

# THE NEPAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL SOCIAL INCLUSION INDEX

Diversity and Agenda for Inclusive Development



**CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY/ANTHROPOLOGY**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Kathmandu, Nepal**

## **The Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index**

Diversity and Agenda for Inclusive Development

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Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology

Tribhuvan University

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# Foreword

The Social Inclusion Research Fund (SIRF) was started in 2005 on the initiative of civil society of Nepal and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kathmandu. Government of Nepal welcomed this initiative as highly relevant and endorsed the formation of SIRF Screening Committee represented by civil society, international scholars and government agencies. SNV Nepal was entrusted with the task of managing the fund, which has now a track record of having completed 303 individual researches and two major institutional research collaborations. The Social Inclusion Atlas Ethnographic Profile (SIA EP) is a truly joint collaboration involving all key stakeholders. SIRF Secretariat and SIA EP management team have worked closely with staff in SNV, the Norwegian Embassy, Norad Oslo and Tribhuvan University departments taking full advantage of the resources that each partner have been able to bring into the project. SIRF Secretariat facilitated processes of research design, making a public call for proposal, and an independent review and award of this research. SIRF Screening Committee provided guidance in defining the strategic focus and priorities of SIA EP research.

The SIA EP is a pioneer undertaking by the Central Department of Sociology Anthropology of Tribhuvan University, of institutional research involving a large team of multi-disciplinary team of academic researchers, policy makers, government agencies and civil society stakeholders. SIA EP management team earned this experience through hard work, determination and patience. The late arrival of Census data and the enormous pressure to complete the project in a given timeframe tested the crisis management capacity of the project. Prof Dr Om Gurung managed the crisis efficiently and with team work, giving the team leaders full delegation to lead their respective teams. We are glad to have been collaborators in bringing forth the results of a very important undertaking. The SIA EP has arrived at this stage of publication that fills us with great happiness. We know that determination, positive outlook, team work and institutional collaboration in the face of challenges are a sure way to success.

Nepal Social Inclusion Index (NSII) captures several important dimensions of social inclusion in Nepal. Measured by using 39 very important inclusion indicators it shows that each caste/ethnic groups in Nepal have different levels of inclusion. It can be seen that the social groups that constantly appear at the top ten and bottom ten remain more or less the same. Seen across the broad social groups it shows that Thakali, Hill Brahman, Newar, Kayastha and Hill Chhetri have better inclusion status at this point in time, in several dimensions compared to the rest social groups. In contrast, Madhesi Dalit and Hill Dalit rank low in almost all dimensions. The stark difference in index between the top and bottom groups is appalling. This sounds alarming to policy makers and practitioners.

The report aptly portrays social inclusion as a continuous process of attaining full membership of society and citizenship of a country. It is important to measure not only the level of inclusion in some visible aspects or dimension of development such as politics, as is happening in Nepal, but also the extent of inclusion in as many and as invisible as possible. We believe the NSII will serve many useful purposes in future. We hope that civil societies, governments and donors all over the world will find this report useful to further their understanding of social inclusion.

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# Preface and Acknowledgements

This report provides information to help portray the status of ethnic and caste groups and presents multidimensional social inclusion index for Nepal. Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index (NSII) is an attempt to synthesize the selected indicators pertaining to social exclusion and inclusion and relative standing of different social groups. The data for the study is drawn from three major sources; 2011 Census, Nepal Social Inclusion Survey-2013 and other government sources. This study has included information on 39 indicators under six dimensions; social, economic, political, cultural, gender and social cohesion, for 97 caste and ethnic groups to build index.

The study is an part and synthesis of a larger research project under the theme of Social Inclusion Atlas and Ethnographic Profile (SIA-EP) carried out by the Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology at Tribhuvan University. The SIA-EP has four interrelated components that include Nepal Social Inclusion Survey (NSIS), Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index (NSII) together with further analysis of data from recent surveys and 2011 Census, Social Inclusion Atlas that plots the caste/ethnicity data of selected indicators on spatial maps and finally Ethnographic Profiles of the 42 highly excluded communities to provide qualitative information. The overall objectives of the SIA-EP research were to promote a more informed understanding of Nepal's social diversity by producing research based, up to date information, on the country's cultural and linguistic diversity and the status of social inclusion of different social groups. The quantitative and qualitative information produced through research is expected to contribute to policy design, research as well as education.

This study is innovating in the sense that it has attempted to employ a comprehensive set of indicators to analyze social inclusion. The selection of indicators on social inclusion for this work was made based on rounds of consultations and review of relevant literature. The key indicators relevant to human development on education, health, economy and poverty are included mainly under social and economic dimensions. In addition to them, the study also includes some new dimensions in repertoire of indicators relevant for Nepal. As the issue of representation in political bodies and bureaucracy is significant in Nepali debate, this study has also included information on the theme. On the cultural dimension, issues of recognition of language, religion and customary politics are taken into account. A section is devoted to analyze the gender status by ethnic and caste groups. Finally, perception on recognition of their cultural identity and experience of being not discriminated and inter-group relations are considered relevant for measuring social cohesion or solidarity which is an essential feature for social inclusion. Although 2011 census enumerated 125 ethnic and caste groups, analysis could take only 97 groups due to unavailability of required data from all sources. As evident in the report, many groups are faring differently in different indicators although some of the ethnic/caste groups are persistently falling behind. We believe

that information on individual indicators would be useful for targeted programmes as much as the composite index for the policy and future research. However, caution must be given to the degree to which index can be used alone as there is chance of giving incomplete picture for some of the groups in question, if only the composite index is used.

Successful completion of SIA-EP research and NSII was possible with generous support of various institutions and the effort of about 200 individuals who were involved in various capacities. We would like to express our gratitude to the Royal Norwegian Embassy (RNE) in Nepal for providing the research fund through SIRF/SNV. We express our gratitude to Kristine H. Storholt and Lena Hasle from RNE for their valuable support and insightful feedback in accomplishing the task. We thank SIRF and SNV for managing the fund and Prof. Ganesh Man Gurung Chair of the Screening Committee for supporting the research. Thanks also go to Prof. Shiva Kumar Rai, then member of National Planning Commission, for chairing the Advisory Committee of SIA-EP Research. We would also like to thank Prof. Surya Lal Amatya, then Rector of Tribhuvan University, for giving permission to undertake the research project. Our heartfelt gratitude and special thanks go to Dr. Manju Thapa Tuladhar, Lead Advisor and Sita Rana and team at SIRF Secretariat who provided invaluable support throughout the research work in many ways.

We express our gratitude and acknowledgment to the National Planning Commission and the Central Bureau of Statistics for making available National Survey and 2011 Census data, without which completion of this study would not have been possible. Our sincere thanks also go to representatives of Dalit Organizations, Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN), National Foundation for Development of Indigenous Nationalities (NFDIN), Madhesi organizations, women's organizations and others, and the intellectuals and professionals who participated in a series of consultation workshops as well as preliminary findings sharing meetings and provided valuable comments and suggestions to enhance the quality of the data as well as the reports. Heartfelt thanks go to the field enumerators and supervisors who were the part of the survey team in collecting information to make this study possible. Finally, we would like to acknowledge the help of Andrew Steele for meticulously editing the document even within the short span of time.

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# Acronyms & Abbreviations

CDI	=	Culture Dimension Index
EDI	=	Education Domain Index
EDI	=	Economic Dimension Index
GDI	=	Gender Dimension Index
HDI	=	Human Development Index
HDR	=	Human Development Report
HI	=	Health Domain Index
NHDR	=	National Human Development Report
NSII	=	Nepal Social Inclusion Index
NSIS	=	Nepal Social Inclusion Survey
PDI	=	Political Dimension Index
SCDI	=	Social Cohesion Dimension Index
SDI	=	Social Dimension Index
SRII	=	Social Respect and Identity Index
SSI	=	Social Sphere Index

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# Overview

Social inclusion is a process towards human development which has emerged as policy tools geared towards people centered development. The social inclusion debate in Nepal focuses heavily on caste and ethnicity issues. Until the publication of the NSII, there was no index to reflect levels of social inclusion among the caste/ethnic groups. This study aims to address the gap through development of Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index (NSII).

The NSII encompasses six different dimensions; social, economic, political, cultural, gender and social cohesion/solidarity, on the bases of recent definitions and concepts developed by UNDP and present context of Nepal. It goes beyond socio-cultural and economic aspects covering political, gender and social cohesion dimensions as the latter three need to place people in position to shape their life in the way they desire and so value each other equally irrespective of their caste, ethnicity, class, gender, race, region, religion and so on.

The NSII is a composite index of six dimensional indices obtained from their respective domain indices. There are total 16 domains in six dimensions which cover 39 different indicators. The NSII has a number of built in indices which can be used as policy tool in a specific domains. The distribution of the six dimensional indices and one social inclusion index across the 97 ethnic groups of Nepal is unequal. This inequality, however, differs from one dimension to another and one caste/ethnic group to another indicating that none of the caste/ethnic group dominates in all dimensions. The inequality between the top most and bottom most is highest (100:1) in political dimension and lowest (2:1) in cultural dimension. However, in the overall social inclusion index the inequality between top most and bottom most is close to 2:1.

The distribution of dimensional inclusion indices across 97 caste/ethnic groups shows that caste/ethnic groups belonging to Hill Brahman/Chhetri, Tarai Brahman/Chhetri, Hill Janajati and Tarai other caste are leading in most of the dimensions. However, Dalits belonging to Hill Dalit in cultural and gender dimensions, exceptionally, appear at the top position. In overall NSII, Hill Brahman/Chhetri, Tarai Brahman/Chhetri and Hill Janajati are at the top most positions. Particularly caste/ethnic groups belonging to Madhesi Dalits and Tarai other castes are lagging behind in most of the dimensions. However, caste/ethnic groups belonging to Hill Janajati in cultural and political dimension and those belonging to Dalits in cohesion dimension are at the bottom. In case of overall inclusion index, caste/ethnic groups belonging to Madhesi Dalits and Madhesi other castes rank in bottom ten positions. The distribution of index values among the broader social groups shows that Hill Brahmans, Newar, Tarai Brahman/Chhetris and Hill Chhetris experience higher levels of inclusion (including overall social inclusion) than the other groups. In contrast, Madhesi Dalits and Hill Dalits have low index scores in nearly all of the dimensions, including in the overall social inclusion index.

# Introduction

Social inclusion is the process of ensuring the fullest participation of all individuals in all spheres of life. This chapter begins with an introduction to the concept of social inclusion, citing examples of experience from Nepal and around the world. It also highlights the approaches commonly used to measure social inclusion and human development, and presents a multidimensional approach to social inclusion that is relevant to Nepal. The importance of developing the Nepal Social Inclusion Index (NSII) in order to fully understand the state of social inclusion and exclusion in the country is also covered.

## 1.1 Social Inclusion

Many countries in the world today are committed to creating an inclusive society, and have developed visions and plans to realize this goal. In Australia, for example, the government states that, “a vision of a socially inclusive society, is one in which all Australians feel valued and have the opportunity to participate fully.” As highlighted by the Australian government, social inclusion can only be fully understood “if it is related to a particular vision of membership, belonging and social integration that cannot be defined independently of context” (Silver, 2010). UNDP’s Human Development Index (HDI), first developed in 1990, is a multidimensional index of development that recently highlighted issues of sustainability and equity by adding an inequality dimension in 2010 (Human Development Report 2011). Major components of the Index are life expectancy at birth (years), mean years of schooling (years), expected years of schooling (years), and gross national income per capita (GNI-PI). 187 countries are ranked and categorized as having a very high, high, medium, or low HDI. Many of the human development reports generated by UNDP focus on an individual country; this enables researchers to examine the question of inclusion from a human development perspective.

The 2007 report on Ghana, (NHDR-2007), describes a number of indicators under the heading “towards a more inclusive society.” The report discusses exclusion and makes reference to insecure livelihoods; poverty and economic exclusion; geographic disparity; limited access to public goods and services; resource degradation; cultural norms of discrimination; unequal gender relations; health status; disability; age related exclusion; formal educational status; human rights and citizenship; political relations; gender-based exclusion; weak coping strategies; and survival mechanisms.

A recent report on Kosovo, (NHDR 2010) defines social inclusion as a “process which ensures that those at risk of poverty and social exclusion gain the opportunities and resources necessary to participate fully in economic, social and cultural life, and to enjoy a standard of living and well being that is considered normal in the society in which they live”. Social inclusion further ensures



that citizens participate in decision-making that affects their lives, and guarantees them access to fundamental rights.

HDR-Ghana (2007) describes some progressive efforts made to move from exclusion to inclusion. A multidimensional concept, social exclusion involves economic, social, and spatial exclusion. These dimensions are seen as interrelated and mutually reinforcing. A classic example of the multidimensional manifestation of social exclusion is the case of People with Disabilities, who lack recognition and status in society and have limited opportunities for educational or vocational training. Some Ghanaian cultural norms also identify physical disability as a factor that excludes someone from becoming a tribal chief. However, it may not apply to all common people.

In order to move from exclusion to inclusion, clear conceptualization is required. NHDR-Kosovo (2010) conceptualizes social exclusion as a process/state of being excluded from the life of community, municipality, society, and the world at large. It reports on the relationship between social inclusion and human development. Major concerns highlighted include economic exclusion and exclusion in the labor market; access to education; access to health care services; and exclusion from political participation. The report highlights how discrimination—deliberate or otherwise—affects Kosovo's socio-economic balance and political processes. It also affects the achievement of policy goals oriented towards the demands and standards of the European Union.

The notion of inclusion is relative to the notion of exclusion. In order to define social inclusion in the context of Nepal, reference can be made to studies and research carried out in other countries. 'Social inclusion' as emphasized by Saloojee (cited in Labonte et al. 2011) 'is the political response to exclusion' and 'is about advocacy and transformation'. It is a proactive approach to value all people and groups, create conditions for them to live with dignity and fulfill their basic needs and it is also a state of society 'where all people are given opportunity to participate fully in political, cultural, civic and economic life because they feel valued, their differences are respected and their basic needs are met, so they can live in dignity' (Labonte et al. 2011:24). It involves both ameliorative and transformative measures. It is assumed that actions, based on foundational values like social justice (fair distribution of inclusion and resources), valuing diversity (recognition and respect, valuing all contributions), opportunities for choice, entitlements to rights and services and working together (common interests and relations, basis for action), would lead to or improve social inclusion (Shookner 2000:2-3). Redress, reduction and elimination of cumulative, multidimensional disadvantage inherently experienced by large sections of Nepali society is the prime concern of social inclusion in Nepal.

NHDR (2007) on Bosnia and Herzegovina discusses social inclusion based primarily on Human Development Indices, and highlights the Human Social Exclusion Index (HSEI) developed for the Bosnia-Herzegovina context as away to examine inclusion from the opposite angle. Beyond Transitions (2011), a Regional Human Development Report, recognizes human development as the purpose of development, and indicates social inclusion as an important process for removing the obstacles that prevent people from realizing their capabilities. It also offers a road map for policy implementation aimed at the achievement of higher levels of human development. This notion is clearly reflected in Nepal's Social Inclusion Index (NSII) project. Reference should also be made to the EU's definition of social inclusion mentioned earlier.

Social inclusion, therefore, is not simply a reversal of social exclusion in terms of status. There are a number of elements in the process such as participation and involvement that have intrinsic value.

Achieving social inclusion requires at least two distinct steps. The first is removing barriers in the wider sense, such as barriers to participation and access to resources and opportunities. This can be done by accelerating the drivers that favor inclusion – ensuring that legal structures and enabling policies are in place, that promote a society where diversity is considered an asset. The second step is to eliminate exclusion risk factors and to change attitudes. Even though legal structures may be in place, policies need to be actively implemented in order to cultivate solidarity, counteract entrenched social prejudices, and encourage the participation of individuals facing barriers to inclusion. It is not possible to break down such barriers with government intervention alone. Micro-level interactions that promote social harmony and integration, for example, can also help to speed the process; as can other elements which help to change attitudes to what is accepted as “normal”.

The Social Inclusion Atlas and Ethnographic Profile (SIA-EP) research project, undertaken by the Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, focuses on the development of the Nepal Social Inclusion Index (NSII) as one of the most important pre-requisites for assessing levels of inclusion in the country in terms of caste/ethnicity. This research therefore, attempts to define social inclusion using a multidimensional approach, and to measure social inclusion in the broader context.

## 1.2 Nepal Social Inclusion Index

The Nepal Social Inclusion Index represents the first attempt to define and measure social inclusion in Nepal. The way in which the study defines and measures social inclusion is influenced by other index-based research including UNDP’s Human Development Index. However, NSII adds new dimensions essential to understanding inclusion in the context of Nepal, and measuring levels of inclusion across different social groups.

Although the social and economic dimensions of social inclusion are important and widely used measures, the cultural dimension is pivotal. If issues of cultural freedom are not addressed, the number of options and opportunities available to people decreases. For example, when Nepali was imposed as the country’s single language, the right to a mother-tongue education ceased to be upheld. Addressing such cultural deprivations is intrinsic to the social inclusion process. Similarly important is the political dimension which provides opportunities to create interventions that change values. In Nepal, there is a great deal of discrimination based on socially constructed values and beliefs which prevents some groups from performing certain activities or from participating in the public arena. This indicates a low level of social cohesion. The belief that Dalit people are “untouchable”, for example, has fueled various types of discrimination including spatial segregation. Beliefs and values of this kind restrict the freedom of groups to practice their own culture without the risk of exclusion. Changes in such values and beliefs are the drivers of social inclusion that lead to the creation of more inclusive societies.

Gender discrimination is another striking feature of Nepali society, with men continuing to dominate the socio-economic sphere. This entrenched and persistent male domination has created a huge social barrier for women wishing to exercise their fundamental human rights. The patriarchal value system is the root cause of female subordination and social exclusion in the country, making the gender dimension all the more relevant to the social inclusion context.

All of dimensions of inclusion discussed here are equally important, equally relevant, and also interlinked. The interaction between the dimensions can create better or worse lives. This study

views political participation, social cohesion, and gender equity as the drivers of the social inclusion process. The social, economic, and cultural dimensions, on the other hand, have been used to evaluate the inclusion process and to assess the extent to which exclusion risk factors have been eliminated.

Indicators for the political, social cohesion and gender dimensions therefore, are indicators of the drivers of social inclusion in terms of policy, institutions, and values. They could also be considered as indicators of empowerment. In this study, changes in value systems that reduce or eliminate social exclusion are also viewed as the drivers of social inclusion. Examples of changes in value systems that promote social inclusion include allowing Dalits to enter temples, and allowing widows to remarry.

The NSII is one of the core components of Nepal Social Inclusion Atlas (SIA) and Ethnographic Profile (EP) Research Project. To measure social inclusion in Nepal, six major dimensions of inclusion were identified. Four of these – political, cultural, gender and social cohesion - are relatively new; this is the first time that they have all featured in a single index, although other studies have featured indicators for some of the dimensions. Past EU's studies have focused on the cultural dimension, for example, and the Asian Development Bank presented an overview of gender equality and social inclusion in Nepal in its 2010 study. In addition, HDR (2007)-Ghana and NHDR (2010)-Kosovo conceptualized the cultural norms of discrimination and spatial exclusion. This research examines these issues in the Nepali context; keeping in mind that the unique socio-cultural situation in the country may include additional dimensions of inclusion that in turn may determine/influence the indicators of social inclusion. This rationale has led to the development of this multidimensional social inclusion index that reflects the current inclusion status of the many and varied caste/ethnic groups of Nepal.

# Methodology

This chapter begins with a definition of social inclusion that encompasses multiple dimensions, domains and indicators relevant to measuring the level of social inclusion in Nepal. Following a brief description of the six dimensions (social, economic, political, cultural, gender and social cohesion), it explains how indicators defined under each dimension were measured. A number of sub-dimensions are also introduced; education and health for example, are domains of the social dimension. There are one or more indicators linked to each domain; literacy, net enrolment rate and basic education completion rate, for example, are indicators for the education domain. This chapter further describes methods used to compute the sub-dimensional indices as well as the composite Nepal Social Inclusion Index (NSII).

## 2.1 Introduction

The social inclusion / exclusion debate in Nepal focuses heavily on caste and ethnicity issues. Until the publication of the NSII, there was no index to reflect levels of social inclusion among the many caste/ethnic groups. This study addresses that gap.

Deprivation in the form of exclusion, and privilege in the form of inclusion vary across local contexts, across levels of development, and across time. As a society moves forward, new forms of deprivation or privilege may emerge and norms and values change. People in rural Nepal, for example, once viewed the exclusion of girls from educational opportunities as normal; while today it is viewed as a form of deprivation. Ideally, any index measurements should capture the dynamic nature of social inclusion processes. This index measures only the current state of inclusion in Nepal. As the first index of its kind, it provides a baseline that can be used by future studies to assess progress over time. It also provides a base for subsequent refinements to the index in terms of both approach and coverage.

### 2.1.1 The Social Dimension

Health and education play a vital role in human development as they have a direct impact on the quality of life. The social dimension examines the level of basic education, health and sanitation facilities necessary for people to lead healthy lives and to communicate effectively in the society in which they live.

Indicators defined and measured under the domains of education and health are adult literacy, the gross enrolment rate at basic, secondary and tertiary levels, access to basic schooling, the affordability of health services, child mortality, access to safe drinking water, and access to modern toilet facilities.

### **2.1.2 The Economic Dimension**

Survival is a fundamental human right. Survival depends on an individual's ability to access and perform economic activities. The type of economic activity not only demarcates an individual's access to other resources and opportunities, but also determines his or her standard of living. Inclusion in economic terms means equal access to the resources and employment opportunities needed to achieve a reasonable standard of living.

The major domains identified under the economic dimension are economic opportunity, absence of poverty, and standard of living. In order to measure these, the following nine indicators were defined: agricultural landholding, non-agricultural activities, share of food and non-food expenditure, food sufficiency, elementary occupations, housing conditions, dwelling space per person, access to commercial fuel for cooking, and access to electricity.

### **2.1.3 The Political Dimension**

It is widely accepted that political exclusion leads to social disparity, the inequitable distribution of resources, uneven development, and social unrest. Political exclusion is also associated with social conflict. Chronic exclusion from access to state power is likely to push the excluded groups, if mobilized, towards radicalism which either paralyzes the state apparatus or overthrows the exclusionary regime. Nepal has already learned a lesson from the armed insurgency of 1996-2005 that successfully garnered the support of traditionally excluded groups like Janajatis, Dalits, Madhesis and women. Conversely, experience elsewhere shows that political inclusion helps to de-radicalize political groups and to provide opportunities.

The key indicators used to assess levels of social inclusion in the political dimension are: representation on the central committee of political parties (the composition of the central committees of the political parties represented in the 2008 constituent assembly), representation of social groups on the Council of Ministers from 1991 onwards, representation in the national bureaucracy (2013 list), and access to power and services (voice and agency).

### **2.1.4 The Cultural Dimension**

Culture is the social heritage created by society through generations of practice. Culture develops over the long-term during the course of its efforts to enhance standards of living and fulfill human needs. Culture is inherited and is transmitted from one generation to the next, providing a structured set of social conditions for living manifested in the form of arts, artifacts, social organizations, and commonly held ideas, beliefs and values.

Major domains that fall under this dimension are language, customary governance and religion. Key indicators include access to basic education in the mother-tongue, linguistic barriers to access to local government services, recognition of the principles of religious equality at the local level, the absence of religious discrimination at state level (ensuring equal privileges, facilities, donations etc.), and opportunities to practice customary governance.

### **2.1.5 The Gender Dimension**

The gender dimension of social inclusion looks at issues that shape male/female relationships within specific value systems. In the Nepal context, indicators for this dimension seek to measure women's status within the existing system of patriarchal values. The index uses 10 key indicators to highlight the main areas of gender disparity and inequality. These indicators fall under one of four domains:

- Access to public services (primarily educational opportunities)
- Economic autonomy
- Participation and decision making in public life
- Sexuality, control over the body, and gender based violence

The ten indicators are: gender parity in school enrolment; discrimination in schooling; land ownership; economic autonomy; the representation of women on the central working committees of political parties; the representation of women in the state bureaucracy; the number of women with professional or technical jobs; violence against women; the participation of women in the decision to marry; and the participation of women in reproductive decisions.

### **2.1.6 The Social Cohesion/ Solidarity Dimension**

The notion of social cohesion/solidarity is connected to the concepts of human dignity and respect; these in turn reflect the status of an individual in the society in which he or she lives. Social cohesion typically refers to an absence of discrimination on the basis of caste/ethnicity, sex, place of origin or color of skin/race and so on.

The social cohesion dimension defines discrimination in two ways: the first definition includes the bigotry and verbal abuse associated, for example, with the concept being “untouchable”; the second definition refers to discriminatory practices that occur due to prevailing social values and norms.

Although the measurement and indexing of social cohesion poses a number of difficult empirical challenges, this study attempts measurement based on the individual perceptions of respondents. Social cohesion is measured using a composite index which uses domains and indicators from all of other dimensions. Indicators relating specifically to social cohesion include: entry to private houses denied; entry to religious places denied; public spaces and facilities not shared; and cultural identity not acknowledged or respected.

## **2.2 Computation of the Nepal Social Inclusion Index**

The NSII and its component indices (one per dimension) document the current state of social inclusion in the country. It also facilitates valid comparisons over time, as six of the dimensions are included in a composite index. The determination of the relative weighting for each indicator in order to produce a dimensional index requires deeper investigation. Equal weighting, therefore, was applied at each stage of aggregation (i.e. to indicator indices in order to compute domain indices; to domain indices in order to arrive at dimensional indices; and finally to dimensional indices in order to obtain a composite social inclusion index).

