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Subject: NFHS Raw Data requirement  
Posted by [anjali911sharma](#) on Mon, 29 May 2023 18:51:09 GMT  
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DHS generally provide data in standardised recoded format, but I need data in raw format so that I can take Indian specific categories from the questions where the respondents are asked to specify their caste. How can I get this?

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Subject: Re: NFHS Raw Data requirement  
Posted by [fred.arnold@icf.com](mailto:fred.arnold@icf.com) on Mon, 29 May 2023 19:23:11 GMT  
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At this point, the individual scheduled caste and scheduled tribe information from NFHS-5 is not yet available. Also, it is very difficult to analyze the individual scheduled caste and scheduled tribe data since the spelling of different castes and tribes in the questionnaire is often different from the official government spelling of those castes/tribes. The only information at this point is on whether the person belongs to a scheduled caste, scheduled tribe, OBC, or none of them, which is included in the recode files.

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Subject: Re: NFHS Raw Data requirement  
Posted by [anjali911sharma](#) on Mon, 29 May 2023 19:27:53 GMT  
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Thank you for your prompt response. May I know if the raw data is available for NFHS-4 or previous NFHS. From where can I get that?

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Subject: Re: NFHS Raw Data requirement  
Posted by [fred.arnold@icf.com](mailto:fred.arnold@icf.com) on Mon, 29 May 2023 19:56:25 GMT  
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There's a separate file that includes scheduled caste and scheduled tribe information. However, to request the data you will need to contact Dr. K.S. James, the Director of the International Institute for Population Sciences in Mumbai, at [ksjames@gmail.com](mailto:ksjames@gmail.com) or [ksjames@iipsindia.ac.edu](mailto:ksjames@iipsindia.ac.edu). You will need to describe in a couple of paragraphs exactly how you intend to use the NFHS-4 scheduled caste and scheduled tribe data. If Dr. James approves your request, he will inform the DHS Program and the scheduled caste/tribe data set can be released to you.

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Subject: Re: NFHS Raw Data requirement  
Posted by [anjali911sharma](#) on Mon, 29 May 2023 20:00:22 GMT  
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Thank you for this information. It is really helpful.

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Subject: Re: NFHS Raw Data requirement  
Posted by [fdsouza](#) on Mon, 12 Jun 2023 17:53:16 GMT  
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Hi Fred,

I am also using the caste variable, I was wondering if there was a ranking or ordering for the schedule caste, schedule tribe, obc, none of them and don't know variables. I am using them as an explanatory variable for birthweight in India.

Thanks in advance,  
Fran

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Subject: Re: NFHS Raw Data requirement  
Posted by [fred.arnold@icf.com](#) on Mon, 12 Jun 2023 18:10:21 GMT  
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There is no ranking of the schedule caste, schedule tribe, OBC, none of them, and don't know variables. "None of them" could be a general caste in most cases, but that's not always the case. The respondent tells the interviewer which of the categories she/he belongs to, but we know that the respondent does not always give the official category as defined by the government. In some cases, higher caste members might say that they are SC, ST, or OBC even if they are not, since that may make them eligible for certain government programs. In addition, the official definition of SC, ST, or OBC varies by state, and even differs in some regions of a state.

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