Subject: How to interpret HW70
Posted by dnameispaone on Wed, 20 Feb 2019 20:13:36 GMT
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Dear All,

I am planning an analysis of NFHS-4 data. I met with an unexpected problem. I don't know how to interpret "HWw70" variable; I want to determine which all children are stunted, severely stunted and who all are normal. I do not understand how to manipulate this variable HW70 to determine whether a child has stunting or not.

Subject: Re: How to interpret HW70
Posted by Reduced-For(u)m on Wed, 20 Feb 2019 20:26:42 GMT
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HW70 is the height-for-age z-score based on WHO standards, although the DHS provides the values times 100 (so HW=100 would be HAZ of 1).

Stunted is defined as more than 2sd below the cutoff, which is -200 in the DHS coding (a "1" on the WHO scale means 1 standard deviation (sd)).

To define stunted children (using Stata syntax).

Gen stunted = hw70<-200
gen severely_stunted = hw70<-300

You may have to trim off the values of HAZ that are above/below +/-600 as that is the "valid" range of values (I can't remember if DHS already cuts them). But that is the general idea - you just have to define an indicator variable that takes the value of 1 for children with HAZ below -200 (-2 in WHO speak) and 0 for children with HAZ above that cutoff.

Subject: Re: How to interpret HW70
Posted by dnameispaone on Wed, 20 Feb 2019 20:31:40 GMT
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Thank you very much for such a prompt reply.