The optimum level of social inclusion in most of the indicators is 100. This is achieved if any group receives a 100 percent score against each indicator. A full score (or inclusion achieved) is represented by 1. For additional details about computation methods, see annex 2.

Some groups may score more than 100 percent in terms of proportional share; this is also regarded as full achievement against the given indicator, resulting in a full inclusion score of 1. Other values occur between 0 and 1.

Fixing the maximum threshold at 1 is likely to cause some practical problems, however. The goal is to overcome these problems during progress monitoring through proportional representation. For example, if a reference group represents 10 percent of the total population and occupies 10

percent of the positions in the sector under consideration, it has a proportional share of 1 resulting in an index score of 1. This can lead to over-representation which suggests that thresholds should be fixed using maximum and minimum scores. However, such tampering with the threshold has serious drawbacks and may heavily penalize those groups with an index of 1. For example, if there is an over representation of 5, (and this is considered the maximum threshold with 0 as the minimum), the index for those achieving 1 reduces to 0.2 (For more details see annex 3.) For this reason, in the NSII, a common value is attached to all who have achieved the natural threshold of a maximum of 1 in terms of proportional share. Although this does not allow differentiation between those who have achieved scores of one and more than one, it is the least problematic of possible approaches.

The goal of social inclusion in the political dimension is to achieve proportional representation in all organs of state. An achievable value goal of one for the proportional share is set for all reference categories used by this study, regardless of their size and type. The broader social groups described here consist of many caste/ethnic groups. For this reason, broader groups are not approached as single categories; rather the group index is the mean of the indices of the sub-groups that fall under the broader group. Taking the example of a broader group that comprises 24 caste/ethnic groups with a population share of 10 percent and 10 percent of the seats in the constituent assembly; if only one of the sub-groups holds all of the seats, the index of the broader group, if calculated directly, leads to a situation where the remaining 23 sub-groups do not exist. The NSII seeks to give equal importance to all caste/ethnic groups, so therefore broader group indices are calculated using the method described above, providing readers with the information needed to make an independent analysis.

# Social Dimension Index

## 3.1 Introduction

The social dimension index is computed as a composite index of two domain indices: the education index and the health and sanitation index.

## 3.2 Education Index (EI)

Education index is composed of the adult literacy index, the index of net enrollment at all levels of education, and the index of completion of basic education.

### 3.2.1 Adult Literacy Index (ALI)

The adult literacy rate is defined as the percentage of the population aged 15 years and above who can read and write (in any language). The overall index of adult literacy for Nepal is 0.5957 (Table 3.1). This indicates that Nepal has a long way to go (approximately 0.4) to achieve full adult literacy. The index is highest among TaraiBrahman/Chhetris (0.8005), followed by Hill Brahmans (0.7846) and Newars (0.7649). It is lowest among Tarai Dalits (0.2312). There are five groups that have index scores below the national average. These groups include Muslims, other Tarai castes, Hill Dalits, Tarai Janajatis, and Tarai Dalits.

### 3.2.2 Net Enrolment Index (NEI)

The index of net enrollment at all levels of education shows a national average of 0.7107 (Table 3.1). Hill Brahmans have the highest score (0.8406), followed by Newars (0.8065) who are closely followed by TaraiBrahman/Chhetris. Muslims (0.4711) and Tarai Dalits (0.4939) have the lowest index scores indicating that these groups are a long way off achieving 100% enrolment at the different levels of education.

### 3.2.3 Basic Schooling Index (BSI)

This index measures completion of basic schooling (grades 1 – 8). The national average is only 0.2194 (Table 3.1). This means that more than half of the population has not completed basic education. The index is highest for Tarai Brahman/Chhetris (0.4449) with Hill Brahmans (0.4227) in second place. Scores are lowest for Hill Dalits (0.0920), Tarai Dalits (0.0948), and Muslims (0.1087). Index scores of less than 0.25 indicate that less than a quarter of the total population of the group has completed basic education.



**Table 3.1: Education Domain: mean (percent) and index scores by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Adult Literacy Rate		Net Enrolment Rate		Basic Schooling Completion Rate		Educational Domain
	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	78.5	0.7846	84.1	0.8406	42.3	0.4227	0.6826
Hill Chhetri	66.4	0.6635	76.9	0.7687	24.9	0.2488	0.5603
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	80.0	0.8005	79.1	0.7913	45.0	0.4499	0.6805
Tarai Other Caste	45.0	0.4502	64.1	0.6408	20.7	0.2068	0.4326
Hill Dalit	51.8	0.5180	67.8	0.6783	9.2	0.0920	0.4294
Tarai Dalit	23.1	0.2312	49.4	0.4939	9.5	0.0948	0.2733
Newari	76.5	0.7649	80.6	0.8065	36.4	0.3637	0.6450
Mountain/Hill Janajati	61.5	0.6152	72.3	0.7232	18.2	0.1817	0.5067
Tarai Janajati	54.1	0.5406	70.8	0.7084	16.6	0.1659	0.4716
Muslim	35.4	0.3543	47.1	0.4711	10.9	0.1087	0.3113
Others	78.0	0.7796	72.1	0.7213	35.3	0.3525	0.6178
Total	59.6	0.5957	71.1	0.7107	21.9	0.2194	0.5086

### 3.2.4 Educational Domain Index (EDI)

Education domain index is a composite of the adult literacy index, the net enrollment index, and the basic education completion rate index. Table 3.1 shows that Hill Brahmans have the highest EI scores (0.6826) closely followed Tarai Brahman/Chhetris (0.6805), and Newars (0.6450). All three of these groups are far ahead of the national average of 0.5086. Tarai Dalits are in bottom position with an index of 0.2733 while Muslims have an index of 0.3113. Tarai Janajatis, Hill Dalits and other Tarai castes also have index scores of below the national average.

**Table 3.2: Education Domain: distribution of mean (percent) and index scores by caste / ethnicity**

S.N	Caste/Ethnicity	Adult Literacy Rate		Net Enrolment Rate		Basic Schooling Completion Rate		Educational Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
1	KAYASTHA	86.4	0.8644	81.3	0.8134	52.3	0.5227	0.7335
2	MARWADI	86.8	0.8678	77.9	0.7788	46.8	0.4680	0.7049
3	HILL BRAHMAN	78.5	0.7846	84.1	0.8406	42.3	0.4227	0.6826
4	THAKALI	77.5	0.7748	83.8	0.8375	43.1	0.4309	0.6811
5	TARAI BRAHMAN	78.7	0.7873	79.4	0.7941	43.1	0.4315	0.6710
6	RAJPUT	77.4	0.7740	75.9	0.7588	43.0	0.4303	0.6544
7	NEWARII	76.5	0.7649	80.6	0.8065	36.4	0.3637	0.6450
8	DURA	70.9	0.7090	82.7	0.8274	27.1	0.2707	0.6024
9	LEPCHA	72.3	0.7232	67.7	0.6765	38.8	0.3884	0.5961
10	THAKURI	68.1	0.6814	78.5	0.7847	25.3	0.2529	0.5730
11	LIMBU	69.4	0.6942	76.8	0.7682	23.9	0.2395	0.5673
12	RAI	68.7	0.6873	76.4	0.7641	24.1	0.2408	0.5641
13	GURUNG	68.4	0.6838	76.4	0.7640	24.2	0.2417	0.5631
14	CHHETRI	66.3	0.6631	76.8	0.7681	24.9	0.2487	0.5600
15	BANIYA	67.2	0.6721	70.1	0.7012	29.2	0.2921	0.5551

S.N	Caste/Ethnicity	Adult Literacy Rate		Net Enrolment Rate		Basic Schooling Completion Rate		Educational Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
16	KALWAR	63.9	0.6392	72.4	0.7238	29.3	0.2928	0.5519
17	DHIMAL	62.3	0.6235	77.9	0.7792	23.6	0.2355	0.5461
18	SUDHI	59.9	0.5989	74.3	0.7428	29.6	0.2960	0.5459
19	SANYASI	64.0	0.6399	74.8	0.7480	24.2	0.2418	0.5433
20	CHHANTYAL	67.0	0.6704	73.4	0.7342	21.4	0.2138	0.5395
21	JIREL	58.3	0.5827	82.1	0.8208	17.4	0.1743	0.5259
22	HALUWAI	60.2	0.6021	69.3	0.6928	27.8	0.2778	0.5242
23	PUNJABI/SIKH	65.7	0.6571	76.3	0.7630	15.2	0.1523	0.5241
24	MAGAR	64.5	0.6450	73.7	0.7372	18.0	0.1804	0.5209
25	WALUNG	57.0	0.5705	71.6	0.7155	27.2	0.2719	0.5193
26	GHARTI/BHUJEL	60.7	0.6074	74.6	0.7461	20.1	0.2011	0.5182
27	HAYU	50.5	0.5051	77.5	0.7747	25.7	0.2570	0.5123
28	MECHE	60.8	0.6081	67.5	0.6747	25.0	0.2504	0.5110
29	DARAI	62.7	0.6270	76.1	0.7615	12.7	0.1269	0.5051
30	RAJBANSI	59.3	0.5929	71.6	0.7162	19.6	0.1957	0.5016
31	TELI	53.8	0.5380	70.3	0.7031	25.3	0.2527	0.4979
32	HYOLMO	54.4	0.5444	74.9	0.7491	19.8	0.1981	0.4972
33	SUNUWAR	59.0	0.5904	70.6	0.7058	18.6	0.1859	0.4940
34	BYANGSI	54.1	0.5406	71.1	0.7114	20.6	0.2060	0.4860
35	YAKKHA	60.5	0.6048	69.8	0.6980	15.5	0.1546	0.4858
36	THARU	56.3	0.5634	72.3	0.7230	16.6	0.1664	0.4843
37	SHERPA	57.3	0.5733	69.7	0.6973	16.8	0.1684	0.4797
38	BANGALI	62.7	0.6269	60.8	0.6080	20.3	0.2028	0.4793
39	BARAE	47.1	0.4715	68.7	0.6868	27.0	0.2697	0.4760
40	GANGAI	55.3	0.5528	71.7	0.7171	12.7	0.1269	0.4656
41	KOCHE	48.3	0.4831	60.7	0.6071	30.0	0.3001	0.4634
42	KAMAR	46.5	0.4650	63.1	0.6310	29.1	0.2913	0.4625
43	BRAHMU/BARAMU	53.2	0.5315	76.6	0.7655	8.5	0.0850	0.4607
44	TAMANG	53.8	0.5377	68.8	0.6875	14.5	0.1445	0.4566
45	GAINI	60.6	0.6058	68.4	0.6840	7.4	0.0738	0.4545
46	SONAR	51.9	0.5192	62.5	0.6245	21.0	0.2102	0.4513
47	KOIRI	46.1	0.4612	67.9	0.6793	20.7	0.2071	0.4492
48	KUMAL	53.8	0.5383	68.3	0.6826	11.7	0.1171	0.4460
49	DANUWAR	48.0	0.4796	68.5	0.6848	16.8	0.1681	0.4442
50	TAJPURIYA	54.8	0.5481	70.0	0.6999	7.3	0.0733	0.4405
51	KANU	46.2	0.4617	62.6	0.6261	21.8	0.2183	0.4354
52	BADI	53.9	0.5388	64.1	0.6413	12.1	0.1205	0.4335
53	BADHAE	46.7	0.4666	62.3	0.6227	21.0	0.2098	0.4331
54	YADAV	42.2	0.4220	65.3	0.6525	22.4	0.2236	0.4327
55	KAMI	51.9	0.5188	68.1	0.6811	9.4	0.0935	0.4312

Cont....

S.N	Caste/Ethnicity	Adult Literacy Rate		Net Enrolment Rate		Basic Schooling Completion Rate		Educational Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
56	DAMAI/DHOLI	52.8	0.5283	66.5	0.6654	9.4	0.0938	0.4292
57	BHOTE	50.6	0.5057	65.3	0.6526	12.1	0.1208	0.4263
58	HAJAM/THAKUR	46.4	0.4642	63.6	0.6359	17.5	0.1752	0.4251
59	SARKI	49.8	0.4985	68.9	0.6891	8.2	0.0818	0.4231
60	MAJHI	47.6	0.4756	63.6	0.6359	10.0	0.1004	0.4040
61	KISAN	46.0	0.4601	63.9	0.6395	10.7	0.1074	0.4023
62	BOTE	50.3	0.5028	62.9	0.6287	7.3	0.0731	0.4016
63	KURMI	40.7	0.4070	60.0	0.6005	19.6	0.1955	0.4010
64	PAHARI	43.5	0.4346	57.5	0.5750	18.1	0.1810	0.3969
65	LOHAR	42.7	0.4273	63.3	0.6328	13.0	0.1301	0.3968
66	RAJI	45.1	0.4513	59.9	0.5988	12.5	0.1254	0.3918
67	DHANUK	37.4	0.3736	62.1	0.6207	17.8	0.1785	0.3909
68	KUMHAR	37.2	0.3718	61.9	0.6193	17.6	0.1764	0.3892
69	NURANG	40.4	0.4044	50.9	0.5086	24.4	0.2441	0.3857
70	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	38.6	0.3859	62.2	0.6217	13.9	0.1391	0.3822
71	MALI	40.2	0.4024	59.1	0.5910	14.8	0.1476	0.3804
72	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	37.3	0.3729	64.5	0.6449	12.3	0.1227	0.3802
73	KEWAT	38.9	0.3885	60.6	0.6055	14.4	0.1445	0.3795
74	THAMI	48.2	0.4818	62.0	0.6200	3.2	0.0319	0.3779
75	MUNDA	47.3	0.4726	63.7	0.6372	0.0	0.0000	0.3699
76	RAJBHAR	46.3	0.4626	56.8	0.5675	6.6	0.0661	0.3654
77	SANTHAL/SATAR	34.8	0.3483	61.0	0.6099	9.7	0.0967	0.3516
78	DHOBI	33.4	0.3344	57.4	0.5736	13.9	0.1386	0.3489
79	KAHAR	37.8	0.3779	57.2	0.5722	9.4	0.0943	0.3481
80	BANTAR	31.4	0.3138	60.4	0.6044	12.3	0.1231	0.3471
81	TATMA	26.4	0.2636	55.9	0.5589	13.0	0.1303	0.3176
82	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	42.7	0.4273	50.4	0.5035	1.1	0.0108	0.3139
83	MUSLIM	35.4	0.3543	47.1	0.4711	10.9	0.1087	0.3113
84	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	39.6	0.3964	49.3	0.4928	2.2	0.0221	0.3038
85	LODHA	31.7	0.3168	55.0	0.5498	4.4	0.0441	0.3036
86	KHATWE	22.4	0.2236	54.6	0.5462	13.1	0.1310	0.3003
87	HALKHOR	31.0	0.3100	46.7	0.4672	11.3	0.1134	0.2969
88	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	24.6	0.2460	52.8	0.5282	8.2	0.0824	0.2855
89	MALLAH	27.1	0.2705	49.3	0.4927	9.0	0.0899	0.2844
90	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	23.6	0.2361	50.4	0.5035	11.3	0.1135	0.2844
91	RAUTE	34.5	0.3454	49.5	0.4954	0.0	0.0000	0.2803
92	NUNIYA	24.3	0.2427	48.8	0.4877	6.0	0.0599	0.2634
93	DHUNIA	26.1	0.2615	41.0	0.4104	8.1	0.0814	0.2511

S.N	Caste/Ethnicity	Adult Literacy Rate		Net Enrolment Rate		Basic Schooling Completion Rate		Educational Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
94	BING/BINDA	17.3	0.1729	40.6	0.4059	7.0	0.0698	0.2162
95	CHIDIMAR	27.8	0.2778	36.2	0.3620	0.0	0.0000	0.2132
96	MUSAHAR	12.3	0.1233	32.9	0.3294	2.7	0.0268	0.1599
97	DOM	13.0	0.1303	26.5	0.2654	5.3	0.0531	0.1496
	<b>Total</b>	59.6	0.5957	71.1	0.7107	21.9	0.2194	0.5086

Kayasthas and Marwadis top the education index followed by Hill Brahmans, Thakalis and Tarai Brahmans. Doms and Musahars followed by Chidimars, Bins and Dhuniyas have the lowest scores. The Kayastha, Marwadi, Hill Brahman, Tarai Brahman, Rajput, Newari, and Thakuri groups, along with some Mountain/Hill Janajati groups including Thakali, Dura, and Lepcha, feature in the top ten of the education domain index (Table 3.2). The bottom ten are mostly Tarai Dalit groups (including the Dom, Musahar, Chidimar, Dusadh/Paswan/Pasi, and Chamar/Harijan/Ram), and other Tarai caste groups including the Bin, Dhuniya, Nuniya and Mallah. Rautes also feature in the bottom ten.

### 3.3 Health and Sanitation Index (HSI)

The health and sanitation domain index is composed of the health service affordability index, the child survival index, the access to safe drinking water index and the access to modern toilet facilities index.

#### 3.3.1 Health Service Affordability Index (HSAI)

The health service affordability index is highest for Newars (0.6045), followed by other Tarai castes, Hill Brahmans, and Chhetris (Table 3.4). Index scores for Hill Dalits, Tarai Janajatis and Mountain/Hill Janajatis including Muslims are lower than the national average (0.5473).

#### 3.3.2 Child Survival Index (CSI)

The index for infant mortality has been transformed here into the child survival index. “Others” have the highest score (0.9211), followed by Tarai Brahmans (0.8989) (Table 3.4). Muslims (0.6776) and Hill Dalits (0.7237) have the lowest scores.

#### 3.3.3 Safe Drinking Water Index (SDWI)

The safe drinking water index shows that Hill Janajatis, Newars and Hill Dalits have the highest scores (around 0.6) (Table 3.3). This indicates that the majority of households from these groups have access to safe drinking water. The safe drinking water index is lowest for Tarai Dalits.

#### 3.3.4 Modern Toilet Index (MTI)

Newars have the highest index score (0.7511), followed by Hill Brahmans (0.6996) (Table 3.3). The index is lowest for Tarai Dalits (0.0555). Muslims, Tarai Janajatis, and other Tarai castes also have low scores, although these are way above the score for Tarai Dalits.

#### 3.3.5 Health Domain Index (HI)

The health domain index comprises indices for health service affordability, child survival, safe drinking water and modern toilet facilities. The national average score of 0.5632 means that Nepal is less than half way to achieving universal access to health services and sanitation. Newars have

the highest domain index score (0.7172), closely followed by Hill Brahmans (0.6771) and Hill Chhetris (0.6087). Tarai Dalit score lowest (0.3927). Muslims and other Tarai castes have a similar index to Tarai Dalits.

Looking at individual groups, in addition to Thakali, Gurung, Newari, Gharti/Bhujel, Hill Brahman, and Madwari, some other Mountain/Hill Janajati groups feature in the top ten for this domain index (Chhantyal, Yelhmo, Darai and Bote) (Table 3.4). The bottom ten includes the Tajpuriya, Bhehihar/Gadehi, Gangai, Lodha, and Nuniya groups. In addition, the Dhobi, Dom Chamar/Harijan/Ram, Khatwe, and Bantar groups also feature in the bottom ten.

**Table 3.3: Health Domain: mean (percent) and index scores for health indicators by broad caste/ethnic group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Health service affordability		Child survival		Household access to safe water		Household access to modern toilet facilities		Health domain Index
	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	
Hill Brahman	55.4	0.5540	11.8	0.8816	57.3	0.5733	70.0	0.6996	0.6771
Hill Chhetri	55.4	0.5537	18.2	0.8180	57.5	0.5747	48.8	0.4883	0.6087
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	53.4	0.5337	10.1	0.8989	16.1	0.1612	49.0	0.4905	0.5211
Tarai Other Caste	57.1	0.5706	18.1	0.8188	16.6	0.1664	19.4	0.1942	0.4375
Hill Dalit	52.1	0.5214	27.6	0.7237	61.4	0.6144	30.6	0.3062	0.5414
Tarai Dalit	56.4	0.5642	19.0	0.8103	14.1	0.1410	5.5	0.0555	0.3927
Newari	60.4	0.6045	13.2	0.8684	64.5	0.6448	75.1	0.7511	0.7172
Mountain/Hill Janajati	51.8	0.5179	20.6	0.7945	64.9	0.6488	40.9	0.4093	0.5926
Tarai Janajati	53.9	0.5390	19.2	0.8080	20.8	0.2076	23.2	0.2322	0.4467
Muslim	53.6	0.5357	32.2	0.6776	18.0	0.1799	20.7	0.2073	0.4001
Others	59.9	0.5990	7.9	0.9211	24.7	0.2472	67.6	0.6758	0.6108
Total	54.7	0.5473	18.9	0.8106	47.8	0.4778	41.7	0.4172	0.5632

**Table 3.4: Health Domain: mean (percent) and index scores for health indicators by caste /ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Health service affordability		Child survival		HH using safe water		HH using modern toilet		Health domain Index
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	
1	THAKALI	52.7	0.5273	5.3	0.9474	76.8	0.7685	79.1	0.7907	0.7585
2	NEWARI	60.4	0.6045	13.2	0.8684	64.5	0.6448	75.1	0.7511	0.7172
3	CHHANTYAL	54.7	0.5472	7.9	0.9211	77.7	0.7774	53.0	0.5296	0.6938
4	GURUNG	58.0	0.5799	19.1	0.8092	70.0	0.6998	62.8	0.6283	0.6793
5	HILL BRAHMAN	55.4	0.5540	11.8	0.8816	57.3	0.5733	70.0	0.6996	0.6771
6	MARWADI	59.2	0.5917	3.9	0.9605	27.2	0.2717	80.0	0.7997	0.6559
7	GHARTI/BHUJEL	60.6	0.6059	13.2	0.8684	65.6	0.6556	42.1	0.4209	0.6377
8	DARAI	59.3	0.5928	17.1	0.8289	53.2	0.5325	57.3	0.5733	0.6319
9	BOTE	59.8	0.5976	14.5	0.8553	65.2	0.6524	37.5	0.3752	0.6201
10	HYOLMO	47.2	0.4719	7.2	0.9276	67.8	0.6780	40.0	0.4002	0.6194

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S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Health service affordability		Child survival		HH using safe water		HH using modern toilet		Health domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
11	BYANGSI	51.5	0.5152	11.2	0.8882	77.3	0.7734	28.8	0.2883	0.6162
12	SHERPA	53.7	0.5366	19.1	0.8092	74.8	0.7481	36.0	0.3595	0.6134
13	DURA	55.3	0.5533	25.7	0.7434	52.0	0.5195	62.3	0.6234	0.6099
14	SANYASI	56.2	0.5616	10.5	0.8947	53.8	0.5383	43.0	0.4297	0.6061
15	CHHETRI	55.5	0.5548	23.0	0.7697	57.8	0.5779	49.4	0.4938	0.5991
16	PAHARI	58.0	0.5801	26.3	0.7368	74.4	0.7437	31.5	0.3145	0.5938
17	TAMANG	44.0	0.4404	13.2	0.8684	67.5	0.6754	38.2	0.3823	0.5916
18	GAINE	52.5	0.5248	19.7	0.8026	63.7	0.6374	39.5	0.3946	0.5898
19	THAKURI	53.8	0.5385	21.1	0.7895	56.2	0.5616	46.2	0.4618	0.5878
20	RAI	54.7	0.5472	17.8	0.8224	61.5	0.6153	34.1	0.3414	0.5816
21	SUNUWAR	47.4	0.4737	10.5	0.8947	62.1	0.6211	33.1	0.3309	0.5801
22	MAGAR	51.1	0.5109	27.0	0.7303	62.9	0.6286	44.1	0.4406	0.5776
23	KAYASTHA	58.4	0.5843	9.2	0.9079	20.4	0.2045	60.2	0.6016	0.5745
24	KISAN	62.4	0.6241	17.8	0.8224	55.4	0.5535	29.6	0.2958	0.5739
25	PUNJABI/SIKH	54.4	0.5441	4.6	0.9539	24.2	0.2425	50.7	0.5075	0.5620
26	MAJHI	53.0	0.5298	10.5	0.8947	55.6	0.5559	26.3	0.2630	0.5609
27	KUMAL	53.5	0.5352	30.3	0.6974	63.3	0.6334	36.1	0.3606	0.5566
28	SARKI	51.8	0.5181	31.6	0.6842	68.1	0.6808	31.8	0.3180	0.5503
29	LIMBU	51.6	0.5161	28.3	0.7171	64.7	0.6472	32.0	0.3195	0.5500
30	YAKKHA	58.1	0.5813	25.7	0.7434	64.9	0.6486	22.5	0.2248	0.5495
31	DAMAI/DHOLI	50.0	0.5000	23.7	0.7632	60.6	0.6056	30.3	0.3030	0.5429
32	BADI	54.7	0.5470	32.2	0.6776	57.5	0.5748	36.3	0.3634	0.5407
33	JIREL	51.0	0.5098	37.5	0.6250	57.9	0.5788	43.5	0.4350	0.5371
34	KAMAR	55.5	0.5545	19.7	0.8026	57.9	0.5785	20.8	0.2076	0.5358
35	BANGALI	60.7	0.6068	17.8	0.8224	20.4	0.2036	50.5	0.5054	0.5345
36	RAJPUT	57.8	0.5778	7.9	0.9205	12.3	0.1228	50.7	0.5071	0.5320
37	KAMI	52.9	0.5291	30.9	0.6908	59.8	0.5982	30.1	0.3014	0.5299
38	BRAHMU/BARAMU	55.6	0.5556	30.3	0.6974	61.3	0.6129	23.9	0.2392	0.5262
39	BANIYA	54.9	0.5493	9.9	0.9013	19.4	0.1944	45.4	0.4545	0.5249
40	KALWAR	63.7	0.6369	14.5	0.8553	18.5	0.1851	42.2	0.4218	0.5248
41	BHOTE	50.0	0.5000	27.0	0.7303	55.3	0.5525	29.7	0.2974	0.5200
42	DANUWAR	59.2	0.5924	7.9	0.9211	35.7	0.3570	20.2	0.2024	0.5182
43	THAMI	54.3	0.5429	43.4	0.5658	76.2	0.7623	20.1	0.2012	0.5180
44	HALUWAI	55.3	0.5534	9.2	0.9079	17.7	0.1767	38.8	0.3884	0.5066
45	DHIMAL	50.9	0.5088	19.1	0.8092	32.2	0.3216	37.7	0.3775	0.5043
46	BRAHMAN – TARAI	50.0	0.5000	13.2	0.8684	16.1	0.1612	44.9	0.4487	0.4946
47	HAYU	50.7	0.5067	12.5	0.8750	37.8	0.3782	20.4	0.2043	0.4911
48	LEPCHA	55.6	0.5561	22.4	0.7763	30.8	0.3077	29.5	0.2952	0.4838
49	NURANG	52.2	0.5217	29.1	0.7086	43.3	0.4333	27.1	0.2712	0.4837
50	TELI	56.9	0.5686	7.9	0.9205	15.8	0.1581	27.8	0.2784	0.4814

