

---

Subject: Implausible waist and hip circumference values in NFHS-5 data

Posted by [MRedwanul](#) on Wed, 31 May 2023 09:50:29 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi,

We have been exploring the data on waist and hip circumferences (among 15 to 19 years old), which appear to have been measured in centimeter. However, when we look at histograms, we find values that are too large to be plausible.

In both of the variables, there are a number of "999.5" values. Should we assume these values to be missing?

Could an expert also please tell us whether there are arbitrary values for waist and hip circumferences, that we can use to flag observations above those as implausible? For example, in waist circumference variable, there are values of 176 (cm) which correspond to , and is highly likely to be implausible

Many thanks in advance!

#### File Attachments

---

1) [Histo\\_HC.jpeg](#), downloaded 99 times

2) [Histo\\_WC.jpeg](#), downloaded 99 times

---

---

Subject: Re: Implausible waist and hip circumference values in NFHS-5 data

Posted by [fred.arnold@icf.com](mailto:fred.arnold@icf.com) on Wed, 31 May 2023 13:45:03 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

The health investigators in NFHS-5 who conducted the hip and waist measurements were extensively trained in the correct measurement procedures. They also practiced the procedures during the survey pretest. All hip and waist circumferences were measured in centimeters. For those who were measured, the measurements were recorded in four boxes (three boxes plus a fourth box after the decimal point). For those who were not measured, the following responses were recorded:

REFUSED.....9995

OTHER.....9996

Therefore, you can assume that both 999.5 and 999.6 were missing cases.

Also note that hip and waist measurements included women who were pregnant, so those women should not be included in any tables for your analysis.

---