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Subject: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)  
Posted by [rhuang](#) on Wed, 20 Dec 2017 22:29:20 GMT  
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Hello,

I am trying to re-create Table 11.1 (Page 149) in the Rwanda 2014-2015 DHS report. I am specifically looking at the height-for-age variable and I am trying to figure out which variable was used in the Rwanda 2014-2015 data set to obtain these results. I was using the variable hw5 (in the KR: Children's recode data file) which measures the height/age standard deviation (from the reference mean) but I noticed that when I did a quick tabulation of this variable that the total number of children was only 3,524 while in the report the total number of children is 3,813. I did recode the variables=9998 to missing so that these would be eliminated from my calculations. Where is this 3,813 number of children coming from? Or am I using the wrong variable?

I am trying to calculate the percentage of children stunted ( $<-2$  s.d.) and severely stunted ( $<-3$  s.d.) based on this data, which the report suggests is 37.9% of children and 13.5% of children respectively.

Thank you,

Rachel

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)  
Posted by [Hope](#) on Thu, 26 Apr 2018 16:49:02 GMT  
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Hello,

@Rachel, did you find the solution to the unmatched numbers? I am asking because I think I am in the same situation now. For you, I think you could have used the PR recode file instead of the KR file.

In my case, I would like to get the total percentage of stunted children as mentioned in the Rwanda DHS 2015.

I used the variable HC70 which is in the PR recode file (I read somewhere on the forum that DHS uses the household member recode file for calculation of child anthropometry).

The total number of children in the report is indeed 3813. But when I check the total number of children for the variable HC70 in the PR file, it is 3825.

Thus, the percentage I am getting for stunted children is 37.5% which is slightly different from the one reported of 37.9%. If I calculate stunting per the two categories, severely stunted and moderately stunted I get the same percentage (13.5%) for severely stunted as the one in the report. When I add up the % of severe (13.5%) and moderate stunting (24.1%) I obtained, I get a prevalence of 37.6%. So the mismatch (of around 0.3 to 0.4%) is coming from the calculation of moderately stunted children.

Please members clarify for me where I am getting it wrong.

Thanks,  
Hope

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)

Posted by [rhuang](#) on Thu, 26 Apr 2018 18:36:33 GMT

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Hope,

I was using the KR file and the same variable but in that file it is called hw70, because I needed those other variables related to children. It is odd that the number of children with height-for-age data differs in the children's recode (KR file) and the personal recode (PR file).

Looking at the data in the PR file, I can see that if you define moderate stunting (based on hc70/100) as  $\leq -2$  standard deviations then you should get that result that 37.93% of children are moderately stunted. Granted, these tables are not using weights (I presume), so the percentage values could differ based on whether or not you are using weights.

-Rachel

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)

Posted by [Hope](#) on Fri, 27 Apr 2018 18:29:16 GMT

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Rachel,

Thank you for clarifying for me. I now obtained the same percentage as in the DHS report! In the tables, the weights are not considered indeed.

I found the thread that has an answer to your question:

<https://userforum.dhsprogram.com/index.php?t=msg&goto=8852&S=Google>

Hope it helps also!

Hope

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)

Posted by [Hope](#) on Wed, 20 Jun 2018 09:58:50 GMT

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In case, someone else reads this thread, I am posting this message to correct a mistake above:

To estimate the number of stunted children correctly as in the DHS report,

1. You have to use the weight variable (HV005/1000000)
2. You have to select de facto children using HV103.

In the message above, I had obtained the same percentage of stunted children (37.9%) as in Table 11.1 of Rwanda DHS 2014-15, but the denominator I had was 3825 instead of 3813 (reported).

After taking into account de facto children, I came up with the same percentage and also the same denominator as in the DHS report.

Check Trevor response here for the exact code to use:

<https://userforum.dhsprogram.com/index.php?t=msg&th=7084> &#msg\_15090

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Wed, 27 Jun 2018 20:22:02 GMT

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Thank you for your post Hope.

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)

Posted by [rrutayisire](#) on Sat, 01 Sep 2018 12:15:09 GMT

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Hello,

Hello, dear Hope. I am Reverien Rutayisire. Please, if you have time, can you show me how to calculate (compute) using Stata or SPSS the stunting prevalence rate using the 2005 Rwanda Demographic and Health Survey dataset? I thank you in advance, dear Hope. I need urgently to know how it was calculated given that it was before the 2006 WHO Standards.

Reverien

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Mon, 10 Sep 2018 16:42:08 GMT

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Dear User, Follow this thread

It should help.

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Subject: Re: Nutritional status of children (Height-for-age)

Posted by [Sasmita](#) on Thu, 14 Mar 2019 13:43:17 GMT

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Dear Hope,

I am doing a trend analysis of Nepal DHS data on the nutrition status of under 5 years in different waves from 2001-2016. I merged PR and KR file as I am interested to see both children and maternal-related variables. I am using SPSS.

#### Problem 1

While working for the data analysis, I could replicate the exact figure from the report for stunting only for the year 2016 data. And could not find a similar figure as in report for other waves (2001, 2011, 2016) with similar consideration. for example, I get 2485 instead of 2475 in 2011 and 5258 instead of 5262 in 2006. I have tried many times and I am taking into consideration:-

- a) sample weight variable (HV005/1000000)
- b) selected de facto children using HV103

Syntax used : Stunting

```
recode hc70 (lo thru -201 = 1) (-200 thru 9990 = 0 ) (else=sysmis) into stunting.  
variable labels stunting "Stunting".  
value labels stunting 0 "Not stunted" 1 "Stunted".  
formats stunting (f1.0).
```

```
compute wgt = hv005/1000000.  
weight by wgt.
```

```
compute filter_$(hc70 < 9990 & hv103=1).  
variable labels filter_$(hc70 < 9990 & hv103=1 (FILTER)).  
value labels filter_$(0 'Not Selected' 1 'Selected').  
formats filter_$(f1.0).  
filter by filter_$.  
execute.
```

```
frequencies stunting.
```

#### Problem 2 :

- a) Should I merge the HW file to PR or KR file? Or merge HW file with merged datasets of KR and PR file?

I would be grateful if you can share the ideas for solving these issues. I am struggling with this difference in figures.

Thank you.

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