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S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Health service affordability		Child survival		HH using safe water		HH using modern toilet		Health domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
51	RAUTE	36.0	0.3600	23.3	0.7671	62.1	0.6207	17.2	0.1719	0.4799
52	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	46.7	0.4667	34.9	0.6513	65.4	0.6542	13.8	0.1382	0.4776
53	KOCHE	54.9	0.5488	25.0	0.7500	39.0	0.3901	21.3	0.2133	0.4755
54	MECHE	58.3	0.5829	8.6	0.9145	10.4	0.1038	29.3	0.2933	0.4736
55	SUDHI	52.0	0.5200	15.8	0.8421	14.5	0.1450	37.4	0.3735	0.4702
56	LOHAR	64.6	0.6457	25.0	0.7500	29.1	0.2910	17.6	0.1761	0.4657
57	THARU	54.1	0.5410	16.4	0.8355	22.2	0.2217	25.5	0.2554	0.4634
58	RAJBHAR	54.2	0.5425	23.0	0.7697	40.4	0.4038	13.4	0.1343	0.4626
59	HALKHOR	59.4	0.5943	25.0	0.7500	25.5	0.2552	23.9	0.2388	0.4596
60	KOIRI	64.4	0.6438	13.2	0.8684	16.0	0.1596	16.1	0.1610	0.4582
61	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	54.8	0.5484	19.6	0.8039	22.7	0.2269	24.7	0.2470	0.4565
62	SONAR	50.0	0.5000	15.1	0.8487	14.3	0.1430	30.5	0.3051	0.4492
63	RAJI	56.8	0.5679	24.3	0.7566	28.7	0.2868	15.2	0.1524	0.4409
64	KANU	56.8	0.5676	21.7	0.7829	17.7	0.1767	22.5	0.2248	0.4380
65	KEWAT	47.8	0.4779	9.9	0.9013	25.6	0.2562	11.6	0.1160	0.4378
66	BADHAE	52.6	0.5263	11.2	0.8882	14.9	0.1487	17.1	0.1715	0.4337
67	RAJBANSI	50.0	0.5000	19.7	0.8026	20.8	0.2084	22.0	0.2197	0.4327
68	HAJAM/THAKUR	53.5	0.5352	21.2	0.7881	17.1	0.1711	22.8	0.2277	0.4305
69	KAHAR	50.0	0.5000	10.5	0.8947	23.3	0.2329	8.0	0.0805	0.4270
70	KURMI	56.8	0.5684	17.1	0.8289	16.7	0.1666	13.9	0.1393	0.4258
71	YADAV	55.5	0.5547	13.8	0.8618	14.4	0.1436	14.0	0.1402	0.4251
72	MALI	56.0	0.5597	16.6	0.8344	14.2	0.1424	14.2	0.1416	0.4195
73	KUMHAR	63.9	0.6390	17.8	0.8224	7.6	0.0760	14.0	0.1399	0.4193
74	CHIDIMAR	49.2	0.4918	25.0	0.7500	25.0	0.2500	16.3	0.1628	0.4136
75	DHANUK	53.0	0.5299	11.2	0.8882	10.5	0.1047	13.0	0.1300	0.4132
76	TATMA	50.4	0.5041	3.9	0.9605	10.8	0.1078	7.3	0.0733	0.4114
77	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	62.7	0.6272	21.1	0.7895	15.1	0.1513	7.8	0.0776	0.4114
78	SANTHAL/SATAR	52.9	0.5294	23.0	0.7697	25.6	0.2556	7.8	0.0775	0.4081
79	BARAE	50.0	0.5000	18.4	0.8158	12.4	0.1237	18.7	0.1871	0.4066
80	DHUNIA	55.0	0.5496	23.0	0.7697	20.5	0.2054	10.1	0.1014	0.4065
81	MUNDA	57.8	0.5776	15.8	0.8421	4.0	0.0400	15.7	0.1568	0.4041
82	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	64.6	0.6463	23.0	0.7697	14.3	0.1434	5.1	0.0514	0.4027
83	BING/BINDA	52.3	0.5231	11.2	0.8882	15.0	0.1500	4.3	0.0433	0.4011
84	MUSLIM	53.6	0.5357	32.2	0.6776	18.0	0.1799	20.7	0.2073	0.4001
85	MUSAHAR	54.7	0.5469	15.1	0.8487	14.4	0.1440	3.8	0.0384	0.3945
86	MALLAH	60.0	0.6000	28.3	0.7171	15.7	0.1571	8.3	0.0830	0.3893
87	WALUNG	42.9	0.4286	25.0	0.7500	29.0	0.2903	8.8	0.0881	0.3892
88	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	52.0	0.5200	19.7	0.8026	14.8	0.1480	8.6	0.0862	0.3892
89	BANTAR	51.8	0.5175	16.4	0.8355	12.5	0.1246	7.8	0.0782	0.3890

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Health service affordability		Child survival		HH using safe water		HH using modern toilet		Health domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
90	DHOBI	52.0	0.5200	23.7	0.7632	17.3	0.1725	9.0	0.0902	0.3865
91	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	47.6	0.4762	13.9	0.8609	14.2	0.1421	4.8	0.0482	0.3819
92	TAJPURIYA	50.0	0.5000	30.3	0.6974	18.8	0.1883	13.6	0.1362	0.3805
93	NUNIYA	61.1	0.6115	32.9	0.6711	13.4	0.1342	8.5	0.0850	0.3754
94	LODHA	45.7	0.4571	33.6	0.6645	32.9	0.3290	3.9	0.0389	0.3724
95	DOM	47.6	0.4756	20.4	0.7961	12.8	0.1281	7.9	0.0794	0.3698
96	KHATWE	52.2	0.5217	23.2	0.7682	13.5	0.1345	5.0	0.0502	0.3687
97	GANGAI	48.9	0.4889	22.4	0.7763	2.6	0.0261	11.4	0.1140	0.3513
	Total	54.7	0.5473	18.9	0.8106	47.8	0.4778	41.7	0.4172	0.5632

### 3.4 Social Dimension Index (SDI)

The SDI is a composite of two domain indices: education and health/sanitation. The SDI measures human capability in terms of the two factors that impact on the overall quality of life – health and education.

Table 3.5 shows the SDI along with the two domain indices. The national average for the SDI is 0.5359, indicating that Nepal has a fairly long way to go to achieve universal access to health and education. Among the 11 broader social groups, five score below and six (Hill Brahman, TaraiBrahman/Chhetri, Newari, Hill Janajati, Hill Chhetri and Others) score above the national average. Of the six, Newars have the highest index score (0.6811) with Hill Brahmans in second place. Tarai Dalits have the lowest index score (0.3330), which is far below the national average.

**Table 3.5: Social Dimension Index and domain indices by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Educational Domain	Health Domain	Social Dimension
	Index	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	0.6826	0.6771	0.6799
Hill Chhetri	0.5603	0.6087	0.5845
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	0.6805	0.5211	0.6008
Tarai Other Caste	0.4326	0.4375	0.4350
Hill Dalit	0.4294	0.5414	0.4854
Tarai Dalit	0.2733	0.3927	0.3330
Newari	0.6450	0.7172	0.6811
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.5067	0.5926	0.5497
Tarai Janajati	0.4716	0.4467	0.4592
Muslim	0.3113	0.4001	0.3557
Others	0.6178	0.6108	0.6143
Total	0.5086	0.5632	0.5359

Looking at individual caste/ethnic groups, the highest social dimension index can be found among the Thakalis (0.7198)(table 3.6). In addition, Hill Brahmans, Newars, Marwadis, Kayasthas, Rajputs, Tarai Brahmans and some Mountain/Hill Janajatis (including Dura, Gurung, and Chantel) feature



in the top ten. In contrast, most Tarai Dalit groups such as Dom, Musahar, Chamar/Harijan/Ram, Chidimar and Khatwe, and some other Tarai caste groups such as Bin, Dhuniya, lodha, Mallah, and Nuniya feature in the bottom ten.

In summary, Hill Brahmins and Newars have the best social dimension indices while Tarai Dalits have the worst. Some Janajatis have higher indices while others have lower indices.

**Table 3.6: Social Dimension and domain Index by caste/ethnic groups**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Educational Domain	Health Domain	Social Dimension
		Index	Index	Index
1	THAKALI	0.6811	0.7585	0.7198
2	NEWARI	0.6450	0.7172	0.6811
3	MARWADI	0.7049	0.6559	0.6804
4	HILL BRAHMAN	0.6826	0.6771	0.6799
5	KAYASTHA	0.7335	0.5745	0.6540
6	GURUNG	0.5631	0.6793	0.6212
7	CHHANTYAL	0.5395	0.6938	0.6166
8	DURA	0.6024	0.6099	0.6061
9	RAJPUT	0.6544	0.5320	0.5932
10	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.6710	0.4946	0.5828
11	THAKURI	0.5730	0.5878	0.5804
12	CHHETRI	0.5600	0.5991	0.5795
13	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.5182	0.6377	0.5779
14	SANYASI	0.5433	0.6061	0.5747
15	RAI	0.5641	0.5816	0.5728
16	DARAI	0.5051	0.6319	0.5685
17	LIMBU	0.5673	0.5500	0.5586
18	HYOLMO	0.4972	0.6194	0.5583
19	BYANGSI	0.4860	0.6162	0.5511
20	MAGAR	0.5209	0.5776	0.5492
21	SHERPA	0.4797	0.6134	0.5465
22	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.5241	0.5620	0.5431
23	BANIYA	0.5551	0.5249	0.5400
24	LEPCHA	0.5961	0.4838	0.5400
25	KALWAR	0.5519	0.5248	0.5384
26	SUNUWAR	0.4940	0.5801	0.5371
27	JIREL	0.5259	0.5371	0.5315
28	DHIMAL	0.5461	0.5043	0.5252
29	TAMANG	0.4566	0.5916	0.5241
30	GAINE	0.4545	0.5898	0.5222
31	YAKKHA	0.4858	0.5495	0.5177
32	HALUWAI	0.5242	0.5066	0.5154
33	BOTE	0.4016	0.6201	0.5108
34	SUDHI	0.5459	0.4702	0.5080

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Educational Domain	Health Domain	Social Dimension
		Index	Index	Index
35	BANGALI	0.4793	0.5345	0.5069
36	HAYU	0.5123	0.4911	0.5017
37	KUMAL	0.4460	0.5566	0.5013
38	KAMAR	0.4625	0.5358	0.4991
39	PAHARI	0.3969	0.5938	0.4953
40	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.4607	0.5262	0.4935
41	MECHE	0.5110	0.4736	0.4923
42	TELI	0.4979	0.4814	0.4897
43	KISAN	0.4023	0.5739	0.4881
44	BADI	0.4335	0.5407	0.4871
45	SARKI	0.4231	0.5503	0.4867
46	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.4292	0.5429	0.4861
47	MAJHI	0.4040	0.5609	0.4824
48	DANUWAR	0.4442	0.5182	0.4812
49	KAMI	0.4312	0.5299	0.4805
50	THARU	0.4843	0.4634	0.4738
51	BHOTE	0.4263	0.5200	0.4732
52	KOCHE	0.4634	0.4755	0.4695
53	RAJBANSI	0.5016	0.4327	0.4671
54	WALUNG	0.5193	0.3892	0.4543
55	KOIRI	0.4492	0.4582	0.4537
56	SONAR	0.4513	0.4492	0.4502
57	THAMI	0.3779	0.5180	0.4480
58	BARAE	0.4760	0.4066	0.4413
59	KANU	0.4354	0.4380	0.4367
60	NURANG	0.3857	0.4837	0.4347
61	BADHAE	0.4331	0.4337	0.4334
62	LOHAR	0.3968	0.4657	0.4312
63	YADAV	0.4327	0.4251	0.4289
64	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.4251	0.4305	0.4278
65	RAJI	0.3918	0.4409	0.4164
66	RAJBHAR	0.3654	0.4626	0.4140
67	KURMI	0.4010	0.4258	0.4134
68	TAJPURIYA	0.4405	0.3805	0.4105
69	KEWAT	0.3795	0.4378	0.4087
70	GANGAI	0.4656	0.3513	0.4085
71	KUMHAR	0.3892	0.4193	0.4043
72	DHANUK	0.3909	0.4132	0.4021
73	MALI	0.3804	0.4195	0.3999
74	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.3802	0.4114	0.3958
75	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.3038	0.4776	0.3907

Cont....

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Educational Domain	Health Domain	Social Dimension
		Index	Index	Index
76	KAHAR	0.3481	0.4270	0.3876
77	MUNDA	0.3699	0.4041	0.3870
78	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.3822	0.3892	0.3857
79	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.3139	0.4565	0.3852
80	RAUTE	0.2803	0.4799	0.3801
81	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.3516	0.4081	0.3798
82	HALKHOR	0.2969	0.4596	0.3782
83	BANTAR	0.3471	0.3890	0.3680
84	DHOBI	0.3489	0.3865	0.3677
85	TATMA	0.3176	0.4114	0.3645
86	MUSLIM	0.3113	0.4001	0.3557
87	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	0.2844	0.4027	0.3435
88	LODHA	0.3036	0.3724	0.3380
89	MALLAH	0.2844	0.3893	0.3368
90	KHATWE	0.3003	0.3687	0.3345
91	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.2855	0.3819	0.3337
92	DHUNIA	0.2511	0.4065	0.3288
93	NUNIYA	0.2634	0.3754	0.3194
94	CHIDIMAR	0.2132	0.4136	0.3134
95	BING/BINDA	0.2162	0.4011	0.3087
96	MUSAHAR	0.1599	0.3945	0.2772
97	DOM	0.1496	0.3698	0.2597
	<b>Total</b>	0.5086	0.5632	0.5359

### 3.5 Conclusion

The overall domain indices under social dimension are fairly low, about half of the full inclusion index. However, it varies ranging from 0.1496 among Dom to 0.6826 among Hill Brahman in education domain index, 0.3516 among Gangai to 0.7585 among Thakali in health domain index and 0.2597 among Dom to 0.7198 among Thakali in social dimension index. Thus, level of social inclusion of various caste/ethnic group in different indicators of social dimension varies from one indicator to another and one caste/ethnic group to another.

## 4

# ECONOMIC DIMENSION INDEX

The economic dimension comprises three domains that deal with access to economic opportunity, non-poverty, and standards of living. Domain indices are presented in this section along with the economic dimension index which presents a mean of the domain indices.

## 4.1 Economic Opportunity

Economic inclusion implies that people have access to resources of production and are able to fully participate in the labor market. Land is also considered to be one of the essential productive assets in the rural agrarian economy; average landholding rates are used as evidence of access to productive resources. Employment in the agriculture sector in Nepal is, by and large, subsistence employment. The non-agricultural economic activity of the population of the working age, on the other hand, is considered as one of proxies of better employment opportunity. The percentage of the population involved in non-agricultural activities was, therefore, chosen as an indicator of employment opportunity. Economic opportunity as defined here, encompasses both access to land and to non-agricultural employment.

The aggregate index of economic access ranks Tarai Brahman/ Chhetris the highest, followed by the other Tarai castes. Tarai Janajatis and “Others” (which includes Punjabis/Sikhs, Bengalis and Marwadis) also have higher levels of economic access. Hill and Tarai Dalit groups both have similar scores which are lower than those of the other broader groups.

**Table 4.1: Economic Access Index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Average Landholding		Non-Agriculture Employment		Economic Access
	Mean (ha.)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	0.3290	0.3173	41.7	0.4169	0.3671
Hill Chhetri	0.3517	0.3434	28.5	0.2848	0.3141
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	0.5799	0.6056	60.4	0.6039	0.6048
Tarai Other Caste	0.6317	0.6651	33.0	0.3304	0.4977
Hill Dalit	0.2153	0.1866	30.7	0.3073	0.2469
Tarai Dalit	0.1895	0.1569	30.5	0.3051	0.2310
Newari	0.1822	0.1486	61.2	0.6121	0.3803
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.3554	0.3476	27.2	0.2719	0.3098
Tarai Janajati	0.5800	0.6057	30.3	0.3033	0.4545
Muslim	0.4110	0.4115	42.2	0.4223	0.4169
Others	0.2226	0.1951	74.4	0.7440	0.4695
Total	0.3750	0.3702	33.4	0.3337	0.3519

The Economic Access Domain Index for all caste and ethnic groups derives from average landholding and non-agricultural employment index scores. There is a great deal of variation, with Tarai caste groups having higher levels of economic access. This may be attributed to relatively larger landholdings and better prospects for non-agricultural employment among these groups. The top ten groups in rank order (starting with the highest score) are Rajput, Yadav, Tarai Brahman, Gangai, Teli, Kurmi, Kalwar, Punjabi/Sikh, Kamar, and Kayastha. The bottom ten groups have almost no economic access. These include Kami, Thami, Raji, Dushad, Brahm, Kisan, Khatwe, Bing/Banda, Chamar/Harijan/Ram, and Mushar.

**Table 4.2: Economic Access Index by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Average Landholding		Non-Agriculture Employment		Economic Access
		Mean (ha.)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
1	RAJPUT	0.7689	0.8228	55.9	0.5590	0.6909
2	YADAV	0.9231	1.0000	21.8	0.2178	0.6089
3	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.6221	0.6541	56.3	0.5627	0.6084
4	GANGAI	0.8171	0.8782	26.6	0.2661	0.5721
5	TELI	0.6845	0.7258	36.4	0.3635	0.5447
6	KURMI	0.7356	0.7846	30.3	0.3029	0.5437
7	KALWAR	0.4857	0.4973	58.3	0.5827	0.5400
8	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.4716	0.4812	56.7	0.5672	0.5242
9	KAMAR	0.4811	0.4921	55.5	0.5550	0.5236
10	KAYASTHA	0.2820	0.2633	76.7	0.7668	0.5151
11	NURANG	0.5486	0.5697	45.8	0.4583	0.5140
12	SUDHI	0.5323	0.5509	47.3	0.4731	0.5120
13	LEPCHA	0.6037	0.6330	36.5	0.3648	0.4989
14	KOIRI	0.6909	0.7331	25.6	0.2556	0.4944
15	RAJBANSI	0.5153	0.5314	45.1	0.4514	0.4914
16	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.7177	0.7640	21.7	0.2172	0.4906
17	BANIYA	0.3151	0.3013	66.7	0.6671	0.4842
18	TAJPURIYA	0.6303	0.6635	29.5	0.2950	0.4792
19	BARAE	0.5598	0.5826	37.5	0.3754	0.4790
20	THARU	0.6164	0.6475	29.1	0.2913	0.4694
21	LODHA	0.6801	0.7208	18.9	0.1894	0.4551
22	BADHAE	0.4638	0.4722	43.7	0.4369	0.4545
23	MARWADI	0.1280	0.0863	82.1	0.8205	0.4534
24	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.5654	0.5890	29.4	0.2939	0.4414
25	BANGALI	0.2437	0.2192	66.3	0.6634	0.4413
26	KANU	0.4091	0.4093	47.0	0.4704	0.4398
27	KOCHE	0.2878	0.2699	57.8	0.5778	0.4239
28	HALUWAI	0.2640	0.2426	60.0	0.6001	0.4214
29	MUSLIM	0.4110	0.4115	42.2	0.4223	0.4169
30	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.3500	0.3414	48.5	0.4854	0.4134
31	KUMHAR	0.4614	0.4694	35.1	0.3513	0.4104
32	DOM	0.0913	0.0441	76.6	0.7663	0.4052
33	BYANGSI	0.6030	0.6322	17.1	0.1709	0.4016

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S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Average Landholding		Non-Agriculture Employment		Economic Access
		Mean (ha.)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
34	HALKHOR	0.0880	0.0403	75.2	0.7524	0.3964
35	MECHE	0.3318	0.3204	47.0	0.4702	0.3953
36	LIMBU	0.4515	0.4581	32.0	0.3200	0.3890
37	SHERPA	0.4546	0.4617	31.4	0.3140	0.3878
38	RAUTE	0.2811	0.2622	50.6	0.5065	0.3843
39	DHIMAL	0.3587	0.3514	41.2	0.4119	0.3816
40	NEWARI	0.1822	0.1486	61.2	0.6121	0.3803
41	KAHAR	0.4607	0.4687	28.8	0.2880	0.3783
42	SONAR	0.1995	0.1685	58.2	0.5819	0.3752
43	SUNUWAR	0.4631	0.4713	27.3	0.2729	0.3721
44	THAKALI	0.1457	0.1067	63.7	0.6368	0.3718
45	HILL BRAHMAN	0.3290	0.3173	41.7	0.4169	0.3671
46	BHOTE	0.3957	0.3939	33.0	0.3300	0.3620
47	KEWAT	0.4632	0.4716	25.1	0.2511	0.3613
48	BANTAR	0.2911	0.2737	44.9	0.4489	0.3613
49	DHUNIA	0.3596	0.3525	36.9	0.3685	0.3605
50	HYOLMO	0.4332	0.4370	27.7	0.2771	0.3571
51	DHANUK	0.3828	0.3791	31.9	0.3189	0.3490
52	WALUNG	0.5223	0.5395	14.9	0.1494	0.3444
53	YAKKHA	0.4583	0.4658	22.1	0.2209	0.3434
54	DHOBI	0.4086	0.4087	27.6	0.2764	0.3425
55	CHIDIMAR	0.0971	0.0508	63.1	0.6311	0.3410
56	RAJBHAR	0.3970	0.3954	27.8	0.2781	0.3368
57	RAI	0.4043	0.4038	26.9	0.2694	0.3366
58	MUNDA	0.3702	0.3646	29.4	0.2943	0.3294
59	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.3697	0.3640	29.2	0.2917	0.3279
60	DANUWAR	0.3904	0.3879	25.6	0.2564	0.3221
61	HAYU	0.4741	0.4840	15.7	0.1565	0.3203
62	SANYASI	0.3610	0.3540	28.0	0.2801	0.3171
63	CHHETRI	0.3538	0.3458	28.5	0.2852	0.3155
64	MALI	0.2950	0.2783	34.9	0.3489	0.3136
65	TAMANG	0.3448	0.3354	28.2	0.2816	0.3085
66	TATMA	0.3127	0.2985	30.2	0.3016	0.3001
67	DARAI	0.3082	0.2934	30.5	0.3050	0.2992
68	THAKURI	0.3243	0.3119	28.3	0.2829	0.2974
69	GAINI	0.1148	0.0711	52.3	0.5231	0.2971
70	MAGAR	0.3613	0.3544	23.9	0.2388	0.2966
71	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.3265	0.3144	27.9	0.2785	0.2965
72	KUMAL	0.3019	0.2862	30.4	0.3040	0.2951
73	MALLAH	0.3101	0.2956	29.0	0.2904	0.2930
74	MAJHI	0.2738	0.2539	32.5	0.3251	0.2895

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S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Average Landholding		Non-Agriculture Employment		Economic Access
		Mean (ha.)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
75	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.0737	0.0239	54.2	0.5421	0.2830
76	LOHAR	0.1836	0.1502	41.4	0.4138	0.2820
77	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.1708	0.1355	42.2	0.4224	0.2790
78	BADI	0.1557	0.1181	42.4	0.4245	0.2713
79	DURA	0.3347	0.3238	21.8	0.2185	0.2711
80	NUNIYA	0.2384	0.2132	32.9	0.3291	0.2711
81	PAHARI	0.2711	0.2507	29.0	0.2902	0.2705
82	GURUNG	0.2438	0.2194	32.0	0.3201	0.2697
83	BOTE	0.2311	0.2048	32.2	0.3216	0.2632
84	SARKI	0.2622	0.2406	24.0	0.2396	0.2401
85	JIREL	0.2768	0.2573	22.0	0.2203	0.2388
86	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.3481	0.3392	13.8	0.1380	0.2386
87	CHHANTYAL	0.3006	0.2847	19.2	0.1925	0.2386
88	KAMI	0.2219	0.1942	27.9	0.2794	0.2368
89	THAMI	0.2797	0.2607	20.5	0.2048	0.2327
90	RAJI	0.2953	0.2785	17.8	0.1781	0.2283
91	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	0.1878	0.1550	29.8	0.2981	0.2266
92	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.3085	0.2938	15.7	0.1575	0.2256
93	KISAN	0.1823	0.1487	29.8	0.2978	0.2233
94	KHATWE	0.2025	0.1719	26.4	0.2642	0.2181
95	BING/BINDA	0.1993	0.1682	26.2	0.2616	0.2149
96	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.1725	0.1374	28.2	0.2817	0.2096
97	MUSAHAR	0.0529	0.0000	30.0	0.3004	0.1502
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.3750</b>	<b>0.3702</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>0.3337</b>	<b>0.3519</b>

## 4.2 Non-poverty

The results of a poverty head count computed using the cost of basic necessities reveal that one in every four Nepalis is poor. It is a general assumption that of the more spent on food consumption as a proportion of total household expenditure, the higher the level of poverty. Similarly, elementary (unskilled) occupations are likely to generate low incomes leading to increased chances of poverty. The poverty level here has been assessed using three indicators: food expenditure as a percentage of total household expenditure, food sufficiency status, and employment in an elementary occupation; all of these are proxies of poverty. The aggregate non-poverty index is presented in the table below. Higher index values imply a more favorable situation.

