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Subject: Children under 5 anthropometric failure and maternal bmi

Posted by [Benn88](#) on Thu, 02 Nov 2023 06:01:23 GMT

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Dear users and DHS experts,

I am currently a Ph.D. student in Global Health and Health Security at Taipei Medical University, Taiwan. I am working on the determinants of children under 5 anthropometric failure in Haiti (my country). As my unit of analysis is children under 5, I want to use the KR file. If I want to include maternal BMI in my analysis, I would like to ask how I should use the variable V445. In the Guide to DHS Statistics DHS-7, they set this condition (Number of women aged 15 to 49, excluding women who are pregnant or who gave birth in the 2 months preceding the date of the interview

the IR file. what about the KR file, Should I set the same condition when dealing with v445?

Your feedback will mean a lot to me.

Thank you

Benn

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Subject: Re: Children under 5 anthropometric failure and maternal bmi

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Fri, 03 Nov 2023 13:41:58 GMT

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

The short answer to your question is yes. The conditions required for v445 in the IR file would apply to v445 in the KR file (v445, like most of the variables in the IR file, is copied into the KR file).

However, because your outcome is the nutritional status of the child, rather than the mother, I recommend that you keep v445 as it is coded, and if you are doing multivariate analysis, you include the pregnancy status of the mother as a covariate. (You could also include whether the woman had a birth in the past two months.)

For example, I just did a logit regression, with HTKR71, of "underweight" on the mother's BMI, with controls for the mother's pregnancy status and age group. The coefficient for v445 is negative and highly significant, meaning that mother's who weigh more are less likely to have underweight children. You could go into more detail on this relationship, of course, but I would argue that the inclusion of pregnancy status (as a control) makes it unnecessary to adjust BMI for whether the woman is pregnant.

```
gen WAZ=100*hw71 if hw71>-600 & hw71<500
```

```
gen underweight=0 if WAZ<.
```

```
replace underweight=1 if WAZ<-2
```

```
svyset v001 [pweight=v005], strata(v023) singleunit(centered)
```

svy: logit underweight v445 v213 i.v013 if v445>=1200 & v445<=6000

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Subject: Re: Children under 5 anthropometric failure and maternal bmi

Posted by [Benn88](#) on Mon, 06 Nov 2023 03:23:31 GMT

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Thank you very much for your feedback, I will try it.

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