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Subject: Standard deviations for Stunting + Co  
Posted by [hkj3](#) on Tue, 27 Mar 2018 15:31:54 GMT

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Dear Reader,

I am having difficulty grasping as to why the standard deviations are range is so large from 597 to -598 for the Height for Weight standard deviation (WHO) for Malawi.

Please could you explain ?

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Subject: Re: Standard deviations for Stunting + Co  
Posted by [Reduced-For\(u\)m](#) on Tue, 27 Mar 2018 17:25:23 GMT

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You have to divide them by 100/ So -598 is actually -5.98sd below the reference median.

Any measurements above or below 6sd (measured here as 600) are dropped as being unreliable. So that is why the range you see is what it is.

This is just a convention used by the DHS to multiply by 100, it has no real meaning or bearing, and if you divide by 100 you will be in the the usual units.

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