Among the broader social groups, Hill Brahmans have the highest index score of 0.9235. This means that Hill Brahmans are in a better position as regards food consumption, food sufficiency and elementary occupations than any of the other groups. Newars and Hill Chhetris rank second and third respectively. Tarai Dalits are in last place with an index of 0.3803.

**Table 4.3: Non-poverty mean (percent) and Index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Food Expenditure		Food Sufficiency		Elementary Occupations		Non-Poverty
	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	35.5	0.9204	89.5	0.8947	4.9	0.9553	0.9235
Hill Chhetri	36.4	0.8987	68.1	0.6815	5.9	0.9389	0.8397
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	46.4	0.6607	89.3	0.8934	10.5	0.8675	0.8072
Tarai Other Caste	54.4	0.4689	81.7	0.8168	14.5	0.8052	0.6970
Hill Dalit	53.3	0.4956	56.0	0.5598	11.9	0.8457	0.6337
Tarai Dalit	64.2	0.2357	53.7	0.5369	42.5	0.3683	0.3803
Newari	44.7	0.7000	90.8	0.9079	6.3	0.9335	0.8471
Mountain/Hill Janajati	45.3	0.6857	79.4	0.7938	4.1	0.9682	0.8159
Tarai Janajati	51.9	0.5296	84.4	0.8441	16.1	0.7797	0.7178
Muslim	53.7	0.4863	72.4	0.7237	18.4	0.7450	0.6517
Others	42.7	0.7475	96.7	0.9668	12.0	0.8444	0.8529
Total	44.5	0.7059	77.1	0.7706	10.5	0.8674	0.7813

There is significant variation among caste / ethnic groups in the non-poverty domain index. The top five positions are held by Thakalis (0.9686), Hill Brahmans (0.9235), Marwadis (0.9086), Byangsis (0.8834) and Hyolmos (0.8692). The Chamar/ Harijan/ Ram (0.3880), Dusadh/ Paswan/ Pasi (0.3263), Halkhor (0.3256), Patharkatta/Kuswadia (0.3221) and Musahar (0.1672) groups have lowest rankings.

**Table 4.4: Non-poverty mean (percent) and Index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Food Expenditure		Food Sufficiency		Elementary Occupations		Non-Poverty Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
1	THAKALI	32.1	1.0000	99.3	0.9934	7.6	0.9125	0.9686
2	HILL BRAHMAN	35.5	0.9204	89.5	0.8947	4.9	0.9553	0.9235
3	MARWADI	39.4	0.8268	100.0	1.0000	8.5	0.8991	0.9086
4	BYANGSI	45.9	0.6709	98.7	0.9868	2.5	0.9925	0.8834
5	HYOLMO	43.9	0.7183	92.1	0.9211	4.1	0.9682	0.8692
6	JIREL	41.5	0.7767	82.2	0.8224	2.0	1.0000	0.8664
7	KAYASTHA	41.5	0.7755	92.8	0.9276	10.9	0.8617	0.8550
8	SHERPA	47.6	0.6312	98.7	0.9868	6.2	0.9350	0.8510
9	NEWARI	44.7	0.7000	90.8	0.9079	6.3	0.9335	0.8471
10	RAI	38.6	0.8447	75.0	0.7500	5.6	0.9437	0.8461
11	CHHETRI	35.4	0.9220	67.1	0.6711	5.9	0.9396	0.8442
12	DARAI	41.6	0.7741	87.5	0.8750	12.2	0.8410	0.8300
13	BHOTE	36.0	0.9069	66.4	0.6645	7.3	0.9172	0.8295
14	GHARTI/BHUJEL	40.7	0.7947	82.9	0.8289	11.0	0.8593	0.8277
15	SANYASI	44.6	0.7031	86.2	0.8618	7.4	0.9164	0.8271
16	GURUNG	42.0	0.7642	78.3	0.7829	6.5	0.9297	0.8256
17	DURA	39.0	0.8348	65.1	0.6513	2.7	0.9904	0.8255



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S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Food Expenditure		Food Sufficiency		Elementary Occupations		Non-Poverty Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
18	BRAHMAN - TARAI	46.8	0.6504	93.4	0.9342	9.6	0.8813	0.8220
19	PAHARI	44.1	0.7142	87.5	0.8750	10.0	0.8758	0.8217
20	BRAHMU/BARAMU	50.0	0.5740	91.4	0.9145	5.2	0.9501	0.8129
21	MAGAR	43.2	0.7364	77.0	0.7697	7.2	0.9190	0.8084
22	SUNUWAR	41.7	0.7719	71.7	0.7171	7.0	0.9222	0.8037
23	THAKURI	41.4	0.7786	68.4	0.6842	5.6	0.9444	0.8024
24	CHHANTYAL	40.3	0.8044	64.5	0.6447	5.0	0.9533	0.8008
25	BANIYA	48.3	0.6144	93.4	0.9342	11.7	0.8493	0.7993
26	PUNJABI/SIKH	46.5	0.6581	95.4	0.9539	15.9	0.7840	0.7987
27	TAMANG	50.6	0.5607	90.1	0.9013	7.1	0.9212	0.7944
28	BANGALI	44.7	0.6997	85.5	0.8553	16.6	0.7720	0.7756
29	MECHE	47.4	0.6371	82.9	0.8289	11.1	0.8578	0.7746
30	TELI	46.6	0.6548	82.1	0.8212	12.1	0.8428	0.7729
31	YADAV	49.8	0.5778	86.8	0.8684	10.8	0.8631	0.7698
32	KUMAL	49.9	0.5752	87.5	0.8750	14.8	0.8004	0.7502
33	LODHA	51.2	0.5456	86.8	0.8684	13.0	0.8282	0.7474
34	BARAE	53.2	0.4971	91.4	0.9145	13.2	0.8255	0.7457
35	THARU	50.7	0.5567	86.2	0.8618	13.8	0.8159	0.7448
36	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	50.6	0.5604	78.3	0.7829	9.4	0.8846	0.7427
37	SUDHI	52.2	0.5225	86.2	0.8618	12.3	0.8402	0.7415
38	HAYU	46.0	0.6696	61.2	0.6118	6.8	0.9255	0.7357
39	WALUNG	54.2	0.4750	74.3	0.7434	4.9	0.9552	0.7245
40	BOTE	44.8	0.6968	80.3	0.8026	24.2	0.6534	0.7176
41	DHIMAL	55.8	0.4358	92.1	0.9211	15.5	0.7900	0.7156
42	LEPCHA	47.4	0.6367	51.3	0.5132	2.9	0.9865	0.7121
43	RAJPUT	51.4	0.5414	74.2	0.7417	12.7	0.8329	0.7054
44	KALWAR	54.7	0.4623	80.3	0.8026	12.2	0.8413	0.7021
45	GANGAI	52.0	0.5252	86.2	0.8618	20.2	0.7156	0.7009
46	DHOBI	53.1	0.5000	90.1	0.9013	22.3	0.6840	0.6951
47	KANU	54.2	0.4728	83.6	0.8355	17.1	0.7642	0.6908
48	SONAR	60.4	0.3265	98.0	0.9803	17.2	0.7632	0.6900
49	MAJHI	50.5	0.5630	75.7	0.7566	19.2	0.7320	0.6838
50	DANUWAR	54.7	0.4622	78.3	0.7829	14.7	0.8016	0.6823
51	THAMI	49.4	0.5888	57.2	0.5724	9.5	0.8839	0.6817
52	HALUWAI	60.7	0.3196	90.8	0.9079	14.5	0.8046	0.6774
53	KOIRI	53.5	0.4901	72.4	0.7237	13.8	0.8162	0.6767
54	KAMAR	55.2	0.4492	81.6	0.8158	19.2	0.7316	0.6656
55	BADHAE	63.7	0.2469	88.8	0.8882	12.3	0.8392	0.6581
56	DHANUK	54.1	0.4752	80.3	0.8026	21.8	0.6908	0.6562
57	MALI	60.0	0.3364	88.1	0.8808	18.0	0.7507	0.6560

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Food Expenditure		Food Sufficiency		Elementary Occupations		Non-Poverty Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
58	MUSLIM	53.7	0.4863	72.4	0.7237	18.4	0.7450	0.6517
59	KOCHE	61.3	0.3037	83.6	0.8355	14.4	0.8074	0.6489
60	DAMAI/DHOLI	52.7	0.5089	59.2	0.5921	12.8	0.8323	0.6444
61	KAMI	52.3	0.5193	53.9	0.5395	11.3	0.8550	0.6379
62	YAKKHA	53.8	0.4825	51.3	0.5132	7.8	0.9098	0.6352
63	RAJBANSI	57.2	0.4035	83.6	0.8355	23.8	0.6593	0.6328
64	HAJAM/THAKUR	61.3	0.3041	72.8	0.7285	11.5	0.8527	0.6284
65	TAJPURIYA	54.7	0.4613	77.0	0.7697	25.1	0.6403	0.6238
66	LIMBU	59.2	0.3552	55.3	0.5526	4.6	0.9607	0.6229
67	RAJBHAR	55.5	0.4432	73.0	0.7303	22.1	0.6859	0.6198
68	LOHAR	56.2	0.4253	55.3	0.5526	11.7	0.8487	0.6089
69	KEWAT	64.8	0.2215	86.8	0.8684	19.0	0.7344	0.6081
70	SARKI	57.3	0.3990	57.9	0.5789	12.2	0.8408	0.6063
71	KAHAR	57.0	0.4083	66.4	0.6645	19.1	0.7333	0.6020
72	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	59.8	0.3413	62.5	0.6250	15.1	0.7954	0.5872
73	KUMHAR	61.9	0.2911	67.8	0.6776	17.0	0.7655	0.5781
74	MALLAH	61.1	0.3104	71.1	0.7105	24.2	0.6540	0.5583
75	GAINE	57.0	0.4064	59.9	0.5987	23.4	0.6670	0.5573
76	KURMI	70.4	0.0883	81.6	0.8158	17.9	0.7524	0.5522
77	BADI	54.2	0.4747	25.7	0.2566	15.2	0.7942	0.5085
78	MUNDA	60.1	0.3322	60.5	0.6053	28.8	0.5815	0.5063
79	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	56.9	0.4094	63.8	0.6382	36.6	0.4600	0.5025
80	DHUNIA	65.2	0.2128	65.8	0.6579	26.8	0.6138	0.4948
81	CHIDIMAR	69.1	0.1192	63.8	0.6382	21.9	0.6901	0.4825
82	RAUTE	74.1	0.0000	56.2	0.5616	9.9	0.8779	0.4799
83	SANTHAL/SATAR	62.9	0.2657	72.4	0.7237	38.1	0.4363	0.4752
84	KISAN	59.7	0.3422	61.2	0.6118	36.1	0.4677	0.4739
85	TATMA	69.7	0.1054	75.7	0.7566	30.5	0.5552	0.4724
86	RAJI	58.2	0.3778	44.1	0.4408	28.3	0.5897	0.4694
87	NUNIYA	59.9	0.3376	48.7	0.4868	32.4	0.5251	0.4498
88	KHATWE	63.4	0.2538	64.9	0.6490	38.3	0.4340	0.4456
89	BANTAR	64.6	0.2259	76.3	0.7632	44.1	0.3433	0.4441
90	DOM	66.1	0.1904	57.9	0.5789	30.1	0.5624	0.4439
91	BING/BINDA	67.4	0.1590	56.6	0.5658	31.7	0.5365	0.4204
92	NURANG	64.6	0.2261	73.5	0.7351	47.7	0.2864	0.4159
93	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	67.6	0.1536	57.6	0.5762	38.3	0.4341	0.3880
94	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	62.8	0.2685	26.3	0.2632	37.4	0.4472	0.3263
95	HALKHOR	64.2	0.2365	53.9	0.5395	53.2	0.2008	0.3256

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S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Food Expenditure		Food Sufficiency		Elementary Occupations		Non-Poverty Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
96	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	69.4	0.1114	15.7	0.1569	21.4	0.6981	0.3221
97	MUSAHAR	64.1	0.2386	26.3	0.2632	66.1	0.0000	0.1672
	Total	44.5	0.7059	77.1	0.7706	10.5	0.8674	0.7813

### 4.3 Standard of Living

Standard of living is assessed using four indicators: type of house, use of cooking fuel, access to household electricity, and living conditions (measured in terms of the number of bedrooms in the family home). These four indicators were indexed and then aggregated to obtain the standard of living index.

Among the broader social groups, Newars hold the top position (0.6138) followed by Hill Brahmans (0.5237). Tarai Dalits come in last place (0.2802) and have a lower standard of living than any of the other broad groups.

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, the ten with the highest standards of living are the Thakali, Marwardi, Newari, Kayastha, Gurung, Raute, Hill Brahman, Baniya, Hyolmo and Dura. In contrast, the Chidimar, Hayu, Kamar, Raji, Byansi, Musahar, Thami, Chepang, Nuniya and Yakhkha have the lowest standards of living. Thakalis have the highest standard of living (0.6914) followed by Marwadis (0.6399) and Newars (0.6138). Kamars, Hayus and Chidimars have the lowest standards of living scoring 0.2078, 0.1705 and 0.1369 respectively.

**Table 4.5: Mean (percent) and Index of Standard of Living by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Housing conditions		Living conditions		Access to commercial cooking fuel		Access to household electricity		Standard of Living Domain
	Mean	Index	Mean (bed-rooms)	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	44.9	0.4486	2.86	0.5567	34.1	0.3410	74.9	0.7486	0.5237
Hill Chhetri	26.6	0.2664	2.66	0.4904	23.0	0.2296	58.6	0.5857	0.3930
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	57.8	0.5783	2.83	0.5477	16.0	0.1603	64.1	0.6411	0.4818
Tarai Other Caste	32.7	0.3268	2.57	0.4589	14.1	0.1406	65.1	0.6513	0.3944
Hill Dalit	11.6	0.1165	1.93	0.2501	18.9	0.1887	60.3	0.6028	0.2895
Tarai Dalit	11.2	0.1123	1.82	0.2141	15.1	0.1515	64.3	0.6430	0.2802
Newari	49.3	0.4928	3.17	0.6588	47.0	0.4704	83.3	0.8330	0.6138
Mountain/Hill Janajati	21.9	0.2189	2.49	0.4335	27.4	0.2737	70.2	0.7024	0.4071
Tarai Janajati	18.9	0.1889	2.40	0.4056	23.0	0.2296	70.6	0.7065	0.3826
Muslim	31.6	0.3157	2.45	0.4198	17.1	0.1708	66.5	0.6649	0.3928
Others	67.3	0.6731	3.03	0.6132	26.4	0.2638	71.6	0.7164	0.5666
Total	28.0	0.2802	2.55	0.4541	24.6	0.2457	67.3	0.6726	0.4131

**Table 4.6: Mean (percent) and Index of Standard of Living by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Housing conditions		Living conditions		Access to commercial cooking fuel		Access to household electricity		Standard of Living Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean (bed-rooms)	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
1	THAKALI	54.9	0.5491	4.20	1.0000	43.2	0.4317	78.5	0.7849	0.6914
2	MARWADI	80.0	0.7997	3.47	0.7566	28.4	0.2842	71.9	0.7191	0.6399
3	NEWARI	49.3	0.4928	3.17	0.6588	47.0	0.4704	83.3	0.8330	0.6138
4	KAYASTHA	63.6	0.6359	3.16	0.6567	23.6	0.2363	67.6	0.6762	0.5513
5	GURUNG	38.4	0.3836	2.97	0.5936	40.5	0.4048	80.8	0.8083	0.5476
6	RAUTE	17.2	0.1719	1.29	0.0367	93.1	0.9310	96.6	0.9655	0.5263
7	BRAHMAN – HILL	44.9	0.4486	2.86	0.5567	34.1	0.3410	74.9	0.7486	0.5237
8	BANIYA	55.8	0.5577	3.45	0.7501	16.0	0.1597	61.5	0.6150	0.5206
9	HYOLMO	21.4	0.2137	2.07	0.2959	64.0	0.6399	92.9	0.9293	0.5197
10	DURA	28.5	0.2854	2.53	0.4459	45.9	0.4587	85.7	0.8574	0.5118
11	DARAI	22.7	0.2267	2.72	0.5089	45.9	0.4594	84.7	0.8472	0.5106
12	KALWAR	56.8	0.5680	2.86	0.5545	14.4	0.1442	64.4	0.6445	0.4778
13	BRAHMAN – TARAI	56.1	0.5608	2.76	0.5241	15.2	0.1524	65.0	0.6504	0.4719
14	DHIMAL	20.7	0.2070	2.47	0.4263	41.7	0.4173	83.3	0.8325	0.4708
15	MECHE	30.7	0.3075	2.55	0.4524	33.4	0.3342	78.2	0.7823	0.4691
16	SUDHI	52.1	0.5214	3.14	0.6480	7.9	0.0787	62.3	0.6230	0.4677
17	PAHVARI	7.6	0.0756	2.36	0.3894	48.6	0.4862	92.0	0.9198	0.4677
18	HALUWAI	44.0	0.4404	2.80	0.5371	16.5	0.1645	66.8	0.6685	0.4526
19	RAJPUT	57.4	0.5739	2.72	0.5105	11.9	0.1187	58.0	0.5797	0.4457
20	PUNJABI/SIKH	56.6	0.5659	2.14	0.3177	22.6	0.2263	67.0	0.6697	0.4449
21	LODHA	31.3	0.3127	2.38	0.3981	32.2	0.3217	71.8	0.7180	0.4376
22	CHHANTYAL	24.5	0.2453	2.11	0.3090	32.6	0.3257	84.5	0.8453	0.4313
23	BANGALI	48.2	0.4824	2.04	0.2851	23.3	0.2328	71.9	0.7191	0.4298
24	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	26.6	0.2657	2.40	0.4046	26.4	0.2635	78.3	0.7831	0.4292
25	TELI	44.0	0.4398	2.62	0.4755	14.7	0.1474	64.4	0.6439	0.4266
26	BARAE	33.6	0.3357	2.99	0.5980	9.4	0.0944	66.8	0.6675	0.4239
27	SONAR	42.5	0.4252	2.72	0.5089	12.2	0.1223	62.7	0.6269	0.4208
28	RAJBHAR	22.1	0.2205	1.97	0.2633	39.0	0.3903	80.2	0.8021	0.4191
29	KANU	38.3	0.3830	2.78	0.5306	10.0	0.1004	66.1	0.6610	0.4187
30	JIREL	13.9	0.1389	1.95	0.2546	42.1	0.4212	85.9	0.8587	0.4184
31	LEPCHA	12.2	0.1224	2.05	0.2872	41.0	0.4103	84.6	0.8462	0.4165
32	SHERPA	24.6	0.2456	2.25	0.3546	32.8	0.3275	73.1	0.7305	0.4146
33	KEWAT	23.1	0.2310	2.56	0.4567	22.9	0.2286	73.3	0.7327	0.4122
34	MAGAR	20.8	0.2084	2.85	0.5523	20.5	0.2049	66.1	0.6614	0.4068
35	TAMANG	21.6	0.2156	1.91	0.2416	37.9	0.3793	78.4	0.7840	0.4051
36	GHARTI/BHUJEL	18.1	0.1806	2.66	0.4893	24.7	0.2472	69.6	0.6956	0.4032
37	HALKHOR	36.9	0.3690	2.01	0.2742	11.0	0.1103	85.5	0.8552	0.4022

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S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Housing conditions		Living conditions		Access to commercial cooking fuel		Access to household electricity		Standard of Living Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean (bed-rooms)	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
38	KAHAR	32.1	0.3214	2.03	0.2807	25.1	0.2509	75.6	0.7555	0.4021
39	CHHETRI	26.8	0.2680	2.68	0.4980	23.8	0.2376	59.7	0.5971	0.4002
40	THARU	19.7	0.1969	2.47	0.4285	23.7	0.2371	71.4	0.7143	0.3942
41	MUSLIM	31.6	0.3157	2.45	0.4198	17.1	0.1708	66.5	0.6649	0.3928
42	KOIRI	27.5	0.2753	2.76	0.5241	11.9	0.1187	64.8	0.6484	0.3916
43	KURMI	33.0	0.3298	2.34	0.3828	17.0	0.1700	67.6	0.6762	0.3897
44	RAJBANSI	17.8	0.1777	2.11	0.3068	27.7	0.2773	76.7	0.7674	0.3823
45	SANYASI	24.1	0.2408	2.33	0.3807	25.0	0.2498	64.2	0.6422	0.3784
46	HAJAM/THAKUR	31.2	0.3116	2.24	0.3508	17.3	0.1732	67.4	0.6742	0.3774
47	MAJHI	14.5	0.1454	2.47	0.4263	21.6	0.2165	71.7	0.7167	0.3762
48	YADAV	28.3	0.2825	2.51	0.4415	12.7	0.1266	65.0	0.6495	0.3750
49	RAI	20.0	0.2000	2.64	0.4828	20.3	0.2035	60.3	0.6034	0.3724
50	MALI	26.7	0.2670	2.58	0.4645	11.0	0.1103	64.3	0.6429	0.3712
51	DANUWAR	11.9	0.1189	2.65	0.4872	17.8	0.1781	69.6	0.6961	0.3701
52	BADHAE	27.7	0.2771	2.14	0.3198	15.9	0.1585	70.6	0.7062	0.3654
53	BRAHMU/BARAMU	6.4	0.0635	2.27	0.3611	21.3	0.2135	81.6	0.8161	0.3636
54	SANTHAL/SATAR	4.5	0.0453	1.87	0.2286	33.9	0.3390	82.0	0.8201	0.3582
55	BOTE	13.2	0.1319	1.91	0.2416	31.9	0.3190	72.7	0.7268	0.3548
56	DHUNIA	25.2	0.2516	2.34	0.3828	16.9	0.1689	61.2	0.6117	0.3537
57	GAINE	15.7	0.1573	1.93	0.2503	25.0	0.2502	74.1	0.7414	0.3498
58	SUNUWAR	16.9	0.1688	2.38	0.3981	21.4	0.2140	59.6	0.5963	0.3443
59	KOCHE	19.6	0.1960	1.54	0.1199	25.5	0.2553	80.1	0.8014	0.3432
60	TAJPURIYA	6.8	0.0680	1.78	0.1981	32.9	0.3290	77.3	0.7727	0.3420
61	MALLAH	17.9	0.1789	2.38	0.3959	14.4	0.1442	64.4	0.6441	0.3408
62	DHOBI	24.0	0.2402	1.80	0.2068	21.7	0.2167	69.7	0.6974	0.3403
63	KUMAL	15.0	0.1504	2.18	0.3329	18.5	0.1853	68.9	0.6888	0.3393
64	KUMHAR	27.7	0.2767	2.42	0.4111	9.4	0.0941	56.0	0.5599	0.3354
65	THAKURI	26.3	0.2632	2.61	0.4741	14.3	0.1426	44.8	0.4482	0.3320
66	DHANUK	22.3	0.2230	2.48	0.4307	10.9	0.1089	55.9	0.5589	0.3304
67	BANTAR	7.7	0.0767	1.93	0.2481	25.9	0.2587	71.0	0.7098	0.3233
68	BADI	21.1	0.2110	1.70	0.1721	27.0	0.2705	61.7	0.6168	0.3176
69	MUNDA	13.8	0.1377	1.98	0.2655	10.7	0.1072	75.7	0.7566	0.3167
70	LIMBU	17.4	0.1740	2.26	0.3589	15.4	0.1545	57.0	0.5698	0.3143
71	TATMA	17.2	0.1723	2.41	0.4089	8.1	0.0815	59.4	0.5939	0.3141
72	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	5.3	0.0526	1.91	0.2416	20.1	0.2010	75.9	0.7590	0.3136
73	NURANG	22.0	0.2203	1.68	0.1648	16.7	0.1667	70.0	0.7000	0.3130
74	LOHAR	21.4	0.2137	2.33	0.3807	11.4	0.1139	52.3	0.5229	0.3078
75	DAMAI/DHOLI	12.9	0.1290	1.99	0.2698	20.2	0.2019	62.2	0.6217	0.3056

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Housing conditions		Living conditions		Access to commercial cooking fuel		Access to household electricity		Standard of Living Domain
		Mean	Index	Mean (bed-rooms)	Index	Mean	Index	Mean	Index	Index
76	SARKI	8.4	0.0835	1.93	0.2503	21.7	0.2167	62.9	0.6289	0.2949
77	BING/BINDA	12.4	0.1244	2.01	0.2742	9.1	0.0912	68.9	0.6890	0.2947
78	BHOTE	21.5	0.2147	1.55	0.1221	23.4	0.2335	60.1	0.6008	0.2928
79	WALUNG	4.1	0.0409	2.03	0.2807	16.1	0.1613	67.7	0.6774	0.2901
80	KISAN	9.4	0.0942	1.83	0.2155	12.2	0.1218	71.8	0.7177	0.2873
81	GANGAI	8.6	0.0865	2.02	0.2785	13.1	0.1312	64.6	0.6464	0.2857
82	CHAMAR, HARI-JAN, RAM	11.7	0.1170	1.81	0.2086	14.8	0.1479	65.5	0.6547	0.2821
83	KAMI	11.9	0.1190	1.91	0.2416	17.2	0.1722	58.6	0.5863	0.2798
84	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	11.8	0.1179	1.90	0.2394	12.0	0.1203	62.2	0.6217	0.2748
85	DOM	11.1	0.1114	1.54	0.1199	12.8	0.1281	72.4	0.7239	0.2708
86	PATHARKATA/KUSWADIYA	17.7	0.1768	1.18	0.0000	22.3	0.2227	67.6	0.6765	0.2690
87	KHATWE	10.9	0.1093	2.09	0.3005	11.9	0.1194	54.2	0.5419	0.2678
88	YAKKHA	12.4	0.1240	2.12	0.3111	7.4	0.0738	55.8	0.5576	0.2666
89	NUNIYA	16.3	0.1626	1.87	0.2286	9.3	0.0930	56.1	0.5613	0.2614
90	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	3.1	0.0307	1.67	0.1634	19.3	0.1931	64.2	0.6420	0.2573
91	THAMI	5.6	0.0560	1.57	0.1308	10.7	0.1067	72.5	0.7253	0.2547
92	MUSAHAR	3.0	0.0302	1.47	0.0960	15.9	0.1591	65.3	0.6531	0.2346
93	BYANGSI	13.9	0.1388	1.95	0.2546	5.3	0.0529	47.6	0.4759	0.2305
94	RAJI	3.2	0.0321	1.77	0.1960	5.4	0.0539	60.5	0.6054	0.2218
95	KAMAR	13.5	0.1345	1.82	0.2133	14.2	0.1420	34.1	0.3414	0.2078
96	HAYU	7.5	0.0747	2.47	0.4285	4.3	0.0427	13.6	0.1360	0.1705
97	CHIDIMAR	14.7	0.1473	1.63	0.1503	0.0	0.0000	25.0	0.2500	0.1369
	<b>Total</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>0.2802</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>0.4541</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>0.2457</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>0.6726</b>	<b>0.4131</b>

#### 4.4 Economic Dimension index

The Economic Dimension index is a composite index incorporating results from the economic access index, the non-poverty index and the standard of living index. To arrive at the overall Economic Dimension Index, components from these three indices were calculated separately and then averaged.

