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Subject: Height and weight value

Posted by [Isnaen](#) on Sun, 02 Jun 2024 11:54:10 GMT

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Dear DHS Forum

I want to access the weight and height in the IR file of NFHS 5 India data, I have seen the DHS recode manual but it was not there, in the DHS recode manual it states that the data is Respondent's weight (kilos-1d), but I found a numerical value which is very large for height and weight in SPSS data.

Please let me know the answer.

Thank you,

Isnaen

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Subject: Re: Height and weight value

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Tue, 11 Jun 2024 19:56:25 GMT

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

In the IR file for this survey, v437 is weight and v438 is height. These are the standard names for these variables and the scales are also standard across surveys. Weight is "kilograms (1decimal)" and height is "centimeters (1 decimal)". That is, the units for weight are tenths of a kilogram and the units for height are millimeters (!!). The distributions include some special codes:

. label list V437

V437:

9994 not present

9995 refused

9996 other

. label list V438

V438:

9994 not present

9995 refused

9996 other

However, in addition there are a few cases with implausibly small and implausibly large values. Cases with these implausible values are flagged in the construction of the anthropometry scores and BMI. You will see the distribution of most of the weights and heights with these histograms:

histogram v437 if v437>=200 & v437<1000

histogram v438 if v438>=1300 & v438<=1800

For v437, a value of 1000 is 100 kg. For v438, a value of 1800 is 1.8 meters.

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