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Subject: India NFHS: District names

Posted by [shampaisi](#) on Wed, 08 May 2013 12:42:08 GMT

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I am currently using the NFHS dataset for India for the years 1992-93 and 1998-99. In my analysis I need to identify the district to which a particular household belongs to. One of the explanatory files accompanying the all India data-set for the year 1991-92 contain the information that the district code which identifies the district of the household are based on the standard coding categories used in Census of India 1991. I have consulted the 1991 Indian Census and I found that some of the census district codes (particularly the last few district codes for each state) are not included in the NFHS data-set. I was also wondering whether the NFHS II (1998-99) uses the same district codes as as the NFHS I (1992-93).

It will be of great help if you can kindly help clarify my confusions. Also if possible could you please let me know if there exists any file from which I can identify the district names for the NFHS 1992-93 and NFHS 1998-99?

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names

Posted by [Thea-DHS](#) on Fri, 24 May 2013 13:40:11 GMT

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Attached are the two files that identify the district classifications for Phase 1 (1992-92) and Phase 2 (1998-99) of the NFHS. Phase 3 of the NFHS (2005-06) does not contain district level information due to confidentiality requirements of HIV testing.

Each file contains a data schema and instructions for joining the District information to the corresponding household recode file.

### File Attachments

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- 1) [NFHS-1\\_DistrictCodes.xlsx](#), downloaded 2041 times
  - 2) [NFHS-2\\_DistrictCodes.xlsx](#), downloaded 2025 times
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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 29 May 2013 15:43:55 GMT

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Here is a response from one of our DHS experts Fred Arnold, that should answer your question.

Attached are two files with the district codes for NFHS-2 (for Phase 1 and Phase 2 states). Note that NFHS surveys do not include every district in the country since the surveys are only powered to measure indicators at the state level. In addition, some of the districts that are included may have only a small number of enumeration areas.

The sampling frame for NFHS-1 was based on the 1991 Census in Assam, Delhi, and Punjab, and on the 1981 Census in the rest of the country. The third attached file has the district codes for

both of those censuses. There may be some small deviations from those district codes in NFHS-1, however, but there is no list of possible deviations.

### File Attachments

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- 1) [dist\\_list\\_81\\_91.xlsx](#), downloaded 1951 times
  - 2) [District codes-Phase1.xls](#), downloaded 1551 times
  - 3) [District codes-Phase2 \(2\).xls](#), downloaded 1747 times
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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names  
Posted by [guptas24](#) on Tue, 03 Dec 2013 18:10:01 GMT  
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Based on this information, should I assume that district level data is not representative and therefore should not be used to measure district level outcomes?

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names  
Posted by [anilgvdbm](#) on Mon, 30 Dec 2013 10:10:42 GMT  
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Dear Sir,  
I am doing analysis of the NFHS data for 2005-06 year data so i am interested to do it by district wise in India but i dint find any district codes for extract an particular district data. i requested to share district codes for for all states of India.

Thanks for your help in advance and Best Regards,  
Anil

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names  
Posted by [anilgvdbm](#) on Mon, 06 Jan 2014 09:35:23 GMT  
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Dear Sir,  
Can you share the state and district codes for 2005-06 data.

Thanks in Advance  
Anil

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names  
Posted by [rahul](#) on Thu, 11 Jul 2019 12:09:45 GMT

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I am analyzing NFHS-1 data at the district level (though not representative), in which I find 17 districts in Tamil Nadu in data set. However, there were 16 districts as per Census 1981 (Sampling frame for NFHS-1). Also, I confirmed the districts (16) through various sources. The NFHS-1 Tamil Nadu state report also mentions there were 16 districts in 1981. So how can the data set show 17 districts in Tamil Nadu? Awaiting the reply.

```
tab hv024 if hv024 == 22
```

state	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
-----+-----			
tamil nadu	4,287	100.00	100.00
-----+-----			
Total	4,287	100.00	

```
tab shdist if hv024 == 22
```

```
name of  
district hh  
info Freq. Percent Cum.
```

1	410	9.56	9.56
2	456	10.64	20.20
3	409	9.54	29.74
4	257	5.99	35.74
5	196	4.57	40.31
6	313	7.30	47.61
7	120	2.80	50.41
8	336	7.84	58.25
9	119	2.78	61.02
10	316	7.37	68.39
11	272	6.34	74.74
12	252	5.88	80.62
13	111	2.59	83.21
14	255	5.95	89.15
15	272	6.34	95.50
16	143	3.34	98.83
17	50	1.17	100.00

```
Total 4,287 100.00
```

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names  
Posted by [fredarnold](#) on Thu, 18 Jul 2019 14:22:08 GMT  
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For Tamil Nadu in NFHS-1, the sampling frame in rural areas was the list of villages in the 1981

Census. In urban areas in Tamil Nadu, the sampling frame was the list of urban blocks provided by the National Sample Survey Organization, not the 1981 Census. NSSO used an expanded list of districts created after the 1981 Census. Below is the list of changes in the districts in Tamil Nadu between 1981 and 1991:

1985: Virudhunagar and Sivaganga districts split from Madurai and Ramanathapuram

1985: Dindigul district split from Madurai district

1986: Thoothukudi split from Tirunelveli district

1989: Tiruvannamalai and Vellore districts split from North Arcot district (District ceased to exist)

1991: Nagapattinam and Tiruvarur districts split from Thanjavur district

The sample selection procedure is described in the NFHS-1 national report.

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names

Posted by [sonal.agarwal](#) on Tue, 02 Jun 2020 17:34:27 GMT

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Hi,

Thank you for such useful excel files. However, there is one concern when you map the district information from the excel files to the NFHS Round 1 and Round 2.

-In Round 1, there are about 392 unique districts in the dataset. The excel file is only able to map to 388 unique districts.

-In Round 2, there are 440 unique districts in the dataset and 438 of them are mapped from the excel file.

Would you be able to guide us on why that might be happening? Also, is there any way to find out the district names of the ones that excel file cannot map?

Your response will be a big help to all of us.

Regards,

Sonal

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names

Posted by [sonal.agarwal](#) on Tue, 02 Jun 2020 17:35:20 GMT

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Regards,

Sonal

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names

Posted by [fredarnold](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2020 15:32:18 GMT

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Note that the NFHS-1 Excel file that was sent to you earlier has four districts with #N/A as the district name, so we don't have any information on those district names. That is likely to explain the difference between 392 unique district names in the dataset and 388 unique district names in the Excel file. We don't have any information on the reason for the difference of two district names in NFHS-2.

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Subject: Re: India NFHS: District names

Posted by [sonal.agarwal](#) on Thu, 04 Jun 2020 16:27:25 GMT

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Dear fredarnold,

Thank you very much for your confirmation. I was wondering if is possible for DHS to provide an official document that would state that 'x' many unique districts cannot be mapped? Lack of an official document on the district merging poses problems while justifying the district mapping for the first two rounds.

I sincerely hope that you can help with a published official document of this sort.

Regards,

Sonal

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