

---

Subject: Re: Question about Anemia Levels in NFHS5 Adult Data

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 24 Sep 2024 14:05:52 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

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

Sorry for not seeing the issue earlier. I was thinking there was some mixing of men and women, and they have different standards. I see now that the mixing is of women who are pregnant with women who are not pregnant. An adjustment is made for women who report they are pregnant, because they have higher requirements for iron. Their thresholds for the anemia categories are 10 points lower. Here are the ranges:

So if you look separately at women by pregnancy status (ha54 in the PR file, v213 in the IR file), you will not see any overlap.

A few years ago we did a Methodological Report on the hemoglobin measurements to that date (<https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/MR18/MR18.pdf>). In section 2.1 of that report you will find something on the differences by sex, smoking, altitude, and pregnancy status.

---

#### File Attachments

1) [anemia.png](#), downloaded 255 times

---