Tarai Brahman/Chhetris enjoy the best economic status (0.6313) of all of the broad social groups, while Newars are in the second position. Tarai Dalits have the worst economic status (0.2972), preceded by Hill Dalits and Muslims.

**Table 4.7: Distribution of Economic dimension Index by Broad Social Groups**

Caste/Ethnicity	Economic Access Index	Non-poverty Index	Standard of Living Index	Economic Dimension Index
Hill Brahman	0.3671	0.9235	0.5237	0.6048
Hill Chhetri	0.3141	0.8397	0.3930	0.5156
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	0.6048	0.8072	0.4818	0.6313
Tarai Other Caste	0.4977	0.6970	0.3944	0.5297
Hill Dalit	0.2469	0.6337	0.2895	0.3900
Tarai Dalit	0.2310	0.3803	0.2802	0.2972
Newar	0.3803	0.8471	0.6138	0.6137
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.3098	0.8159	0.4071	0.5109
Tarai Janajati	0.4545	0.7178	0.3826	0.5183
Muslim	0.4169	0.6517	0.3928	0.4871
Others	0.4695	0.8529	0.5666	0.6297
Total	0.3519	0.7813	0.4131	0.5155

The Economic Dimension index measures the economic status of people and households from the different caste / ethnic groups. A comparative analysis reveals high levels of variation, with index values ranging from 0.6773 (Thakali) to 0.1840 (Musahar). After Thakalis, other groups that rank in the top five are Marwadi (0.6673), Kayastha (0.6404), TaraiBrahman (0.6341) and Rajput (0.6140). The Musahar, Dusadh/Paswan/Pasi, Patharkatta/Kuswadia, Chamar/Harijan/Ram, and Raji have the worst economic status, scoring 0.1840, 0.2759, 0.2914, 0.2932 and 0.3065 respectively.

**Table 4.8: Economic Dimension Index by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Economic Access Index	Non-poverty Index	Standard of Living Index	Economic Dimension Index
1	THAKALI	0.3718	0.9686	0.6914	0.6773
2	MARWADI	0.4534	0.9086	0.6399	0.6673
3	KAYASTHA	0.5151	0.8550	0.5513	0.6404
4	BRAHMAN-TARAI	0.6084	0.8220	0.4719	0.6341
5	RAJPUT	0.6909	0.7054	0.4457	0.6140
6	NEWARI	0.3803	0.8471	0.6138	0.6137
7	HILL BRAHMAN	0.3671	0.9235	0.5237	0.6048
8	BANIYA	0.4842	0.7993	0.5206	0.6014
9	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.5242	0.7987	0.4449	0.5893
10	YADAV	0.6089	0.7698	0.3750	0.5846
11	HYOLMO	0.3571	0.8692	0.5197	0.5820
12	TELI	0.5447	0.7729	0.4266	0.5814
13	SUDHI	0.5120	0.7415	0.4677	0.5738
14	KALWAR	0.5400	0.7021	0.4778	0.5733
15	SHERPA	0.3878	0.8510	0.4146	0.5511
16	BARAE	0.4790	0.7457	0.4239	0.5495
17	BANGALI	0.4413	0.7756	0.4298	0.5489
18	GURUNG	0.2697	0.8256	0.5476	0.5476
19	LODHA	0.4551	0.7474	0.4376	0.5467
20	DARAI	0.2992	0.8300	0.5106	0.5466
21	MECHE	0.3953	0.7746	0.4691	0.5463

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Economic Access Index	Non-poverty Index	Standard of Living Index	Economic Dimension Index
22	LEPCHA	0.4989	0.7121	0.4165	0.5425
23	DURA	0.2711	0.8255	0.5118	0.5362
24	THARU	0.4694	0.7448	0.3942	0.5362
25	DHIMAL	0.3816	0.7156	0.4708	0.5227
26	KOIRI	0.4944	0.6767	0.3916	0.5209
27	CHHETRI	0.3155	0.8442	0.4002	0.5200
28	PAHARI	0.2705	0.8217	0.4677	0.5200
29	GANGAI	0.5721	0.7009	0.2857	0.5196
30	RAI	0.3366	0.8461	0.3724	0.5184
31	HALUWAI	0.4214	0.6774	0.4526	0.5171
32	KANU	0.4398	0.6908	0.4187	0.5165
33	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.2965	0.8277	0.4032	0.5091
34	JIREL	0.2388	0.8664	0.4184	0.5079
35	SANYASI	0.3171	0.8271	0.3784	0.5075
36	SUNUWAR	0.3721	0.8037	0.3443	0.5067
37	BYANGSI	0.4016	0.8834	0.2305	0.5052
38	MAGAR	0.2966	0.8084	0.4068	0.5039
39	TAMANG	0.3085	0.7944	0.4051	0.5027
40	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.4906	0.5872	0.4292	0.5024
41	RAJBANSI	0.4914	0.6328	0.3823	0.5022
42	SONAR	0.3752	0.6900	0.4208	0.4953
43	KURMI	0.5437	0.5522	0.3897	0.4952
44	BHOTE	0.3620	0.8295	0.2928	0.4947
45	BADHAE	0.4545	0.6581	0.3654	0.4927
46	CHHANTYAL	0.2386	0.8008	0.4313	0.4902
47	MUSLIM	0.4169	0.6517	0.3928	0.4871
48	TAJPURIYA	0.4792	0.6238	0.3420	0.4817
49	THAKURI	0.2974	0.8024	0.3320	0.4773
50	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.4134	0.6284	0.3774	0.4731
51	KOCHE	0.4239	0.6489	0.3432	0.4720
52	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.2256	0.8129	0.3636	0.4674
53	KAMAR	0.5236	0.6656	0.2078	0.4656
54	RAUTE	0.3843	0.4799	0.5263	0.4635
55	KUMAL	0.2951	0.7502	0.3393	0.4615
56	KAHAR	0.3783	0.6020	0.4021	0.4608
57	KEWAT	0.3613	0.6081	0.4122	0.4606
58	DHOBI	0.3425	0.6951	0.3403	0.4593
59	RAJBHAR	0.3368	0.6198	0.4191	0.4585
60	DANUWAR	0.3221	0.6823	0.3701	0.4582
61	WALUNG	0.3444	0.7245	0.2901	0.4530
62	MAJHI	0.2895	0.6838	0.3762	0.4499
63	MALI	0.3136	0.6560	0.3712	0.4469



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S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Economic Access Index	Non-poverty Index	Standard of Living Index	Economic Dimension Index
64	BOTE	0.2632	0.7176	0.3548	0.4452
65	DHANUK	0.3490	0.6562	0.3304	0.4452
66	LIMBU	0.3890	0.6229	0.3143	0.4421
67	KUMHAR	0.4104	0.5781	0.3354	0.4413
68	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.4414	0.4752	0.3582	0.4250
69	YAKKHA	0.3434	0.6352	0.2666	0.4150
70	NURANG	0.5140	0.4159	0.3130	0.4143
71	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.2386	0.7427	0.2573	0.4129
72	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.2790	0.6444	0.3056	0.4097
73	HAYU	0.3203	0.7357	0.1705	0.4088
74	DHUNIA	0.3605	0.4948	0.3537	0.4030
75	GAINE	0.2971	0.5573	0.3498	0.4014
76	LOHAR	0.2820	0.6089	0.3078	0.3995
77	MALLAH	0.2930	0.5583	0.3408	0.3974
78	THAMI	0.2327	0.6817	0.2547	0.3897
79	KAMI	0.2368	0.6379	0.2798	0.3848
80	MUNDA	0.3294	0.5063	0.3167	0.3842
81	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.3279	0.5025	0.3136	0.3813
82	SARKI	0.2401	0.6063	0.2949	0.3804
83	BANTAR	0.3613	0.4441	0.3233	0.3762
84	HALKHOR	0.3964	0.3256	0.4022	0.3747
85	DOM	0.4052	0.4439	0.2708	0.3733
86	BADI	0.2713	0.5085	0.3176	0.3658
87	TATMA	0.3001	0.4724	0.3141	0.3622
88	KISAN	0.2233	0.4739	0.2873	0.3282
89	NUNIYA	0.2711	0.4498	0.2614	0.3275
90	CHIDIMAR	0.3410	0.4825	0.1369	0.3201
91	KHATWE	0.2181	0.4456	0.2678	0.3105
92	BING/BINDA	0.2149	0.4204	0.2947	0.3100
93	RAJI	0.2283	0.4694	0.2218	0.3065
94	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.2096	0.3880	0.2821	0.2932
95	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.2830	0.3221	0.2690	0.2914
96	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	0.2266	0.3263	0.2748	0.2759
97	MUSAHAR	0.1502	0.1672	0.2346	0.1840
	<b>Total</b>	0.3519	0.7813	0.4131	0.5155

## 4.5 Conclusion

The economic dimension index is in favour of Madhesi Brahman/Chhetri, Hill Brahman and Newar among broader social groups. The Dalits of both Hill and Tarai origin, on the other hand, are quite behind in economic dimension. Among 97 caste/ethnic groups, the better off groups in top ten positions mainly comprise of non-Janajatis with exception of Thakali at the top. Most of the Dalits are, however, facing low level of economic inclusion.

# The Political Dimension

This chapter begins with a brief discussion of the relevance of the political dimension of social inclusion/exclusion, which is less prominently dealt with than the economic (poverty, employment, housing, access to goods and services) and social (education, health, social cohesion) dimensions in widely acclaimed social exclusion/inclusion literature<sup>1</sup>. In developing countries like Nepal, the Political Dimension has a decisive influence over all of the other processes of multi-dimensionality related to exclusion /inclusion. “Social exclusion from political participation”, to borrow the words of Nobel laureate Amartya Sen, ‘is itself a deprivation; and a denial of basic political freedom and civil rights directly impoverishes our lives. Exclusion from the process of governance and political participation is indeed an impoverishment of human lives, no matter what our per capita income may be.’<sup>2</sup> Political inclusion expands people’s capabilities and provides opportunities for participation in decision-making processes and for influencing the outcomes that shape their lives. Political inclusion serves to widen and deepen democratic processes and practices and helps to entrench democratic norms and values.

Burchardt et al. identified four dimensions of participation with which to measure social exclusion/inclusion by scrutinizing the longitudinal data of the British Household Panel survey: (i) consumption (the capacity to participate in the purchase of goods and services); (ii) production (the capacity to participate in economically or socially valued activity); (iii) political engagement (participation in local or national decision-making); and (iv) social interaction (integration with families, friends and neighbors)<sup>3</sup>. Levitas and other researchers have proposed the Bristol Social Exclusion Matrix (B-SEM) as a tool for measuring exclusion/inclusion. It consists of 10 domains under three headings (resources, participation and quality of life). One of the domains is political and civic participation which includes citizenship status, enfranchisement, political participation, civic efficacy and civic participation, and voluntary activity/club membership<sup>4</sup>. When measuring inclusion in Nepal, equitable political and civic participation is a major issue. For Nepal, elements of this include representation on the central committees of the major political parties, representation on the Council of Ministers, and representation in the national bureaucracy. These, along with perceptions of voice and agency used as a proxy, represent the major indicators of inclusion in the Political Dimension.

## 5.1 Participation/ Representation

Representation on policy/decision making bodies and in decision making processes is a highly contested issue in multicultural and multiethnic countries such as Nepal. Freedom, equality, justice and inclusion are pre-conditions for the strengthening of political democracy, which in turn is reflected in the existence of a generally fair, representative and accountable system. Political parties are key instruments in the

1. Literature about this subject abounds. For a critical review, see Labonte et al. 2011, Mathieson et al. 2008, and Levitas et al. 2007

2. Sen 2000:38

3. Burchardt et al. 2002 cited in Mathieson et al. 2008; 41, Levitas et al. 2007:68-70.

4. Levitas et al. 2007:86-97.

development of a secure democratic future. Electoral participation is crucial for popularizing the representative system, and sustaining the country's newlyemerging democracy. This chapterconcentrates on representation at various levels, from political parties to the Council of Ministers. The representation of caste/ethnic groups in national bureaucracy is also examined. In addition, perceptions of voice and agency are measured, giving a subjective gauge of participation in public affairs.

### 5.1.1 Representation on the central committees of political parties

Central committees are party-political bodies responsible for agenda setting and input into party policies and party politics. In order to assess the relative political influence held bythe broader caste/ethnic groups, the proportional share of each group in central committees was measured. A total of 25 political parties were studied for this purpose; parties were selected on the basis of their representation in the first Constituent Assembly (2008). The index is calculated by dividing the percentage of representatives from a particular caste/ethnic group / broader social/identity group who are sitting on the central committee of a political party, by the percentage share of the same group in the total population (for details see chapter 2 and annexes 2 and 3).

**Table 5.1: Representation on the central committees of political parties by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Party Central Committee Member	
	% in central committee	Index
Hill Brahman	24.3	1.0000
Hill Chhetri	18.1	0.9373
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	4.1	1.0000
Tarai Other Caste	13.4	0.3199
Hill Dalit	2.8	0.1880
Tarai Dalit	2.7	0.3079
Newari	6.4	1.0000
Mountain/Hill Janajati	15.6	0.3260
Tarai Janajati	7.0	0.2860
Muslim	2.6	0.5995
Others	0.3	0.6667
Total		0.3804

Note: People from unidentified ethnicities/castes make up around 1% of the population; this group was not indexed due to a dearth of information available about them for several indicators. Therefore the percentages that appear in Table 5.1 do not add up to 100.

Hill Brahman and Tarai Brahman Chhetri castes dominate the central working committees of political parties in addition to occupying the majority of key positions. These caste groups are generally over-represented on the apex political bodies in relation to their population share(Table 5.1). Tarai and Hill Dalits and Muslims have the lowest levels of central committee representation (just under 3%) Hill Janajatis are also under-represented and Tarai Janajatis are more so. It is worth noting that 24 caste/ethnic groups were represented on the central working committees of the parties making up the first constituent assembly in line with their overall share of the population (Table 5.2).Another 12 groups have index scores of more than 0.5. It is disappointing to note that around fifty caste groups have zero representation on central committees. Such is the caste/ethnic composition of the key party-political decision-making bodies, that about two-thirds of the caste/ethnic groups in Nepal have no political influence and are therefore politically powerless.

**Table 5.2: Representation on central committees of political parties by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnic group	% of Population	% in party central committee	Index
1	HILL BRAHMAN	12.2	24.3	1.0000
2	NEWARI	5.0	6.4	1.0000
3	YADAV	4.0	5.8	1.0000
4	THAKURI	1.6	3.5	1.0000
5	LIMBU	1.5	3.0	1.0000
6	TELI	1.4	2.8	1.0000
7	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.5	2.4	1.0000
8	GURUNG	2.1	2.1	1.0000
9	HALUWAI	0.3	1.3	1.0000
10	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	0.8	1.2	1.0000
11	SANYASI	0.9	1.1	1.0000
12	DHANUK	0.9	1.0	1.0000
13	SUDHI	0.4	0.8	1.0000
14	KAYASTHA	0.2	0.8	1.0000
15	RAJPUT	0.2	0.8	1.0000
16	RAJBANSI	0.4	0.7	1.0000
17	THAKALI	0.0	0.6	1.0000
18	MECHE	0.0	0.5	1.0000
19	KUMHAR	0.2	0.4	1.0000
20	MARWADI	0.2	0.2	1.0000
21	BANGALI	0.1	0.1	1.0000
22	CHHANTYAL	0.0	0.1	1.0000
23	DARAI	0.1	0.1	1.0000
24	RAJI	0.0	0.1	1.0000
25	SUNUWAR	0.2	0.2	0.9637
26	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.4	0.4	0.9118
27	RAI	2.6	2.3	0.8910
28	CHHETRI	16.6	13.5	0.8118
29	THARU	6.6	4.8	0.7185
30	KOIRI	1.2	0.8	0.6716
31	DHOBI	0.5	0.3	0.6574
32	TAMANG	5.8	3.7	0.6450
33	KALWAR	0.5	0.3	0.6280
34	MUSLIM	4.4	2.6	0.5995
35	BANIYA	0.5	0.3	0.5720
36	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	1.3	0.7	0.5594
37	SHERPA	0.5	0.2	0.4331
38	KAMI	4.8	2.0	0.4266
39	MAGAR	7.1	2.9	0.4124
40	BING/BINDA	0.3	0.1	0.3570
41	MUSAHAR	0.9	0.3	0.3405

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S. N.	Caste/Ethnic group	% of Population	% in party central committee	Index
42	DANUWAR	0.3	0.1	0.3191
43	SARKI	1.4	0.4	0.2865
44	KHATWE	0.4	0.1	0.2660
45	LOHAR	0.4	0.1	0.2647
46	TATMA	0.4	0.1	0.2560
47	KURMI	0.9	0.2	0.2323
48	DAMAI/DHOLI	1.8	0.4	0.2271
49	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.4	0.1	0.2262
50	KUMAL	0.5	0.1	0.2215
51	BADHAE	0.1	0.0	0.0000
52	BADI	0.1	0.0	0.0000
53	BANTAR	0.2	0.0	0.0000
54	BARAE	0.3	0.0	0.0000
55	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.1	0.0	0.0000
56	BHOTE	0.1	0.0	0.0000
57	BOTE	0.0	0.0	0.0000
58	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.0	0.0	0.0000
59	BYANGSI	0.0	0.0	0.0000
60	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.3	0.0	0.0000
61	CHIDIMAR	0.0	0.0	0.0000
62	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.1	0.0	0.0000
63	DHIMAL	0.1	0.0	0.0000
64	DHUNIA	0.1	0.0	0.0000
65	DOM	0.1	0.0	0.0000
66	DURA	0.0	0.0	0.0000
67	GAINE	0.0	0.0	0.0000
68	GANGAI	0.1	0.0	0.0000
69	HALKHOR	0.0	0.0	0.0000
70	HAYU	0.0	0.0	0.0000
71	JIREL	0.0	0.0	0.0000
72	KAHAR	0.2	0.0	0.0000
73	KAMAR	0.0	0.0	0.0000
74	KANU	0.5	0.0	0.0000
75	KEWAT	0.6	0.0	0.0000
76	KISAN	0.0	0.0	0.0000
77	KOCHE	0.0	0.0	0.0000
78	LEPCHA	0.0	0.0	0.0000
79	LODHA	0.1	0.0	0.0000
80	MAJHI	0.3	0.0	0.0000
81	MALI	0.1	0.0	0.0000
82	MALLAH	0.7	0.0	0.0000
83	MUNDA	0.0	0.0	0.0000
84	NUNIYA	0.3	0.0	0.0000

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnic group	% of Population	% in party central committee	Index
85	NURANG	0.0	0.0	0.0000
86	PAHARI	0.1	0.0	0.0000
87	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.0	0.0	0.0000
88	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.0	0.0	0.0000
89	RAJBHAR	0.0	0.0	0.0000
90	RAUTE	0.0	0.0	0.0000
91	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.2	0.0	0.0000
92	SONAR	0.2	0.0	0.0000
93	TAJPURIYA	0.1	0.0	0.0000
94	THAMI	0.1	0.0	0.0000
95	WALUNG	0.0	0.0	0.0000
96	YAKKHA	0.1	0.0	0.0000
97	HYOLMO	0.0	0.0	0.0000
	<b>Total</b>			0.3804

Note: People from unidentified ethnicities/castes make up around 1% of the population; this group was not indexed due to a dearth of information available about them for several indicators. Therefore the percentages that appear in Table 5.2 do not add up to 100.

### 5.1.2 Representation of the broader social/identity groups on the Council of Ministers

The Council of Ministers is the highest level government executive body. The Brahman/Chhetri domination of the Council of Ministers has remained unchanged since 1951, marking a failure of democratic practice.<sup>5</sup> Brahmans from both the Hills and the Tarai along with Chhetris and Newars are best represented on the Council of Ministers (Table 5.3). This reflects traditional patterns of caste domination in governance. Muslims also have a relatively high index score. Dalits from the Tarai origin have the lowest level of representation on the Council of Ministers.

**Table 5.3: Representation on the Council of Ministers by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Minister Of Council	
	% in central committee	Index
Hill Brahman	32.1	1.0000
Hill Chhetri	21.2	0.7919
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	4.7	1.0000
Tarai Other Caste	11.0	0.1821
Hill Dalit	1.9	0.1636
Tarai Dalit	0.3	0.0332
Newari	7.1	1.0000
Mountain/Hill Janajati	12.1	0.1408
Tarai Janajati	6.0	0.2093
Muslim	2.7	0.6250
Others	0.0	0.0000
<b>Total</b>		0.2270

5. See Neupane 2005, Yadav 2007 and UNDP 2009 for detailed discussion on this subject.

Note: People from unidentified ethnicities/castes make up around 1% of the population; this group was not indexed due to a dearth of information available about them for several indicators. Therefore the percentages that appear in Table 5.3 do not add up to 100.

The caste/ethnic groups with the highest levels of representation are those generally considered 'privileged' (Table 5.4). In addition to Tarai Brahman/Chhetris, the Sudhi and Haluai castes of the Tarai are also fairly well represented. The Thakali, Limbu and Kisan Janajati groups also have high index scores. Seven ethnic/caste groups are rated at between 0.5 and 0.9 (Teli, Tharu, Rai, Muslim, Dhanuk, Koiri and Barae). This improved representation of traditionally excluded groups on the Council of Ministers can be attributed to the inclusive provisions of the Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2007. The effectiveness of their roles and influence in the Council of Ministers needs further exploration. Around three quarters of caste/ethnic groups have no representation on the Council of Ministers (see Table 5.4), despite the huge size of the Cabinet formed in mid 2008.

