
Subject: Nutritional status of children

Posted by [jamshed](#) on Thu, 11 Mar 2021 05:13:47 GMT

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Hi everyone,

There is a question which disturbing me very much.

My research data shows that -3 SD is higher than -2 SD while in DHS data and customer tell me that it should be the opposite. this problem is with Weight-for-height and Height-for-age but Weight-for-age is fine (shows -3 SD less than -2 SD).

Now, my question is, what could be the reason for having data on Weight-for-height and Height-for-age where -3 SD more than 2- SD.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,
Husein

Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 11 Mar 2021 20:55:44 GMT

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

Do you mean that you are getting larger percentage below -3 than below -2? You have probably accidentally reversed an inequality sign. Here's the Stata code I would use for height-for-age. You could compare with what you are using.

```
gen haz=hc70/100 if hc70<600 & hc70>-600
```

```
gen stunted=0 if haz<.
```

```
replace stunted=1 if haz<-2
```

```
gen severely_stunted=0 if haz<.
```

```
replace severely_stunted=1 if haz<-3
```

Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children

Posted by [jamshed](#) on Sat, 13 Mar 2021 04:57:37 GMT

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Its required to clarify, what would be the reason for having the large number of -3 SD in comparison with -2 SD? In DHS it shows opposite. What may affect such results?

Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 16 Mar 2021 19:14:09 GMT

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

I still do not understand your question. The number of cases below -3 sd should be less than the number of cases below -2 sd. Any other result would be impossible. It would not just be unusual, it would be impossible.

Are you referring to something you saw in a DHS report? If so, please say where you saw it. Or are you referring to something you got in your own analysis of DHS data? If so, please say which survey and give me the numbers.
