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Subject: Interpretation of stunting

Posted by [anikhpg42@gmail.com](mailto:anikhpg42@gmail.com) on Thu, 22 Mar 2018 15:33:15 GMT

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Hi,

I have used BDHS'14 KR dataset. I have estimated the percentage of stunted child under age 5. I have gotten 36% stunted children.

In the report, it says that, 36% children under age 5 were stunted.

Now my question is, can I interpret this like,

"There are about 36% households, where children under age 5 are stunted."..??

If I can not, why not?

Thank you in advance.

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Subject: Re: Interpretation of stunting

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 22 Mar 2018 18:40:39 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

Stunting is a characteristic of children, not households. The units of analysis are children. Therefore I don't think you can improve on the statement that "36% of children under age 5 were stunted." Note that when you use the KR file, you are working with children under five whose mother was living and in the same household as the child. You will get a somewhat large number of cases if you use the PR file, which has all children under 5 who are in households, including those whose mother has died and those whose mother is living but is not in the same household as the child.

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