**Table 5.4: Representation on the Council of Ministers by broader social group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Population %	Total % in Ministry	Index
1	HILL BRAHMAN	12.180	32.1	1.0000
2	CHHETRI	16.600	17.8	1.0000
3	NEWARI	5.008	7.1	1.0000
4	YADAV	3.980	6.6	1.0000
5	GURUNG	2.059	3.6	1.0000
6	THAKURI	1.606	3.1	1.0000
7	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.506	2.7	1.0000
8	LIMBU	1.462	2.3	1.0000
9	HALUWAI	0.317	1.0	1.0000
10	KAYASTHA	0.167	1.0	1.0000
11	RAJPUT	0.158	1.0	1.0000
12	THAKALI	0.050	1.0	1.0000
13	SUDHI	0.351	0.8	1.0000
14	KISAN	0.007	0.2	1.0000
15	KOIRI	1.207	1.1	0.9369
16	TELI	1.395	1.1	0.8107
17	THARU	6.628	5.2	0.7800
18	RAI	2.615	1.8	0.6795
19	MUSLIM	4.394	2.7	0.6250
20	DHANUK	0.851	0.5	0.5693
21	BARAE	0.304	0.2	0.5311
22	SANYASI	0.860	0.3	0.3758
23	RAJBANSI	0.435	0.2	0.3714
24	SARKI	1.415	0.5	0.3426
25	KANU	0.472	0.2	0.3423
26	BANIYA	0.531	0.2	0.3042
27	MAGAR	7.125	2.1	0.2948
28	DAMAI/DHOLI	1.785	0.5	0.2716
29	TAMANG	5.812	1.5	0.2502
30	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	0.789	0.2	0.2049

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Population %	Total % in Ministry	Index
31	KAMI	4.750	1.0	0.2041
32	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	1.268	0.2	0.1274
33	BADHAE	0.109	0.0	0.0000
34	BADI	0.146	0.0	0.0000
35	BANGALI	0.100	0.0	0.0000
36	BANTAR	0.208	0.0	0.0000
37	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.100	0.0	0.0000
38	BHOTE	0.051	0.0	0.0000
39	BING/BINDA	0.284	0.0	0.0000
40	BOTE	0.039	0.0	0.0000
41	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.031	0.0	0.0000
42	BYANGSI	0.015	0.0	0.0000
43	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.258	0.0	0.0000
44	CHHANTYAL	0.045	0.0	0.0000
45	CHIDIMAR	0.005	0.0	0.0000
46	DANUWAR	0.317	0.0	0.0000
47	DARAI	0.063	0.0	0.0000
48	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.141	0.0	0.0000
49	DHIMAL	0.099	0.0	0.0000
50	DHOBI	0.462	0.0	0.0000
51	DHUNIA	0.056	0.0	0.0000
52	DOM	0.050	0.0	0.0000
53	DURA	0.020	0.0	0.0000
54	GAINE	0.026	0.0	0.0000
55	GANGAI	0.140	0.0	0.0000
56	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.448	0.0	0.0000
57	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.444	0.0	0.0000
58	HALKHOR	0.015	0.0	0.0000
59	HAYU	0.011	0.0	0.0000
60	JIREL	0.022	0.0	0.0000
61	KAHAR	0.201	0.0	0.0000
62	KALWAR	0.484	0.0	0.0000
63	KAMAR	0.007	0.0	0.0000
64	KEWAT	0.580	0.0	0.0000
65	KHATWE	0.381	0.0	0.0000
66	KOCHE	0.006	0.0	0.0000
67	KUMAL	0.457	0.0	0.0000
68	KUMHAR	0.236	0.0	0.0000
69	KURMI	0.872	0.0	0.0000
70	LEPCHA	0.013	0.0	0.0000
71	LODHA	0.124	0.0	0.0000
72	LOHAR	0.383	0.0	0.0000



Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Population %	Total % in Ministry	Index
73	MAJHI	0.316	0.0	0.0000
74	MALI	0.057	0.0	0.0000
75	MALLAH	0.654	0.0	0.0000
76	MARWADI	0.194	0.0	0.0000
77	MECHE	0.018	0.0	0.0000
78	MUNDA	0.009	0.0	0.0000
79	MUSAHAR	0.893	0.0	0.0000
80	NUNIYA	0.266	0.0	0.0000
81	NURANG	0.001	0.0	0.0000
82	PAHARI	0.051	0.0	0.0000
83	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.012	0.0	0.0000
84	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.027	0.0	0.0000
85	RAJBHAR	0.036	0.0	0.0000
86	RAJI	0.016	0.0	0.0000
87	RAUTE	0.002	0.0	0.0000
88	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.195	0.0	0.0000
89	SHERPA	0.468	0.0	0.0000
90	SONAR	0.243	0.0	0.0000
91	SUNUWAR	0.210	0.0	0.0000
92	TAJPURIYA	0.073	0.0	0.0000
93	TATMA	0.396	0.0	0.0000
94	THAMI	0.108	0.0	0.0000
95	WALUNG	0.005	0.0	0.0000
96	YAKKHA	0.092	0.0	0.0000
97	HYOLMO	0.041	0.0	0.0000
	Total			0.2270

Note: People from unidentified ethnicities/castes make up around 1% of the population; this group was not indexed due to a dearth of information available about them for several indicators. Therefore the percentages that appear in Table 5.4 do not add up to 100.

### 5.1.3 Representation in the National Bureaucracy

The majority of the positions in the national bureaucracy (civil service) appear to be occupied by three of the broader groups (Brahmans, Chhetris, and Newars) (see Table 5.5). Consequently their proportional share is higher. Tarai Brahman/Chhetris also have a maximum index of 1. The other broader groups are much less well represented in the bureaucracy, with Hill Dalits in the lowest position and Muslims only slightly above them. It can therefore be concluded that the civil service is the most exclusionary state institution in Nepal.

**Table 5.5: Representation in the national bureaucracy by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Civil Service Employees	
	Employee %	Index
Hill Brahman	39.2	1.0000
Hill Chhetri	22.3	0.9719
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	3.3	1.0000
Tarai Other Caste	9.7	0.3851
Hill Dalit	0.9	0.0976
Tarai Dalit	0.5	0.2474
Newari	7.9	1.0000
Mountain/Hill Janajati	9.0	0.4382
Tarai Janajati	4.6	0.4227
Muslim	0.7	0.1574
Others	0.4	0.6073
Total		0.4505

Note: People from unidentified ethnicities/castes make up around 1% of the population; this group was not indexed due to a dearth of information available about them for several indicators. Therefore the percentages that appear in Table 5.5 do not add up to 100.

The twenty caste/ethnic groups with higher levels of representation include Brahman, Chhetri, Kayastha, Tarai Brahman, Rajput, Sanyasi/Dasnami, Sudhi, Newari, and some others (see Table 5.6). It is encouraging to note that some of the groups with small population shares that are perceived as disadvantaged such as the Meche, Pahari, Kisan, Dura, Jirel, Chidimar, and Koche have achieved proportional representation in the civil service. Around four dozen groups are highly under-represented and eight groups have no representation at all. The majority of groups with low index values are Janajati or Dalit.

**Table 5.6: Representation in the national bureaucracy by caste/ethnicity**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Population %	Employee %	Index
1	HILL BRAHMAN	12.180	39.226	1.0000
2	CHHETRI	16.600	19.592	1.0000
3	NEWARI	5.008	7.899	1.0000
4	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.506	1.699	1.0000
5	SANYASI	0.860	1.257	1.0000
6	RAJPUT	0.158	0.889	1.0000
7	KAYASTHA	0.167	0.741	1.0000
8	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.444	0.723	1.0000
9	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.448	0.585	1.0000
10	KALWAR	0.484	0.543	1.0000
11	SUDHI	0.351	0.503	1.0000
12	BANGALI	0.100	0.288	1.0000
13	MECHE	0.018	0.243	1.0000
14	PAHARI	0.051	0.122	1.0000
15	KISAN	0.007	0.110	1.0000

Cont.....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Population %	Employee %	Index
16	THAKALI	0.050	0.060	1.0000
17	JIREL	0.022	0.052	1.0000
18	DURA	0.020	0.022	1.0000
19	CHIDIMAR	0.005	0.009	1.0000
20	KOCHE	0.006	0.009	1.0000
21	TELI	1.395	1.344	0.9635
22	DHANUK	0.851	0.806	0.9463
23	MALI	0.057	0.053	0.9398
24	KANU	0.472	0.443	0.9382
25	YADAV	3.980	3.675	0.9235
26	THAKURI	1.606	1.471	0.9158
27	HALUWAI	0.317	0.261	0.8238
28	KUMHAR	0.236	0.192	0.8152
29	SUNUWAR	0.210	0.165	0.7835
30	BANIYA	0.531	0.375	0.7056
31	KOIRI	1.207	0.838	0.6944
32	DOM	0.050	0.032	0.6476
33	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.031	0.019	0.6334
34	DARAI	0.063	0.036	0.5732
35	GURUNG	2.059	1.136	0.5519
36	DHIMAL	0.099	0.053	0.5359
37	MARWADI	0.194	0.104	0.5345
38	BOTE	0.039	0.021	0.5290
39	THARU	6.628	3.259	0.4917
40	BHOTE	0.051	0.025	0.4875
41	MAJHI	0.316	0.153	0.4844
42	RAI	2.615	1.171	0.4479
43	CHHANTYAL	0.045	0.019	0.4366
44	KUMAL	0.457	0.195	0.4254
45	KAMAR	0.007	0.003	0.3847
46	LIMBU	1.462	0.553	0.3781
47	MAGAR	7.125	2.618	0.3674
48	BARAE	0.304	0.105	0.3454
49	KAHAR	0.201	0.066	0.3298
50	YAKKHA	0.092	0.030	0.3248
51	RAJI	0.016	0.005	0.3246
52	TAMANG	5.812	1.841	0.3167
53	KURMI	0.872	0.266	0.3049
54	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.027	0.008	0.2874
55	BYANGSI	0.015	0.004	0.2647
56	SHERPA	0.468	0.118	0.2523
57	DHOBI	0.462	0.114	0.2469

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Population %	Employee %	Index
58	HAYU	0.011	0.003	0.2350
59	RAJBANSI	0.435	0.097	0.2237
60	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.100	0.018	0.1824
61	DANUWAR	0.317	0.052	0.1635
62	MUSLIM	4.394	0.691	0.1574
63	GAINÉ	0.026	0.004	0.1518
64	MALLAH	0.654	0.095	0.1448
65	RAJBHAR	0.036	0.005	0.1441
66	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	1.268	0.178	0.1402
67	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.141	0.019	0.1378
68	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	0.789	0.105	0.1333
69	KAMI	4.750	0.576	0.1213
70	SONAR	0.243	0.027	0.1122
71	SARKI	1.415	0.153	0.1082
72	DAMAI/DHOLI	1.785	0.191	0.1069
73	LOHAR	0.383	0.039	0.1017
74	THAMI	0.108	0.010	0.0959
75	GANGAI	0.140	0.013	0.0929
76	BANTAR	0.208	0.018	0.0873
77	HALKHOR	0.015	0.001	0.0859
78	BADHAE	0.109	0.009	0.0832
79	KEWAT	0.580	0.048	0.0827
80	LODHA	0.124	0.009	0.0733
81	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.258	0.018	0.0704
82	TATMA	0.396	0.023	0.0590
83	TAJPURIYA	0.073	0.004	0.0537
84	DHUNIA	0.056	0.003	0.0463
85	MUSAHAR	0.893	0.035	0.0392
86	NUNIYA	0.266	0.009	0.0341
87	KHATWE	0.381	0.013	0.0341
88	BING/BINDA	0.284	0.008	0.0274
89	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.195	0.003	0.0133
90	BADI	0.146	0.000	0.0000
91	LEPCHA	0.013	0.000	0.0000
92	MUNDA	0.009	0.000	0.0000
93	NURANG	0.001	0.000	0.0000
94	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.012	0.000	0.0000
95	RAUTE	0.002	0.000	0.0000
96	WALUNG	0.005	0.000	0.0000
97	HYOLMO	0.041	0.000	0.0000
	Total			0.4505

Note: People from unidentified ethnicities/castes make up around 1% of the population; this group was not indexed due to a dearth of information available about them for several indicators. Therefore the percentages that appear in Table 5.6 do not add up to 100.

## 5.2 Voice and agency

“Voice” is defined as the being able to make claims, state demands and grievances, and stage organized or spontaneous protests. “Agency” (agents, groups and institutions) defined from process perspective is a mechanism, the action of which results in an outcome ranging from exclusion to inclusion, and which explains why some people are included and some are excluded<sup>6</sup>. ‘Agency’ also refers to the set of characteristics by which the existence and purposeful action of the agent can be inferred. <sup>7</sup>Thus, it is an intention and ability to use endowments to act on the part of agent to grasp opportunities for achieving desired outcomes. Raising voice is the manifestation of exercising agency, a level of empowerment and knowledge gained on public/political issues and responding to the voices of people by responsible agents, groups and institutions is a broader indirect indicator of social inclusion. Current issues under public debate reflect the voices and agencies of citizen of the country. Knowledge of the respondents about these current issues of public concerns, a foundation of civic efficacy leading to increased voice and agency has been used here as an indicator of voice and agency to measure political inclusion/exclusion.

Among the broader groups the Tarai Brahman /Chhetris, Hill Brahmins, and Newars reported enough knowledge of contemporary political issues to enable them to make their voices heard (see Table 5.7). The voices of both Dalits and Hill Janajatis are less likely to be heard.

**Table 5.7: Percentage of respondents reporting their knowledge on current political/public issues by broader social group**

Social Groups	Percentage	Voice and Agency Index
Hill Brahman	40.4	.4039
Hill Chhetri	24.1	.2413
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	59.4	.5938
Tarai Other Caste	24.1	.2411
Hill Dalit	13.2	.1319
Tarai Dalit	7.8	.0783
Newari	33.9	.3395
Mountain/Hill Janajati	17.1	.1710
Tarai Janajati	22.1	.2207
Muslim	27.8	.2776
Others	58.5	.5852
Total	24.2	.2422

In terms of variation across caste/ethnic groups, the six groups at the top of the index are Kayastha, Marwadi, Rajput, Baniya, Tarai Brahman, and Thakali. Hill Brahmins rank seventh. Thakuri, Sudhi, and Dhanuk also feature in the top ten (Table 5.8).

6. Andjelkovic et al. 2011:10.

7. MacNeill 2006:271

The ten groups at the bottom of the index are mainly Tarai Dalits and Hill Janajatis. The Dalit groups are Bantar, Mushar, Dhusad/Paswan/Pasi, and Dom. The Chepang, Koche, Kisan and Raute groups also feature here.

**Table 5.8: Percentage of respondents who reported their knowledge on current political/public issues by caste/ethnicity**

S.N.	Caste /Ethnicity	Percentage	Voice and Agency Index
1	KAYASTHA	75.9	.7592
2	MARWADI	71.8	.7184
3	RAJPUT	62.1	.6212
4	BANIYA	57.0	.5697
5	BRAHMAN - TARAI	52.9	.5289
6	THAKALI	44.3	.4434
7	HILL BRAHMAN	40.4	.4039
8	SUDHI	39.9	.3987
9	THAKURI	39.3	.3934
10	DHANUK	38.9	.3895
11	BYANGSI	36.8	.3684
12	NEWARI	33.9	.3395
13	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	32.0	.3197
14	PUNJABI/SIKH	31.7	.3171
15	YADAV	31.4	.3145
16	KUMAL	30.8	.3079
17	MUSLIM	27.8	.2776
18	KALWAR	27.6	.2763
19	MALI	25.6	.2556
20	HALUWAI	25.1	.2513
21	HAJAM/THAKUR	24.9	.2490
22	TELI	24.6	.2464
23	BANGALI	24.5	.2447
24	CHHETRI	22.9	.2289
25	SONAR	22.4	.2237
26	SANYASI	21.7	.2171
27	THARU	21.6	.2158
28	RAJBHAR	21.6	.2158
29	KURMI	20.7	.2066
30	KANU	20.7	.2066
31	HAYU	20.5	.2053
32	GURUNG	19.9	.1987
33	DURA	18.6	.1855
34	RAI	18.4	.1842
35	SUNUWAR	18.3	.1829
36	RAJBANSI	18.2	.1816
37	WALUNG	17.6	.1763
38	DHUNIA	17.5	.1750

Cont....

S.N.	Caste /Ethnicity	Percentage	Voice and Agency Index
39	GAINÉ	17.5	.1750
40	TAMANG	17.0	.1697
41	MAGAR	16.3	.1632
42	DAMAI/DHOLI	16.2	.1618
43	GANGAI	16.2	.1618
44	SHERPA	16.1	.1605
45	MECHE	15.9	.1592
46	YAKKHA	15.8	.1579
47	BARAE	15.5	.1553
48	LIMBU	15.3	.1526
49	DANUWAR	15.1	.1513
50	HYOLMO	15.0	.1500
51	BRAHMU/BARAMU	14.7	.1474
52	DARAI	14.3	.1434
53	MALLAH	14.1	.1408
54	GHARTI/BHUJEL	13.9	.1395
55	LOHAR	13.2	.1316
56	BHOTE	13.0	.1303
57	KUMHAR	12.9	.1289
58	RAJI	12.6	.1263
59	BADI	12.5	.1250
60	KAMI	12.5	.1250
61	BING/BINDA	12.1	.1211
62	TATMA	12.1	.1211
63	MAJHI	12.0	.1197
64	JIREL	11.6	.1158
65	SARKI	11.4	.1145
66	KOIRI	11.4	.1145
67	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	11.3	.1126
68	LEPCHA	11.2	.1118
69	PAHARI	11.1	.1105
70	CHHANTYAL	11.1	.1105
71	BADHAE	10.7	.1066
72	DHIMAL	10.7	.1066
73	KHATWE	10.5	.1046
74	TAJPURIYA	10.4	.1039
75	KEWAT	10.3	.1026
76	NUNIYA	10.1	.1013
77	MUNDA	9.7	.0974
78	HALKHOR	9.6	.0961
79	SANTHAL/SATAR	9.3	.0934
80	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	8.4	.0842
81	NURANG	8.1	.0808

S.N.	Caste /Ethnicity	Percentage	Voice and Agency Index
82	KAHAR	7.5	.0750
83	DHOBI	7.4	.0737
84	THAMI	6.6	.0658
85	LODHA	6.2	.0618
86	CHIDIMAR	5.8	.0579
87	BOTE	5.3	.0526
88	DOM	5.3	.0526
89	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	5.0	.0500
90	KAMAR	4.9	.0487
91	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	3.9	.0395
92	MUSAHAR	3.9	.0395
93	BANTAR	3.8	.0382
94	PATHARKATA/KUSWADIYA	2.4	.0235
95	KOCHE	2.2	.0224
96	KISAN	1.8	.0184
97	RAUTE	1.6	.0164
	<b>Total</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>.2422</b>

### 5.3 The Political Dimension

The overall Political Dimension Index for the broader groups appears in Table 5.9 below. Tarai Brahman/Chhetris, Hill Brahmins and Newars enjoy much higher levels of political inclusion than other groups. Hill Chhetris and 'Others' also rank above average. The remainder of the broad groups however, lags behind in the political dimension, with Dalits at the bottom of the index

**Table 5.9: The Political Dimension Index and other related indices by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Political Representation Index	Voice and Agency Index	Political Dimension Index
Hill Brahman	1.0000	.4039	0.7020
Hill Chhetri	0.9004	.2413	0.5709
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	1.0000	.5938	0.7969
Tarai Other Caste	0.2957	.2411	0.2684
Hill Dalit	0.1498	.1319	0.1409
Tarai Dalit	0.1962	.0783	0.1373
Newari	1.0000	.3395	0.6697
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.3017	.1710	0.2363
Tarai Janajati	0.3060	.2207	0.2634
Muslim	0.4606	.2776	0.3691
Others	0.4247	.5852	0.5049
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.3526</b>	<b>.2422</b>	<b>0.2974</b>

The traditionally privileged groups that feature at the top of the index include Kayastha, Rajput, Tarai Brahman, Thakali, Hill Brahman, Sudhi, Thakuri, Newari, Yadav, and Marwadi (Table 5.10). There are also some newcomers including the Gurungs, Dhanuks, Telis, Sanyasis, and Baniyas and a number of other groups with mid-level index scores. Dalits and several Janajati groups have extremely low index scores



**Table 5.10: The Political Dimension Index and other related indices by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Political Representation index	Voice and Agency Index	Political Dimension Index
1	KAYASTHA	1.0000	0.7592	0.8796
2	RAJPUT	1.0000	0.6212	0.8106
3	BRAHMAN - TARAI	1.0000	0.5289	0.7645
4	THAKALI	1.0000	0.4434	0.7217
5	HILL BRAHMAN	1.0000	0.4039	0.7020
6	SUDHI	1.0000	0.3987	0.6993
7	THAKURI	0.9719	0.3934	0.6827
8	NEWARI	1.0000	0.3395	0.6697
9	YADAV	0.9745	0.3145	0.6445
10	MARWADI	0.5115	0.7184	0.6150
11	DHANUK	0.8385	0.3895	0.6140
12	HALUWAI	0.9413	0.2513	0.5963
13	TELI	0.9247	0.2464	0.5855
14	CHHETRI	0.9373	0.2289	0.5831
15	BANIYA	0.5273	0.5697	0.5485
16	GURUNG	0.8506	0.1987	0.5247
17	SANYASI	0.7919	0.2171	0.5045
18	LIMBU	0.7927	0.1526	0.4727
19	BANGALI	0.6667	0.2447	0.4557
20	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.6373	0.2490	0.4431
21	KOIRI	0.7677	0.1145	0.4411
22	THARU	0.6634	0.2158	0.4396
23	RAI	0.6728	0.1842	0.4285
24	MECHE	0.6667	0.1592	0.4129
25	KALWAR	0.5427	0.2763	0.4095
26	SUNUWAR	0.5824	0.1829	0.3826
27	MUSLIM	0.4606	0.2776	0.3691
28	KUMHAR	0.6051	0.1289	0.3670
29	RAJBANSI	0.5317	0.1816	0.3566
30	KISAN	0.6667	0.0184	0.3425
31	DARAI	0.5244	0.1434	0.3339
32	KANU	0.4268	0.2066	0.3167
33	CHHANTYAL	0.4789	0.1105	0.2947
34	TAMANG	0.4040	0.1697	0.2869
35	MALI	0.3133	0.2556	0.2844
36	RAJI	0.4415	0.1263	0.2839
37	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.4087	0.1395	0.2741
38	KUMAL	0.2156	0.3079	0.2618
39	MAGAR	0.3582	0.1632	0.2607
40	DURA	0.3333	0.1855	0.2594

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Political Representation index	Voice and Agency Index	Political Dimension Index
41	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	0.4461	0.0500	0.2480
42	BYANGSI	0.0882	0.3684	0.2283
43	JIREL	0.3333	0.1158	0.2246
44	BARAE	0.2922	0.1553	0.2237
45	PAHARI	0.3333	0.1105	0.2219
46	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.0958	0.3171	0.2065
47	CHIDIMAR	0.3333	0.0579	0.1956
48	SHERPA	0.2285	0.1605	0.1945
49	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.2757	0.1126	0.1941
50	KURMI	0.1790	0.2066	0.1928
51	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.0608	0.3197	0.1903
52	KAMI	0.2506	0.1250	0.1878
53	DHOBI	0.3014	0.0737	0.1876
54	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.2018	0.1618	0.1818
55	SARKI	0.2458	0.1145	0.1801
56	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.2111	0.1474	0.1792
57	KOCHE	0.3333	0.0224	0.1779
58	DANUWAR	0.1609	0.1513	0.1561
59	BHOTE	0.1625	0.1303	0.1464
60	DHIMAL	0.1786	0.1066	0.1426
61	HAYU	0.0783	0.2053	0.1418
62	MAJHI	0.1615	0.1197	0.1406
63	DOM	0.2159	0.0526	0.1343
64	YAKKHA	0.1083	0.1579	0.1331
65	RAJBHAR	0.0480	0.2158	0.1319
66	SONAR	0.0374	0.2237	0.1305
67	LOHAR	0.1221	0.1316	0.1268
68	BING/BINDA	0.1281	0.1211	0.1246
69	BOTE	0.1763	0.0526	0.1145
70	TATMA	0.1050	0.1211	0.1130
71	GAINE	0.0506	0.1750	0.1128
72	KHATWE	0.1000	0.1046	0.1023
73	GANGAI	0.0310	0.1618	0.0964
74	DHUNIA	0.0154	0.1750	0.0952
75	MALLAH	0.0483	0.1408	0.0945
76	KAHAR	0.1099	0.0750	0.0925
77	KAMAR	0.1282	0.0487	0.0885
78	WALUNG	0.0000	0.1763	0.0882
79	MUSAHAR	0.1266	0.0395	0.0830
80	HYOLMO	0.0000	0.1500	0.0750

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Political Representation index	Voice and Agency Index	Political Dimension Index
81	BADHAE	0.0277	0.1066	0.0671
82	KEWAT	0.0276	0.1026	0.0651
83	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.0459	0.0842	0.0651
84	BADI	0.0000	0.1250	0.0625
85	HALKHOR	0.0286	0.0961	0.0623
86	TAJPURIYA	0.0179	0.1039	0.0609
87	NUNIYA	0.0114	0.1013	0.0563
88	LEPCHA	0.0000	0.1118	0.0559
89	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.0044	0.0934	0.0489
90	THAMI	0.0320	0.0658	0.0489
91	MUNDA	0.0000	0.0974	0.0487
92	LODHA	0.0244	0.0618	0.0431
93	NURANG	0.0000	0.0808	0.0404
94	BANTAR	0.0291	0.0382	0.0336
95	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.0235	0.0395	0.0315
96	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.0000	0.0235	0.0118
97	RAUTE	0.0000	0.0164	0.0082
	<b>Total</b>	0.3526	.2422	0.2974

## 5.4 Conclusion

Overall political inclusion index is fairly low when it is compared to other dimensional indices. It is less than one third of the full inclusion index. More important point here is that it ranges from 0.0000 among Raute, Kusbadiya, Lepcha, Hyolmo, Walung to 1.0000 among Kayastha, Rajput, Tarai Brahman, Thakali, hill Brahman and Thakuri indicating that there is wider variation among caste/ethnic group regarding political inclusion. Thus level of political inclusion widely varies across 97 caste/ethnic groups of Nepal.

