Subject: Calculating Undernutrition Indicators for Under-5 Children in Older surveys
Posted by Adetunji on Fri, 09 Feb 2024 13:40:54 GMT
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Hi,

I am working on the coexisting forms of malnutrition in under-5 children in SSA. Using the KR file in the newer surveys DHS-V upward, I have successfully computed the indicators of undernutrition and their coexistence respectively. I used the variables hw71, hw71 and hw72 for my computation. However, these variables are not found in the same KR file in DHS-IV downward.

Kindly advise on what I should do. My unit of analysis remains the under-5 children.

Thanks in anticipation of your help.

Subject: Re: Calculating Undernutrition Indicators for Under-5 Children in Older surveys
Posted by Janet-DHS on Tue, 13 Feb 2024 21:30:56 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The older surveys that had anthropometry have hw5, hw8, and hw11 in the KR file instead of hw70, hw71, hw72. Those variables were based on an earlier CDC standard rather than the current WHO standard. (Those variables are still included in the data files but are hardly ever used.)

You should be able to find an HW file (the file name has "HW" in place of "KR") for such surveys. You just have to merge it with the KR file from the same survey. Let us know if you have difficulty doing this.

Subject: Re: Calculating Undernutrition Indicators for Under-5 Children in Older surveys
Posted by Adetunji on Wed, 14 Feb 2024 10:42:30 GMT
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Thanks Janet for your response.

I got the HW file and I should be able to merge with the KR file accordingly. My concern is that is there any adjustment to be made to this data to make them comparable to the current WHO standard in the most recent surveys?

I am interested in constructing the indices of malnutrition over the range of the cross-sections. I have successfully done for the recent surveys but I am stuck with the older surveys and I want to

get it right at this stage.

Subject: Re: Calculating Undernutrition Indicators for Under-5 Children in Older surveys
Posted by Janet-DHS on Thu, 15 Feb 2024 21:31:42 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The formulas for the WHO Child Growth Standards (https://www.who.int/tools/child-growth-standards) have not changed since 2006. The only part of the standards that DHS uses to construct hw70-hw72 are weight, height/length, and whether the child was standing (height) or lying (length) at the time of measurement. The assumptions, cutoffs, etc., are all consistent with WHO standards. We have had several reports related to the quality of the anthropometric data (see our publications page) and there is good evidence of improved measurement, especially of height/length, in the past 6 years or so. With the HW files you can get the values that would have been calculated in earlier years if the formulas had been available in earlier years. If you go back to the earliest years of DHS, however, there was no anthropometry at all.

Subject: Re: Calculating Undernutrition Indicators for Under-5 Children in Older surveys
Posted by Adetunji on Tue, 19 Nov 2024 15:31:29 GMT
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I am using the Nigeria DHS for 1990 and 2003. I have successfully merged the anthropometric data in the HW file in the 2003 to the KR file using the code below. However, I have issue replicating the same for the 1990 datasets.

There is no b16 (child's line number) in the 1990 KR file and there is no hwhhid in the 1990 HW file.

Kindly let me know how to navigate this. My code is shared below:

```
use "${kr2003}", clear
gen hwhhid = substr(caseid,1,12)
clonevar hwline = b16
sort hwhhid hwline
merge m:1 hwhhid hwline using "${hw2003}"
keep if _merge==3

//Rename the anthropometric variables to make it comparable to the earlier surveys
rename hc70 hw70
rename hc71 hw71
rename hc72 hw72
```

```
rename hc73 hw73

//Save the merged dataset
save "${temp}/kr_hw_2003", replace

use "${kr1990}", clear
gen hwhhid = substr(caseid,1,12)
clonevar hwline = v003
sort hwhhid hwline
merge m:1 hwhhid hwline using "${hw1990}"
keep if _merge==3

//Rename the anthropometric variables to make it comparable to the earlier surveys
rename hc70 hw70
rename hc71 hw71
rename hc72 hw72
rename hc73 hw73

//Save the merged dataset
save "${temp}/kr_hw_1990", replace
```

Subject: Re: Calculating Undernutrition Indicators for Under-5 Children in Older surveys
Posted by Janet-DHS on Thu, 21 Nov 2024 14:37:35 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The following lines will do the merge for the 1990 files:

```
use "...NGHW21FL.DTA", clear
rename hwcaseid caseid
rename hwline bidx

merge 1:1 caseid bidx using "...NGKR21FL.DTA"
tab _merge
```

"hwcaseid" in the HW file is equivalent to "caseid", the woman's unique ID, in the IR and KR files. "hwline" is equivalent to "bidx". You can see the correspondence if you list hwcaseid and hwline for the first 50 cases in the HW file, and caseid and bidx for the first 50 cases in the KR file (for example, "list caseid bidx if _n<=50, table clean").
