## Subject: Re: Quetions about calculating stunting rates in Stata Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Thu, 04 Apr 2013 18:35:07 GMT

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Here is a response from one of our DHS Stata experts Tom Pullum, that should answer your questions.

Your problem is that you were using the BR file, but DHS uses the PR file for this and the other child nutrition indicators. The PR file includes hc70 for all children under five in the household. The BR file includes hw70 for children under five in the household whose mother was also in the household and was eligible for the survey of women. This is a subset of the children in the PR file.

If you open the BR file in Stata and copy the following lines into the command window, you will get what you were doing:

- \* Use the following on the 2007 Bangladesh BR file
- \* BDBR51FL.dta

codebook hw70

tab hw70 if hw70>9990,m

tab hw70 if hw70>9990,m nolabel

gen HAZ=hw70

replace HAZ=. if HAZ>=9996

histogram HAZ

gen stunted=.

replace stunted=0 if HAZ ~=.

replace stunted=1 if HAZ<-200

tab stunted

- \* 41.70% stunted (2210/5300)
- \* This number can be confirmed with a regression, no covariate.
- \* First without weights

regress stunted

- \* unweighted percent stunted is 41.70%
- \* Repeat the regression with weights

regress stunted [pweight=v005]

\* weighted percent stunted is 42.96%

However, if you open the PR file and copy the following lines into the command window, you will replicate the number in the report and in Stat Compiler:

- \* Use the following on the 2007 Bangladesh PR file
- \* BDPR51FL.dta codebook hc70 tab hc70 if hc70>9990,m tab hc70 if hc70>9990,m nolabel

gen HAZ=hc70

replace HAZ=. if HAZ>=9996

histogram HAZ gen stunted=. replace stunted=0 if HAZ ~=. replace stunted=1 if HAZ<-200 tab stunted

- \* 41.92% stunted (2320/5535)
- \* This number can be confirmed with a regression, no covariate.
- \* First without weights

regress stunted

- \* unweighted percent stunted is 41.92%
- \* Repeat the regression with weights regress stunted [pweight=hv005]
- \* weighted percent stunted is 43.24%

I am using a trick that you may not be aware of, linear regression without a covariate, to get the means of hw70 and hc70, unweighted or weighted. A command such as "regress y" will given just the intercept, which will be the mean of y. "regress y [pweight=hv005]" will give the weighted mean of y. Here the y variable is binary, so the mean of y is the proportion with y=1, and if multiplied by 100 you get the percentage with y=1

Let me know if you have other questions.

Bridgette-DHS