# The Cultural Dimension Index

This chapter examines cultural participation from exclusion/inclusion perspective. It defines culture as ‘a framework for interpreting the world that marks a distinctive way of life, characterized in subjective “we-feelings” among group members, and expressed through specific behaviours, including customs and rituals, that connect people across time and space’ (Ross 2007:18). Culture is also the social heritage created by humans through generations of practice and transmitted from one generation to the next. Language is a key element of culture and a marker of identity; language is therefore directly related to human dignity and human rights. Language provides individuals with a structured set of social conditions for living, manifested in the form of arts and artifacts, and other forms of expression, accumulated knowledge, social organizations, and commonly held ideas, beliefs and values. This chapter focuses on language and religion as the two most important aspects of cultural inclusion/exclusion. ‘Processes of cultural devaluation’, as pointed out by Kabeer (2010:30) with reference to Nepal, are ‘key mechanisms through which social exclusion was perpetuated over time’. This chapter enhances our understanding of such mechanisms (known as processes of exclusion/inclusion), though several elements/aspects of culture are equally pertinent for the leading a dignified life, by delineating the cultural domains and indicators relevant to measuring cultural inclusion in Nepal.

## 6.1 Language

The recognition of the mother-tongue is one of the most important elements of cultural freedom; it shapes access to education and employment, and affects individual and group identity as well as creativity and artistic appreciation. On the one hand, boys and girls should be given the opportunity to get a basic school education in their mother tongue; but on the other hand, language should not be a barrier to accessing life opportunities. The official recognition of languages, therefore, plays a significant role in social inclusion. When a language is recognized or validated, a non-material resource (language) can be converted into a material resource, providing in-ways into power structures. When a language is not recognized or is invalidated, it becomes invisible, and is a handicap for its speakers (Skutnabb-Kangas, 2000:405-408). Official recognition of language empowers linguistic communities and contributes to higher levels of social inclusion.

The Language index is computed as a composite of the mother tongue education index and the linguistic access index. Hill Brahmins are at the top of the table followed by Hill Dalits and Hill Chhetris. Both Hill and Tarai Janajatis and Newars lag behind the other broader groups.

**Table 6.1 Language Domain Index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Mother Tongue Education		Linguistic Access		Language Domain
	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	97.1	.9710	100.0	1.0000	0.9855
Hill Chhetri	96.5	.9651	99.8	.9978	0.9814
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	2.5	.0255	89.2	.8916	0.4586
Tarai Other Caste	3.2	.0323	92.8	.9280	0.4802
Hill Dalit	97.0	.9704	99.8	.9978	0.9841
Tarai Dalit	1.2	.0122	94.5	.9451	0.4787
Newari	0.0	.0000	28.5	.2848	0.1424
Mountain/Hill Janajati	10.2	.1018	32.9	.3287	0.2152
Tarai Janajati	3.3	.0334	74.6	.7456	0.3895
Muslim	52.9	.5290	71.7	.7171	0.6230
Others	5.1	.0509	4.6	.0459	0.0484
Total	45.4	0.4537	75.4	.7543	0.6040

The Language Index for the 97 caste/ethnic groups is presented in Table 6.2. The indices are ranked in descending order. The top ten groups include the Damai, Sarki, Thakuri, Badi, Hill Brahman, Chhetri, Sanyasi, Kami, Gaine, and Muslim. These are all non-Janajati groups but include Brahmans and Dalits. Disadvantaged Janajati groups have the lowest index scores. Those groups in the bottom ten are: Lepcha, Hayu, Kumal, Brahmu/Baramu, Majhi, Dura, Pahari, Kisan, Munda, and Dhimal. The disaggregated language index is uneven in that it shows varying levels of social inclusion in terms of linguistic opportunity (basic education in the mother tongue / access to local government services in the mother tongue).

**Table 6.2: Language Domain Index by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Education In Mother Tongue		Linguistic Access		Language Domain
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
1	DAMAI/DHOLI	100.0	1.0000	99.3	.9934	0.9967
2	SARKI	99.2	.9918	100.0	1.0000	0.9959
3	THAKURI	100.0	1.0000	98.0	.9803	0.9901
4	BADI	100.0	1.0000	97.4	.9737	0.9868
5	HILL BRAHMAN	97.1	.9710	100.0	1.0000	0.9855
6	CHHETRI	96.2	.9618	100.0	1.0000	0.9809
7	SANYASI	97.1	.9709	98.7	.9868	0.9789
8	KAMI	94.8	.9483	100.0	1.0000	0.9741
9	GAINE	91.6	.9157	84.2	.8421	0.8789
10	MUSLIM	52.9	.5290	71.7	.7171	0.6230
11	SONAR	9.3	.0933	100.0	1.0000	0.5467
12	RAJPUT	7.2	.0722	100.0	1.0000	0.5361
13	KHATWE	4.6	.0462	100.0	1.0000	0.5231
14	DHANUK	6.3	.0625	98.0	.9800	0.5213
15	TELI	14.8	.1479	88.1	.8808	0.5143
16	BING/BINDA	3.8	.0379	98.0	.9803	0.5091
17	TATMA	1.7	.0171	100.0	1.0000	0.5085
18	KALWAR	1.8	.0183	99.3	.9934	0.5059
19	SUDHI	1.0	.0095	100.0	1.0000	0.5048

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Education In Mother Tongue		Linguistic Access		Language Domain
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
20	KANU	0.7	.0074	100.0	1.0000	0.5037
21	BHEDIYAR/GA-DERI	0.7	.0066	100.0	1.0000	0.5033
22	LOHAR	0.6	.0059	100.0	1.0000	0.5029
23	CHAMAR, HARI-JAN, RAM	1.5	.0148	98.7	.9868	0.5008
24	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.0	.0000	100.0	1.0000	0.5000
25	KUMHAR	0.7	.0068	98.7	.9868	0.4968
26	MALLAH	2.3	.0226	96.7	.9671	0.4948
27	MALI	0.0	.0000	98.7	.9868	0.4934
28	KAYASTHA	3.4	.0345	94.7	.9474	0.4909
29	DHUNIA	16.5	.1649	81.6	.8158	0.4904
30	HALKHOR	1.9	.0190	96.1	.9605	0.4898
31	BADHAE	4.1	.0407	93.4	.9342	0.4874
32	BANIYA	0.0	.0000	96.7	.9671	0.4836
33	KOIRI	0.0	.0000	96.7	.9671	0.4836
34	DUSADH/PAS-WAN/PASI	0.0	.0000	96.7	.9667	0.4833
35	LODHA	1.8	.0175	93.9	.9388	0.4782
36	NURANG	0.9	.0091	94.0	.9404	0.4747
37	BARAE	0.9	.0088	93.4	.9338	0.4713
38	YADAV	1.8	.0177	91.4	.9145	0.4661
39	MUSAHAR	0.0	.0000	92.1	.9211	0.4605
40	RAJBHAR	2.0	.0201	88.8	.8882	0.4541
41	NUNIYA	2.3	.0231	88.2	.8816	0.4523
42	KURMI	1.0	.0099	88.8	.8882	0.4490
43	KAHAR	1.6	.0156	88.2	.8816	0.4486
44	DHOBI	0.0	.0000	87.5	.8750	0.4375
45	DOM	1.6	.0159	85.5	.8553	0.4356
46	KEWAT	0.0	.0000	84.9	.8487	0.4243
47	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.0	.0000	83.6	.8355	0.4178
48	THARU	2.8	.0280	80.3	.8026	0.4153
49	CHIDIMAR	3.1	.0313	79.6	.7961	0.4137
50	BANTAR	2.9	.0291	78.3	.7829	0.4060
51	GHARTI/BHUJEL	38.2	.3816	42.5	.4250	0.4033
52	LIMBU	36.0	.3604	41.1	.4106	0.3855
53	HALUWAI	1.7	.0174	73.0	.7303	0.3738
54	GANGAI	3.7	.0370	69.7	.6974	0.3672
55	HYOLMO	46.4	.4638	25.2	.2517	0.3577
56	KAMAR	1.9	.0194	66.9	.6689	0.3441
57	BYANGSI	3.4	.0339	63.8	.6382	0.3360
58	WALUNG	16.5	.1646	47.2	.4722	0.3184

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Education In Mother Tongue		Linguistic Access		Language Domain
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
59	THAMI	1.4	.0137	59.2	.5921	0.3029
60	DANUWAR	0.9	.0089	55.0	.5503	0.2796
61	SHERPA	23.5	.2353	28.7	.2867	0.2610
62	BHOTE	2.2	.0220	48.3	.4834	0.2527
63	RAJBANSI	5.8	.0580	44.7	.4474	0.2527
64	TAMANG	7.4	.0741	43.0	.4305	0.2523
65	JIREL	0.0	.0000	48.0	.4803	0.2401
66	TAJPURIYA	2.6	.0260	45.4	.4539	0.2400
67	MAGAR	9.8	.0978	30.3	.3026	0.2002
68	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.0	.0000	37.3	.3725	0.1863
69	RAI	10.9	.1087	24.2	.2416	0.1752
70	GURUNG	1.2	.0123	33.0	.3304	0.1714
71	YAKKHA	17.7	.1772	13.2	.1316	0.1544
72	BOTE	1.1	.0110	27.4	.2743	0.1427
73	NEWARI	0.0	.0000	28.5	.2848	0.1424
74	CHHANTYAL	0.0	.0000	27.0	.2697	0.1349
75	DARAI	1.2	.0118	25.6	.2562	0.1340
76	KOCHE	3.3	.0330	22.4	.2237	0.1283
77	SUNUWAR	0.0	.0000	25.7	.2566	0.1283
78	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.9	.0086	17.1	.1711	0.0898
79	PUNJABI/SIKH	13.3	.1333	3.3	.0329	0.0831
80	BANGALI	12.2	.1224	3.9	.0395	0.0810
81	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	1.7	.0169	11.2	.1118	0.0644
82	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.0	.0000	9.9	.0990	0.0495
83	RAUTE	0.0	.0000	7.0	.0704	0.0352
84	RAJI	1.7	.0165	5.3	.0533	0.0349
85	MARWADI	1.9	.0192	4.9	.0486	0.0339
86	MECHE	3.0	.0299	3.3	.0329	0.0314
87	THAKALI	4.8	.0476	0.7	.0066	0.0271
88	LEPCHA	0.0	.0000	5.3	.0526	0.0263
89	HAYU	2.4	.0235	2.6	.0263	0.0249
90	KUMAL	1.3	.0132	2.6	.0263	0.0197
91	BRAHMU/BARA- MU	3.1	.0315	0.0	.0000	0.0157
92	MAJHI	2.4	.0244	0.7	.0066	0.0155
93	DURA	1.8	.0183	0.7	.0071	0.0127
94	PAHARI	0.0	.0000	2.0	.0197	0.0099
95	KISAN	0.0	.0000	1.3	.0132	0.0066
96	MUNDA	0.0	.0000	0.7	.0066	0.0033
97	DHIMAL	0.0	.0000	0.0	.0000	0.0000
	<b>Total</b>	45.4	0.4537	75.4	.7543	0.6040

## 6.2 Religion

National statistics show that more than ten religions exist in the country with followers ranging in number from a few hundreds to 21 million<sup>8</sup>. Nepal's transition from being a Hindu Kingdom to secular republic (declared on 18 May 2006) is still incomplete in the sense that laws and state practices are not yet fully secularized, and not all religions get equal treatment. The recognition of religion index measures the extent to which religions are treated equally, and the recognition of religions by the state. It is computed as the mean of the equality and recognition indices. An inclusive society should be able to accommodate people of all religions on an equal footing. The index is presented in Tables 6.3 and 6.4.

The distribution shows that the majority of the broader caste/ethnic groups appear to experience similar levels of inclusion in terms of religion and ritual with Hill Brahmins and Hill Chhetris ranking highest. It is surprising to note that Tarai Brahman/Chhetris have the lowest index value.

**Table 6.3: Recognition of Religion Index by broader social group**

Social Categories	Religion recognized		Absence of religious discrimination		Recognition of Religion
	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	98.7	.9868	100.0	1.0000	.9934
Hill Chhetri	97.1	.9713	98.2	.9818	.9766
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	77.1	.7712	96.3	.9633	.8673
Tarai Other Caste	89.9	.8991	97.7	.9770	.9380
Hill Dalit	97.9	.9792	92.4	.9236	.9514
Tarai Dalit	96.1	.9610	90.4	.9038	.9324
Newari	92.1	.9211	94.7	.9474	.9342
Mountain/Hill Janajati	93.3	.9331	93.5	.9350	.9340
Tarai Janajati	91.9	.9195	97.4	.9744	.9469
Muslim	90.8	.9079	92.1	.9211	.9145
Others	96.5	.9647	98.9	.9889	.9768
Total	94.4	.9443	96.0	.9600	.9521

The disaggregated index reveals that Brahmu, Haluwa, Kumhar, Nurang, Sonar, Thakuri, Chepang, Danuwar, Dhobi, and Chhantyal have the highest index values. In contrast, the Bing/Binda, Tarai Brahman, Sherpa, Rajput, Patharkatta, Dhangar, Sudhi, Dhuniya, Limbu, and Bhote feature at the bottom of the index. These groups perceive lower levels of inclusion due to their religious beliefs.

**Table 6.4: Recognition of Religion Index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Social Categories	Religion recognized		Absence of religious discrimination		Recognition of Religion
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
1	BRAHMU/BARAMU	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	1.0000
2	HALUWAI	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	1.0000
3	KUMHAR	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	1.0000
4	NURANG	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	1.0000
5	SONAR	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	1.0000
6	THAKURI	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	1.0000
7	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	100.0	1.0000	99.3	.9934	0.9967

8. See CBS 2012:184-200.1



Cont....

S.N.	Social Categories	Religion recognized		Absence of religious discrimination		Recognition of Religion
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
8	DANUWAR	99.3	.9934	100.0	1.0000	0.9967
9	DHOBI	100.0	1.0000	99.3	.9934	0.9967
10	CHHANTYAL	99.3	.9932	100.0	1.0000	0.9966
11	BANTAR	100.0	1.0000	98.7	.9868	0.9934
12	BARAE	100.0	1.0000	98.7	.9868	0.9934
13	HILL BRAHMAN	98.7	.9868	100.0	1.0000	0.9934
14	CHIDIMAR	100.0	1.0000	98.7	.9868	0.9934
15	KAMAR	100.0	1.0000	98.7	.9868	0.9934
16	THAKALI	99.3	.9934	99.3	.9934	0.9934
17	HAYU	100.0	1.0000	98.7	.9868	0.9934
18	KOIRI	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	0.9901
19	GHARTI/BHUJEL	98.7	.9868	99.3	.9934	0.9901
20	SANYASI	100.0	1.0000	98.0	.9803	0.9901
21	DURA	100.0	1.0000	98.0	.9803	0.9901
22	MAJHI	99.3	.9932	98.6	.9864	0.9898
23	RAJBHAR	98.7	.9868	98.7	.9868	0.9868
24	KALWAR	98.7	.9868	98.7	.9868	0.9868
25	BOTE	100.0	1.0000	97.4	.9737	0.9868
26	NUNIYA	97.4	.9735	100.0	1.0000	0.9868
27	DARAI	98.7	.9868	98.0	.9803	0.9836
28	TATMA	100.0	1.0000	96.7	.9671	0.9836
29	GURUNG	97.4	.9737	99.3	.9934	0.9836
30	TAMANG	98.7	.9868	98.0	.9803	0.9836
31	KEWAT	98.7	.9868	98.0	.9803	0.9836
32	TELI	98.7	.9868	98.0	.9801	0.9834
33	KUMAL	100.0	1.0000	96.6	.9664	0.9832
34	DAMAI/DHOLI	98.7	.9868	97.4	.9735	0.9801
35	LODHA	98.0	.9803	97.4	.9737	0.9770
36	KAYASTHA	96.7	.9671	98.0	.9803	0.9737
37	CHHETRI	96.7	.9671	98.0	.9803	0.9737
38	GAINE	98.7	.9866	96.0	.9597	0.9732
39	MAGAR	99.3	.9932	95.3	.9527	0.9730
40	RAJBANSI	96.6	.9658	97.9	.9795	0.9726
41	GANGAI	97.4	.9737	96.7	.9671	0.9704
42	LEPCHA	95.4	.9539	98.7	.9868	0.9704
43	LOHAR	97.4	.9737	96.7	.9671	0.9704
44	BANGALI	95.4	.9539	98.0	.9803	0.9671
45	KOCHE	95.4	.9539	98.0	.9803	0.9671
46	RAUTE	100.0	1.0000	93.1	.9306	0.9653
47	BADHAE	98.0	.9803	94.7	.9474	0.9638
48	KURMI	98.7	.9868	94.1	.9408	0.9638

S.N.	Social Categories	Religion recognized		Absence of religious discrimination		Recognition of Religion
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
49	PAHARI	98.0	.9801	94.7	.9470	0.9636
50	THARU	94.7	.9467	98.0	.9800	0.9633
51	BADI	96.6	.9664	95.3	.9530	0.9597
52	SUNUWAR	98.7	.9868	92.8	.9276	0.9572
53	HALKHOR	100.0	1.0000	90.8	.9079	0.9539
54	MUNDA	90.8	.9079	98.7	.9868	0.9474
55	THAMI	94.0	.9400	95.3	.9533	0.9467
56	KISAN	91.4	.9145	97.4	.9737	0.9441
57	HAJAM/THAKUR	91.4	.9139	97.4	.9735	0.9437
58	KAMI	97.3	.9730	91.2	.9122	0.9426
59	DHIMAL	89.5	.8947	98.7	.9868	0.9408
60	MALLAH	90.1	.9013	98.0	.9803	0.9408
61	TAJPURIYA	93.4	.9342	94.7	.9474	0.9408
62	SARKI	98.7	.9867	89.3	.8933	0.9400
63	NEWARI	92.1	.9211	94.7	.9474	0.9342
64	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	92.1	.9211	94.1	.9408	0.9309
65	RAJI	93.4	.9342	92.8	.9276	0.9309
66	BANIYA	86.8	.8684	98.7	.9868	0.9276
67	KAHAR	89.5	.8947	95.4	.9539	0.9243
68	KANU	87.5	.8750	97.4	.9737	0.9243
69	HYOLMO	88.8	.8882	96.1	.9605	0.9243
70	SANTHAL/SATAR	94.1	.9408	90.1	.9013	0.9211
71	MARWADI	85.2	.8520	99.0	.9901	0.9211
72	MALI	86.1	.8609	98.0	.9801	0.9205
73	MUSLIM	90.8	.9079	92.1	.9211	0.9145
74	MECHE	83.6	.8355	98.7	.9868	0.9112
75	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	97.4	.9735	84.8	.8477	0.9106
76	JIREL	84.2	.8421	97.4	.9737	0.9079
77	MUSAHAR	94.7	.9474	85.5	.8553	0.9013
78	PUNJABI/SIKH	81.6	.8158	97.4	.9737	0.8947
79	DOM	99.3	.9934	79.6	.7961	0.8947
80	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	84.2	.8421	94.7	.9474	0.8947
81	BYANGSI	81.6	.8158	97.4	.9737	0.8947
82	KHATWE	89.4	.8940	88.7	.8874	0.8907
83	WALUNG	82.9	.8289	93.4	.9342	0.8816
84	YADAV	77.6	.7763	97.4	.9737	0.8750
85	RAI	78.3	.7829	91.4	.9145	0.8487
86	DHANUK	73.7	.7368	96.1	.9605	0.8487
87	YAKKHA	77.6	.7755	91.8	.9184	0.8469
88	BING/BINDA	77.6	.7763	90.8	.9079	0.8421

Cont....

S.N.	Social Categories	Religion recognized		Absence of religious discrimination		Recognition of Religion
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
89	BRAHMAN - TARAI	73.7	.7368	94.7	.9474	0.8421
90	SHERPA	71.1	.7105	96.7	.9671	0.8388
91	RAJPUT	68.0	.6800	99.3	.9933	0.8367
92	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	84.3	.8431	80.4	.8039	0.8235
93	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	70.4	.7039	94.1	.9408	0.8224
94	SUDHI	61.2	.6118	98.0	.9803	0.7961
95	DHUNIA	69.1	.6908	84.9	.8487	0.7697
96	LIMBU	74.3	.7434	57.2	.5724	0.6579
97	BHOTE	53.3	.5329	76.3	.7632	0.6480
	Total	94.4	.9443	96.0	.9600	.9521

In terms of recognition of religion, levels of inclusion vary among the caste/ethnic groups. Many Janajati groups experience high levels of inclusion while other ethnic groups such as the Bhote and Limbu lag behind.

### 6.3 Customary governance

Customary governance is measured by examining respondents' perceptions of barriers erected by the state that hinder a community's ability to pursue customary governance practices. This may indicate the vitality and utility of customary institutions, and the community's ability to retain and maintain social cohesion, social networks and social relationships. Social participation of this kind (social capital) is thought to contribute to levels of social inclusion/exclusion<sup>9</sup>. The customary governance indicator also measures the level of participation in cultural activities and membership of cultural institutions.

**Table 6.5: Customary Governance Index by broader social group**

Social Categories	Customary governance	
	Mean (%)	Index
Hill Brahman	92.3	0.9231
Hill Chhetri	100.0	1.0000
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	98.3	0.9828
Tarai Other Caste	98.4	0.9841
Hill Dalits	88.0	0.8804
Tarai Dalits	98.2	0.9818
Newari	93.2	0.9320
Mountain/Hill Janajati	93.1	0.9307
Tarai Janajati	90.6	0.9059
Muslim	91.7	0.9167
Others	96.6	0.9665
Total	94.2	.9420

9. Social relationships, networks and connections are described as social capital and it is postulated that social capital and inclusion are strongly correlated. It is also claimed that social capital can be further broken down into inclusive social capital and exclusive social capital. Closed networks based on social attributes and linkages related to the individual and to the family (including clan, caste/ethnicity, and location) exacerbate inequality, injustice and social exclusion (Andjelkovic et al. 2011: 31-32). As Nepal is a caste-based society, exclusive social capital is more decisive and pervasive. However, customary governance is common to all, and the distribution of social capital, from the social inclusion/exclusion perspective, is assumed to be equitable. For these reasons, customary governance was identified as an indicator of social inclusion

Table 6.5 shows Hill Chhetris topping the index. This suggests that none of the Hill Chhetri respondents has experienced any state-created constraints to practicing customary governance or to participating in the activities of customary institutions. The TaraiBrahman/Chhetri, Tarai Dalit and other Taraicaste groups also rank relatively highly. Hill Dalit and Muslim groups lag behind on this indicator.

**Table 6.6: Customary Governance Index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Social Categories	Customary governance	
		Mean (%)	Index
1	BADHAE	100.0	1.0000
2	BADI	100.0	1.0000
3	BANGALI	100.0	1.0000
4	BANIYA	100.0	1.0000
5	BRAHMAN - TARAI	100.0	1.0000
6	BRAHMU/BARAMU	100.0	1.0000
7	CHHANTYAL	100.0	1.0000
8	CHHETRI	100.0	1.0000
9	DANUWAR	100.0	1.0000
10	DHUNIA	100.0	1.0000
11	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	100.0	1.0000
12	GURUNG	100.0	1.0000
13	HALKHOR	100.0	1.0000
14	HALUWAI	100.0	1.0000
15	HAYU	100.0	1.0000
16	KEWAT	100.0	1.0000
17	KOIRI	100.0	1.0000
18	KUMAL	100.0	1.0000
19	LIMBU	100.0	1.0000
20	MAJHI	100.0	1.0000
21	MECHE	100.0	1.0000
22	PATHARKATA/KUSWADIYA	100.0	1.0000
23	RAJBHAR	100.0	1.0000
24	SANYASI	100.0	1.0000
25	SARKI	100.0	1.0000
26	SONAR	100.0	1.0000
27	SUDHI	100.0	1.0000
28	THAKURI	100.0	1.0000
29	THAMI	100.0	1.0000
30	HYOLMO	100.0	1.0000
31	BYANGSI	100.0	1.0000
32	DAMAI/DHOLI	100.0	1.0000
33	KAYASTHA	100.0	1.0000
34	KHATWE	100.0	1.0000
35	MALLAH	100.0	1.0000
36	SANTHAL/SATAR	100.0	1.0000
37	TELI	99.3	0.9931

Cont....

