a dot or ".", which means "Not Applicable". There are 8 such children, out of 12, 867 (unweighted). Another 317 children have codes for not present, refused, other. The 8 children with a dot should have been given one of those three codes, but in analysis they would be lumped with the 317.

The IR or KR files include children who have died (b5=0) and children who are not living with the mother (b9 not equal to 0), as well as some of the 317+8 children described above. Your approach was more complicated than necessary. It's best to work off the PR or KR files for anthropometry.