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Subject: How to understand the content "flag-cases" [maternal anthropometry]

Posted by [Mindo](#) on Mon, 26 Sep 2022 07:13:34 GMT

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Dear DHS staff:

I am studying the effect of maternal anthropometry (in recode(KR), from v437 to v446) on child health, could you please give me an explanation of "flagged cases"?

Looking forward to your reply. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mindo

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Subject: Re: How to understand the content "flag-cases" [maternal anthropometry]

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Wed, 28 Sep 2022 18:50:36 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS staff member Tom Pullum:

Two issues with the anthropometric data (measurements of height and weight) are incompleteness/nonresponse (mainly refusals or not being available) and implausible values or combinations of values. A combination would be implausible if it produces HAZ, WAZ, or WHZ scores outside the WHO ranges (-6 to +6, -6 to +5, or -5 to +5, respectively. "Flagged" is the same as "implausible", although I think there have been studies in which "flagged" included "incomplete". A couple of DHS methodological reports could be useful (<https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/MR16/MR16.pdf> and <https://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/MR28/MR28.pdf>) and also the Guide to DHS Statistics (<https://www.dhsprogram.com/Data/Guide-to-DHS-Statistics/index.cfm>).

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