
Subject: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File

Posted by [AkhilK28](#) on Fri, 10 May 2024 23:10:14 GMT

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Hello!

In NFHS-1 for India, height data was not collected for four states (Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu).

However, weight data for children were collected in these surveys are therefore Underweight values are present in the DHS Final Report for NFHS-1. However, when looking at the HW files for NFHS-1, there seems to be no data for these states because of "height implausible" even though for weight-for-age z-score, height missing should not impact that calculation.

Thanks

Subject: Re: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 13 May 2024 15:03:47 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Staff Member, Fred Arnold:

As indicated in the Nutrition Status of Children section (Section 10.2, page 281) of the NFHS-1 national report, anthropometric information was collected for children under four years of age. For five first stage states (Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal), only weight was measured because height measuring boards were not available at the time of the survey. The weight of each child was measured using a Salter scale, which is a hanging spring balance. For the measurement on height/length, children under two years of age were measured lying down on an adjustable measuring board, while those two years and above were measured in a standing position. For the five states mentioned above, only the weight-for-age indicator is available. Height-for-age and weight-for-height indices are not available. Height missing in the five states does not impact the calculation of weight-for-age z scores.

Subject: Re: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File

Posted by [AkhilK28](#) on Mon, 13 May 2024 21:48:07 GMT

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Hello Fred,

Thank you for getting back to me! As you mentioned in your very helpful response, the weight-for-age z score should not be impacted by missing height for the children in these 5 states,

however in the NFHS-1 data file (IAHW22DT), the weight-for-age z score seems to be missing for children in these 5 states with the reason being "height out of plausible limits". As you mentioned, height data not being collected should not impact the weight-for-age z score computation! I am using the variable hc71 in the IAHW22DT file for NFHS-1 and following the merge procedure outlined in MERGE.DOC to bring in the state variable (v024) from the KR file (IAKR23DT) for NFHS-1.

Does DHS have a corrected HW dataset of the weight-for-age z scores for the children in these 5 states for NFHS-1 using the new WHO standards?

Subject: Re: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File

Posted by [AkhilK28](#) on Mon, 20 May 2024 01:22:44 GMT

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Hello Bridgette,

Let me know if you would need any more details or code files from me for this issue.

Thank you!

Best,

Subject: Re: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File

Posted by [AkhilK28](#) on Tue, 21 May 2024 20:28:35 GMT

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Thank you so much Tom :)

There would be no NFHS without your help!

Subject: Re: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File

Posted by [AkhilK28](#) on Sat, 01 Jun 2024 00:58:33 GMT

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Hi Tom,

I checked your "iahw22fl_supp_waz.dta" file and in those 5 states there still seems to be no available data for hc71:

The entire file is filled with "height out of plausible limits" but since height data was not collected and only weight data was collected, can this be filled in for those 5 states?

Best,

Subject: Re: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 04 Jun 2024 14:00:55 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

The Stata program should be replaced with a version dated June 4 (NFHS1_calculate_hc71_in_5_states_4June2024.txt). I have prepared a corrected dta file with the hc71 scores for the five states that measured height, but not weight (iahw22fl_supp_waz.dta). Sorry for not having adequately tested the earlier versions.

I will also note that in iahw22fl.dta, the original file with the Z scores for all states, the value labels for hc70, hc71, and hc72 all assign the label "height out of plausible limits" to code 9996. That is, even for hc71, weight-for-age, the value label refers to height.

File Attachments

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- 1) [iahw22fl_supp_waz.dta](#), downloaded 220 times
 - 2) [NFHS1_calculate_hc71_in_5_states_4June2024.txt](#), downloaded 142 times
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