Subject: Re: NFHS-1 Weight for Age Missing for 4 States in HW File Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Mon, 13 May 2024 15:03:47 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Staff Member, Fred Arnold:

As indicated in the Nutrition Status of Children section (Section 10.2, page 281) of the NFHS-1 national report, anthropometric information was collected for children under four years of age. For five first stage states (Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal), only weight was measured because height measuring boards were not available at the time of the survey. The weight of each child was measured using a Salter scale, which is a hanging spring balance. For the measurement on height/length, children under two years of age were measured lying down on an adjustable measuring board, while those two years and above were measured in a standing position. For the five states mentioned above, only the weight-for-age indicator is available. Height-for-age and weight-for-height indices are not available. Height missing in the five states does not impact the calculation of weight-for-age z scores.