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Subject: Re: Caste correlation table

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Mon, 08 Jun 2015 10:13:25 GMT

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Here is a response from Senior DHS Technical Specialist, Fred Arnold:

The caste names were not coded centrally. They were coded by numerous field agencies that conducted the NFHS-1 fieldwork for each of the 25 states. The field agencies were provided with a standard set of codes to use, which we have sent to you. This list includes all caste names for codes 0001 through 2899 that were used by the field agencies. We do not have caste names for the 104 caste codes above 2899. Those 104 codes constitute only 2.9% of all the caste codes. It is likely that the 104 caste codes were created by the field agencies for specific states since some caste names given could not be matched to the master list of codes from 0001-2899 from the 1931 Census. Given that the coding was conducted for 25 states separately more than 20 years ago, it is not possible to reconstruct the caste names for the 104 codes. It is not correct to say that the lack of caste names for 2.9 percent of cases renders the caste variable unusable. You can simply combine the 104 caste codes from 2900-6000 into one caste code of OTHER CASTE and use the variable in any analysis.

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