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Subject: Re: Rotav Vaccine and nutrition

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Fri, 15 Sep 2023 21:36:51 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

You have asked a number of very specific questions and I probably can't answer all of them, especially since I do not use R. However, I have problems understanding your basic approach. Why are you using Excel? I can understand exporting summary results into Excel because of its advantages for formatting and graphics, but Excel is not good for analysis. The methods you describe in step 5 are not available in Excel (so far as I know, anyway). For example, I just don't understand your questions about "#Total" in steps 2 and 5.

Stunting, underweight, and wasting are calculated using hc70-hc72 in the PR file or hw70-hw72 in the KR file. You will find the steps in previous forum posts and in the Guide to DHS Statistics. The estimates from the PR file refer to all children in the sample households and the estimates from the KR file refer to the children who are also in the birth histories of the women in the survey of women.

Exclusive breastfeeding is also a constructed variable, using code related to infant and young child feeding (IYCF) that is available on github. The wealth quintiles are coded in all the files--hv270 in the PR file and v190 in the IR and KR files.

Your goal of assembling lots of indicators for all SSA surveys is very ambitious. I suggest that you either (a) use the indicators as they exist in STATcompiler or the API, or (b) dramatically reduce the number of surveys or indicators that you want to include. When I suggested going to the KR files, I didn't realize that you planned to use so many indicators.

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