S.N.	Social Categories	Customary governance	
		Mean (%)	Index
38	TATMA	99.2	0.9924
39	DHIMAL	99.1	0.9912
40	KOCHE	99.0	0.9898
41	BING/BINDA	98.9	0.9888
42	MALI	98.8	0.9875
43	RAJI	98.6	0.9861
44	BANTAR	98.6	0.9859
45	SUNUWAR	98.5	0.9848
46	BARAE	98.3	0.9831
47	KURMI	98.2	0.9821
48	TAJPURIYA	98.1	0.9811
49	NUNIYA	97.9	0.9787
50	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	97.8	0.9785
51	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	97.7	0.9773
52	GANGAI	97.7	0.9767
53	KISAN	97.6	0.9760
54	LOHAR	97.5	0.9750
55	BHOTE	97.4	0.9737
56	KAHAR	97.4	0.9737
57	DHANUK	97.3	0.9730
58	MUSAHAR	97.2	0.9722
59	SHERPA	97.1	0.9706
60	MARWADI	97.0	0.9704
61	HAJAM/THAKUR	96.8	0.9684
62	MUNDA	96.8	0.9683
63	YADAV	96.6	0.9661
64	CHIDIMAR	96.6	0.9661
65	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	96.4	0.9643
66	RAJBANSI	96.3	0.9630
67	BOTE	96.2	0.9615
68	DHOBI	95.2	0.9524
69	KANU	94.9	0.9494
70	KUMHAR	94.7	0.9474
71	PUNJABI/SIKH	94.7	0.9474
72	THAKALI	94.5	0.9449
73	KAMAR	93.8	0.9375
74	MAGAR	93.7	0.9365
75	NEWARI	93.2	0.9320
76	HILL BRAHMAN	92.3	0.9231
77	RAJPUT	92.3	0.9231
78	DARAI	91.8	0.9180
79	MUSLIM	91.7	0.9167

S.N.	Social Categories	Customary governance	
		Mean (%)	Index
80	TAMANG	91.7	0.9167
81	PAHARI	90.8	0.9077
82	GAINE	89.5	0.8947
83	WALUNG	89.2	0.8919
84	GHARTI/BHUJEL	89.2	0.8919
85	THARU	88.3	0.8835
86	YAKKHA	87.5	0.8750
87	LODHA	80.0	0.8000
88	RAI	78.1	0.7813
89	DOM	77.8	0.7778
90	DURA	76.9	0.7692
91	RAUTE	75.0	0.7500
92	LEPCHA	73.7	0.7368
93	KAMI	0.0	0.0000
94	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.0	
95	JIREL	0.0	
96	KALWAR	0.0	
97	NURANG	0.0	
	Total	94.2	.9420

More than one third of all caste/ethnic groups are fully satisfied with customary governance and other social practices; this is reflected in an index value of 1. In contrast, the Raute, Lepcha, Kami, and Chepang groups face lower levels of inclusion in terms of customary governance but still score 0.7 out of a possible maximum of 1.

## 6.4 Cultural Dimensional Index (CDI)

The cultural dimension index was computed as an average of the three domains considered above. Hill Brahmins and Hill Chhetris rank highest on the cultural dimension index while Janajatis and Newars both lag behind (Table 6.7). Muslims score close to the national average while the remaining groups experience lower levels of cultural inclusion.

**Table 6.7: Cultural Dimensional Index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Language index	Recognition of Religion Index	Customary Governance Index	Cultural Dimensions Index
Hill Brahman	.9855	.9934	.9231	.9673
Hill Chhetri	.9814	.9766	1.0000	.9860
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	.4586	.8673	.9828	.7695
Tarai Other Caste	.4802	.9380	.9841	.8008
Hill Dalit	.9841	.9514	.8804	.9386
Tarai Dalit	.4787	.9324	.9818	.7976
Newari	.1424	.9342	.9320	.6695
Mountain/Hill Janajati	.2152	.9340	.9307	.6933
Tarai Janajati	.3895	.9469	.9059	.7475

Cont....

Caste/Ethnicity	Language index	Recognition of Religion Index	Customary Governance Index	Cultural Dimensions Index
Muslim	.6230	.9145	.9167	.8181
Others	.0484	.9768	.9665	.6639
Total	.6040	.9521	.9420	.8327

Among the caste/ethnic groups, the Thakuri, Damai/Dholi, Sanyasi, Chhetri, Badi, Sarki, Hill Brahman, Gaine, Sonar and Teli groups enjoy the highest levels of cultural freedom (Table 6.8). None of these groups are Janajati. In contrast, the Chepang, Jirel, Lepcha, Raute, Dura, Rai, Dhagad, Bhote, Yakhkha and Pahari groups experience less cultural inclusion and have lower index values. All groups in the bottom 10 are Hill Janajatis. The index shows a substantial amount of variation among the groups.

**Table 6.8 Cultural Dimensional Index by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Language index	Recognition of Religion Index	Customary Governance Index	Cultural Dimensions Index
1	THAKURI	0.9901	1.0000	1.0000	0.9967
2	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.9967	0.9801	1.0000	0.9923
3	SANYASI	0.9789	0.9901	1.0000	0.9897
4	CHHETRI	0.9809	0.9737	1.0000	0.9849
5	BADI	0.9868	0.9597	1.0000	0.9822
6	SARKI	0.9959	0.9400	1.0000	0.9786
7	HILL BRAHMAN	0.9855	0.9934	0.9231	0.9673
8	GAINE	0.8789	0.9732	0.8947	0.9156
9	SONAR	0.5467	1.0000	1.0000	0.8489
10	TELI	0.5143	0.9834	0.9931	0.8303
11	TATMA	0.5085	0.9836	0.9924	0.8282
12	KOIRI	0.4836	0.9901	1.0000	0.8246
13	KAYASTHA	0.4909	0.9737	1.0000	0.8215
14	MUSLIM	0.6230	0.9145	0.9167	0.8181
15	BADHAE	0.4874	0.9638	1.0000	0.8171
16	LOHAR	0.5029	0.9704	0.9750	0.8161
17	BARAE	0.4713	0.9934	0.9831	0.8159
18	KUMHAR	0.4968	1.0000	0.9474	0.8147
19	HALKHOR	0.4898	0.9539	1.0000	0.8146
20	RAJBHAR	0.4541	0.9868	1.0000	0.8137
21	MALLAH	0.4948	0.9408	1.0000	0.8119
22	NUNIYA	0.4523	0.9868	0.9787	0.8059
23	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	0.4833	0.9309	1.0000	0.8048
24	KHATWE	0.5231	0.8907	1.0000	0.8046
25	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.5000	0.9437	0.9684	0.8040
26	BANIYA	0.4836	0.9276	1.0000	0.8037
27	KEWAT	0.4243	0.9836	1.0000	0.8026
28	MALI	0.4934	0.9205	0.9875	0.8005

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Language index	Recognition of Religion Index	Customary Governance Index	Cultural Dimensions Index
29	KURMI	0.4490	0.9638	0.9821	0.7983
30	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.5008	0.9106	0.9785	0.7966
31	DHOBI	0.4375	0.9967	0.9524	0.7955
32	BANTAR	0.4060	0.9934	0.9859	0.7951
33	KANU	0.5037	0.9243	0.9494	0.7925
34	HALUWAI	0.3738	1.0000	1.0000	0.7913
35	CHIDIMAR	0.4137	0.9934	0.9661	0.7911
36	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.5033	0.8947	0.9643	0.7874
37	KAHAR	0.4486	0.9243	0.9737	0.7822
38	DHANUK	0.5213	0.8487	0.9730	0.7810
39	BING/BINDA	0.5091	0.8421	0.9888	0.7800
40	MUSAHAR	0.4605	0.9013	0.9722	0.7780
41	GANGAI	0.3672	0.9704	0.9767	0.7714
42	YADAV	0.4661	0.8750	0.9661	0.7691
43	SUDHI	0.5048	0.7961	1.0000	0.7669
44	RAJPUT	0.5361	0.8367	0.9231	0.7653
45	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.4033	0.9901	0.8919	0.7618
46	HYOLMO	0.3577	0.9243	1.0000	0.7607
47	DANUWAR	0.2796	0.9967	1.0000	0.7588
48	KAMAR	0.3441	0.9934	0.9375	0.7584
49	THARU	0.4153	0.9633	0.8835	0.7541
50	DHUNIA	0.4904	0.7697	1.0000	0.7534
51	BRAHMAN-TARAI	0.4178	0.8421	1.0000	0.7533
52	LODHA	0.4782	0.9770	0.8000	0.7517
53	THAMI	0.3029	0.9467	1.0000	0.7499
54	KALWAR	0.5059	0.9868	0.0000	0.7464
55	BYANGSI	0.3360	0.8947	1.0000	0.7436
56	NURANG	0.4747	1.0000	0.0000	0.7374
57	RAJBANSI	0.2527	0.9726	0.9630	0.7294
58	TAJPURIYA	0.2400	0.9408	0.9811	0.7206
59	GURUNG	0.1714	0.9836	1.0000	0.7183
60	TAMANG	0.2523	0.9836	0.9167	0.7175
61	CHHANTYAL	0.1349	0.9966	1.0000	0.7105
62	MAGAR	0.2002	0.9730	0.9365	0.7032
63	DOM	0.4356	0.8947	0.7778	0.7027
64	WALUNG	0.3184	0.8816	0.8919	0.6973
65	BOTE	0.1427	0.9868	0.9615	0.6970
66	KOCHE	0.1283	0.9671	0.9898	0.6951
67	SHERPA	0.2610	0.8388	0.9706	0.6901
68	SUNUWAR	0.1283	0.9572	0.9848	0.6901



Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Language index	Recognition of Religion Index	Customary Governance Index	Cultural Dimensions Index
69	BANGALI	0.0810	0.9671	1.0000	0.6827
70	LIMBU	0.3855	0.6579	1.0000	0.6811
71	DARAI	0.1340	0.9836	0.9180	0.6785
72	HAYU	0.0249	0.9934	1.0000	0.6728
73	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.0157	1.0000	1.0000	0.6719
74	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.0898	0.9211	1.0000	0.6703
75	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.1863	0.8235	1.0000	0.6699
76	NEWARI	0.1424	0.9342	0.9320	0.6695
77	MAJHI	0.0155	0.9898	1.0000	0.6684
78	KUMAL	0.0197	0.9832	1.0000	0.6677
79	THAKALI	0.0271	0.9934	0.9449	0.6551
80	RAJI	0.0349	0.9309	0.9861	0.6507
81	MECHE	0.0314	0.9112	1.0000	0.6475
82	DHIMAL	0.0000	0.9408	0.9912	0.6440
83	KISAN	0.0066	0.9441	0.9760	0.6422
84	MARWADI	0.0339	0.9211	0.9704	0.6418
85	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.0831	0.8947	0.9474	0.6417
86	MUNDA	0.0033	0.9474	0.9683	0.6396
87	KAMI	0.9741	0.9426	0.0000	0.6389
88	PAHARI	0.0099	0.9636	0.9077	0.6270
89	YAKKHA	0.1544	0.8469	0.8750	0.6254
90	BHOTE	0.2527	0.6480	0.9737	0.6248
91	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.0644	0.8224	0.9773	0.6213
92	RAI	0.1752	0.8487	0.7813	0.6017
93	DURA	0.0127	0.9901	0.7692	0.5907
94	RAUTE	0.0352	0.9653	0.7500	0.5835
95	LEPCHA	0.0263	0.9704	0.7368	0.5779
96	JIREL	0.2401	0.9079	0.0000	0.5740
97	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.0495	0.9967	0.0000	0.5231
	NEPAL	.6040	.9521	.9420	.8327

## 6.5 Conclusion

The cultural inclusion index highlights some of the key aspects of cultural recognition and cultural freedom of this multicultural country and shows a number of marked variations between caste/ethnic groups. Although some Dalit groups have a high index score, the level of cultural inclusion among the Chhetri, Thakuri and Sanayasi groups is also quite high. Groups such as the Jirel, Chepang and Lepcha score lower. Among the broader social groups, Hill Brahmans and Hill Chhetris have the highest cultural inclusion scores. The opposite is true for Newars and other Janajati groups.

# The Gender Dimension Index

This chapter describes the four major domains of the gender dimension. These include non-violence, control over the decision to marry, and control over reproductive decisions. Access to educational opportunity and economic autonomy are the other important aspects of gender inclusion discussed in this chapter. Analysis of the domains focuses on groups (from the 97 caste/ethnic groups) that rank in the top or bottom ten for each domain index. There is significant variation among groups in both the domain and dimensional indices. This type of distribution indicates that in real terms, none of the ethnic groups have uniformly high or low scores across the domains – levels of inclusion vary for each domain index.

## 7.1 Non-Violence Index

The non-violence index is a composite of the non-violence against women index, the control over the decision to marry index, and the control over reproductive decisions index.

### 7.1.1 Non-violence against women

Nepali women face the threat of violence in the household, the community, and in aspects of public life. This is a form of exclusion as it fails to uphold the right to a dignified life. This index looks at violence against women from the perspective of non-violence (inclusion). Disaggregation reveals that Hill Chhetri women are less likely to be victims of violence both in the household and in the public arena, followed by Muslim and Hill Brahman women.

Women who face lower levels of public/household violence are from the Baramu/Brahmu, Chhantyal, Chepang, Kayastha, Thakali, Punjabi, Bangali, Rajbansi, Hyolmo and Dhobi groups. In contrast, non-violence is reported by one in three Newari women, indicating that many Newari women are victims of household or community based violence. The groups with the lowest levels of non-violence are the Dom, Halkor, Musahar, Kewat, Badhae, Bing/Binda, Tatma, Dhagar/Jhgar, Khatwe and Patharkata/Kuswadiya.

### 7.1.2 Control over the decision to marry

Control over the decision to marry is another important domain linked to sexuality, control over the body, and gender based violence. Getting married impacts on a woman for the rest of her life, so control over the decision to marry is hugely important. Control over the decision to marry is also an indicator of women's rights. Index values show that Hill Dalit women have more control over the decision to marry than any of the other groups, followed by Newari women and Mountain/Hill Janajati women. Tarai Dalit women and women from other Taraicastes are less likely to be included in decisions about their marriage. Among these two groups, only about one fifth of women have any control over the decision to marry.

Women with higher index scores are from the Byansi, Chepang, Darai, Hayu, Brahm/Baramu, Badi, Thakuri, Bhote, Kumal, and Lepcha groups. Those groups with lower scores include women from the Lodha, Tatma, Musahar, Sonar, Barae, Mallah, Teli, Kewat, Kahar and Halkhor groups.

**Table 7.1: Sexuality and gender based non-violence index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Non-Violence Against Women		Control over the decision to marry		Control over reproductive decisions		Gender Non-Violence
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
1	BYANGSI	67.8	0.6776	97.9	0.9792	79.6	0.7961	0.8176
2	PUNJABI/SIKH	77.0	0.7697	84.9	0.8489	75.0	0.7500	0.7896
3	BRAHMU/BARAMU	96.7	0.9671	94.1	0.9408	41.4	0.4145	0.7741
4	CHHANTYAL	94.1	0.9408	89.3	0.8933	44.7	0.4474	0.7605
5	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	88.8	0.8882	96.7	0.9667	40.8	0.4079	0.7542
6	THAKALI	79.6	0.7961	82.6	0.8264	57.9	0.5789	0.7338
7	PAHARI	65.8	0.6579	83.7	0.8367	65.1	0.6513	0.7153
8	MECHE	71.7	0.7171	88.0	0.8800	48.7	0.4868	0.6946
9	KUMAL	59.9	0.5987	92.1	0.9211	54.6	0.5461	0.6886
10	THAKURI	66.4	0.6645	93.2	0.9324	46.7	0.4671	0.6880
11	DAMAI/DHOLI	57.9	0.5789	90.4	0.9041	52.6	0.5263	0.6698
12	GHARTI/BHUJEL	54.6	0.5461	86.4	0.8639	58.6	0.5855	0.6652
13	SANYASI	67.1	0.6711	73.3	0.7333	54.6	0.5461	0.6501
14	LEPCHA	65.1	0.6513	90.9	0.9091	38.2	0.3816	0.6473
15	YAKKHA	53.3	0.5329	88.4	0.8836	51.3	0.5132	0.6432
16	DARAI	39.5	0.3947	95.4	0.9536	57.9	0.5789	0.6424
17	GAINE	52.6	0.5263	88.7	0.8874	51.3	0.5132	0.6423
18	HYOLMO	73.7	0.7368	60.1	0.6014	58.6	0.5855	0.6413
19	BADI	44.7	0.4474	93.6	0.9362	53.9	0.5395	0.6410
20	MARWADI	64.9	0.6488	71.8	0.7177	55.6	0.5559	0.6408
21	JIREL	65.8	0.6579	77.2	0.7724	46.1	0.4605	0.6303
22	SARKI	61.2	0.6118	80.0	0.8000	46.7	0.4671	0.6263
23	BANGALI	75.7	0.7566	70.8	0.7083	40.8	0.4079	0.6243
24	HILL BRAHMAN	62.5	0.6250	69.3	0.6933	54.6	0.5461	0.6215
25	MAJHI	52.0	0.5197	87.2	0.8725	46.7	0.4671	0.6198
26	GURUNG	61.8	0.6184	75.0	0.7500	48.0	0.4803	0.6162
27	HAYU	57.2	0.5724	94.5	0.9452	31.6	0.3158	0.6111
28	SHERPA	69.1	0.6908	75.2	0.7518	38.2	0.3816	0.6080
29	BOTE	37.5	0.3750	90.5	0.9054	52.6	0.5263	0.6022
30	KAMI	57.9	0.5789	73.5	0.7351	46.1	0.4605	0.5915
31	RAJBANSI	75.0	0.7500	56.6	0.5658	45.4	0.4539	0.5899
32	BHOTE	48.7	0.4868	92.3	0.9231	34.2	0.3421	0.5840
33	MAGAR	63.8	0.6382	77.0	0.7703	34.2	0.3421	0.5835
34	CHHETRI	64.5	0.6447	65.8	0.6579	42.8	0.4276	0.5768

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Non-Violence Against Women		Control over the decision to marry		Control over reproductive decisions		Gender Non-Violence
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
35	KISAN	51.3	0.5132	79.3	0.7931	41.4	0.4145	0.5736
36	WALUNG	40.1	0.4013	87.5	0.8750	44.1	0.4408	0.5724
37	SUNUWAR	47.4	0.4737	81.1	0.8112	39.5	0.3947	0.5599
38	KAYASTHA	80.3	0.8026	36.2	0.3618	51.3	0.5132	0.5592
39	RAJI	51.3	0.5132	80.7	0.8069	34.2	0.3421	0.5541
40	TAMANG	58.6	0.5855	70.3	0.7027	36.2	0.3618	0.5500
41	THAMI	67.1	0.6711	58.3	0.5833	38.8	0.3882	0.5475
42	DHIMAL	45.4	0.4539	79.2	0.7919	38.2	0.3816	0.5425
43	DANUWAR	52.6	0.5263	57.9	0.5789	51.3	0.5132	0.5395
44	RAI	52.0	0.5197	78.2	0.7823	31.6	0.3158	0.5393
45	MUSLIM	64.5	0.6447	59.9	0.5987	36.8	0.3684	0.5373
46	RAUTE	49.3	0.4932	69.6	0.6957	41.1	0.4110	0.5333
47	LIMBU	37.5	0.3750	84.6	0.8462	36.2	0.3618	0.5277
48	MUNDA	38.8	0.3882	67.6	0.6761	51.3	0.5132	0.5258
49	NEWARI	33.6	0.3355	77.5	0.7748	46.1	0.4605	0.5236
50	SANTHAL/SATAR	46.1	0.4605	75.5	0.7550	32.2	0.3224	0.5126
51	KOCHE	64.5	0.6447	51.0	0.5101	36.2	0.3618	0.5055
52	DURA	46.7	0.4671	72.2	0.7222	32.2	0.3224	0.5039
53	RAJPUT	57.0	0.5695	29.9	0.2993	62.9	0.6291	0.4993
54	THARU	67.8	0.6776	38.2	0.3816	41.4	0.4145	0.4912
55	LOHAR	53.9	0.5395	31.1	0.3113	61.8	0.6184	0.4897
56	KALWAR	42.8	0.4276	49.0	0.4899	48.7	0.4868	0.4681
57	BANIYA	56.6	0.5658	45.6	0.4564	38.2	0.3816	0.4679
58	BRAHMAN - TARAI	53.9	0.5395	34.2	0.3425	50.7	0.5066	0.4628
59	SUDHI	62.5	0.6250	24.2	0.2416	48.7	0.4868	0.4512
60	KUMHAR	46.1	0.4605	35.3	0.3533	48.7	0.4868	0.4336
61	TAJPURIYA	54.6	0.5461	41.2	0.4122	33.6	0.3355	0.4312
62	BHEDIYAR/GADE-RI	57.9	0.5789	16.9	0.1689	52.6	0.5263	0.4247
63	KOIRI	54.6	0.5461	29.5	0.2953	42.8	0.4276	0.4230
64	KANU	46.1	0.4605	32.0	0.3200	47.4	0.4737	0.4181
65	TELI	61.6	0.6159	12.0	0.1200	51.7	0.5166	0.4175
66	HAJAM/THAKUR	62.9	0.6291	15.2	0.1523	47.0	0.4702	0.4172
67	RAJBHAR	48.7	0.4868	40.9	0.4094	34.9	0.3487	0.4150
68	GANGAI	57.9	0.5789	29.1	0.2914	32.2	0.3224	0.3976
69	BANTAR	50.7	0.5066	32.5	0.3245	35.5	0.3553	0.3954
70	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	26.3	0.2632	30.9	0.3087	56.6	0.5658	0.3792
71	HALUWAI	27.6	0.2763	28.9	0.2895	53.9	0.5395	0.3684
72	KAMAR	63.8	0.6382	26.4	0.2643	18.4	0.1842	0.3622

Cont....

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Non-Violence Against Women		Control over the decision to marry		Control over reproductive decisions		Gender Non-Violence
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
73	DHUNIA	42.1	0.4211	34.9	0.3487	31.6	0.3158	0.3618
74	DHOBI	71.7	0.7171	14.1	0.1408	21.1	0.2105	0.3562
75	CHIDIMAR	62.5	0.6250	20.1	0.2013	21.7	0.2171	0.3478
76	NUNIYA	52.0	0.5197	15.5	0.1554	35.5	0.3553	0.3435
77	YADAV	40.8	0.4079	18.8	0.1879	42.1	0.4211	0.3390
78	MALI	37.7	0.3775	30.5	0.3046	31.8	0.3179	0.3333
79	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	30.3	0.3026	33.8	0.3377	34.9	0.3487	0.3297
80	DHANUK	38.2	0.3816	19.1	0.1908	40.8	0.4079	0.3268
81	NURANG	60.9	0.6093	19.4	0.1944	14.6	0.1457	0.3165
82	SONAR	40.8	0.4079	9.9	0.0987	42.1	0.4211	0.3092
83	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	57.0	0.5695	17.0	0.1701	18.5	0.1854	0.3083
84	MALLAH	46.1	0.4605	11.2	0.1118	34.2	0.3421	0.3048
85	BARAE	40.8	0.4079	10.6	0.1060	30.3	0.3026	0.2722
86	LODHA	55.3	0.5526	2.7	0.0267	17.8	0.1776	0.2523
87	KHATWE	27.2	0.2715	20.0	0.2000	28.5	0.2848	0.2521
88	BING/BINDA	22.4	0.2237	19.6	0.1959	33.6	0.3355	0.2517
89	KURMI	36.8	0.3684	13.9	0.1389	17.8	0.1776	0.2283
90	KAHAR	32.9	0.3289	12.8	0.1275	16.4	0.1645	0.2070
91	BADHAE	22.4	0.2237	14.3	0.1429	22.4	0.2237	0.1967
92	KEWAT	21.7	0.2171	12.1	0.1208	24.3	0.2434	0.1938
93	PATHARKATA/KUSWADIYA	27.5	0.2745	20.4	0.2041	9.8	0.0980	0.1922
94	DOM	13.8	0.1382	21.6	0.2162	21.1	0.2105	0.1883
95	TATMA	23.7	0.2368	6.6	0.0658	20.4	0.2039	0.1689
96	MUSAHAR	17.1	0.1711	8.1	0.0811	19.7	0.1974	0.1498
97	HALKHOR	15.1	0.1513	13.4	0.1342	9.9	0.0987	0.1281
	Total	57.1	0.5710	60.8	0.6076	42.7	0.4273	0.5353

### 7.1.3 Control over reproductive decisions

The reproductive rights of women include not only the decision to conceive, but also decisions about delivery, the number of children to have, the interval between births, and the use of contraceptives. The involvement of women in these decisions is crucial, as the decisions have a profound impact on a woman's life. The control over reproductive decisions index shows that Hill Brahman women experience higher levels of inclusion than other groups, followed by TaraiBrahman/Chhetri women. Hill Dalit women have more control over reproductive decisions than any of the other broad social groups. This is just the opposite for Tarai Dalit women.

Of the caste/ethnic groups, those that rank at the top of the index are Byansi, Punjabi, Pahari, Rajput, Lohar, Gharti/Bhujel, Hyelmo, Thakali, Darai, and Dhagar/Jhangar. Women from the

Patharkata, Halkhor, Nurang, Kahar, Lodha, Kurmi, Chamar, Musahar and Tatma groups have the least control over reproductive decisions.

#### 7.1.4 Gender Non-violence Index by broader social group

Looking at the composite index, Table 7.2 shows that Hill Brahman and Hill Dalit women experience the highest levels of non-violence, followed by Chhetri women and women from Hill/Mountain Janajati groups. Tarai Dalit women and women from other Tarai castes have the lowest index scores.

**Table 7.2: Gender non-violence index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Violence Against Women		Control over the decision to marry		Control over reproductive decisions		Gender Non-Violence
	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	62.5	0.6250	69.3	0.6933	54.6	0.5461	0.6215
Hill Chhetri	64.8	0.6476	68.3	0.6827	43.7	0.4366	0.5890
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	59.8	0.5981	33.8	0.3376	53.3	0.5331	0.4896
Tarai Other Caste	45.9	0.4593	20.9	0.2094	40.3	0.4030	0.3572
Hill Dalit	58.5	0.5852	78.9	0.7894	47.8	0.4782	0.6176
Tarai Dalit	41.1	0.4105	17.7	0.1770	23.4	0.2339	0.2738
Newari	33.6	0.3355	77.5	0.7748	46.1	0.4605	0.5236
Mountain/Hill Janajati	58.5	0.5853	76.6	0.7664	38.0	0.3796	0.5771
Tarai Janajati	63.0	0.6298	38.7	0.3870	41.5	0.4147	0.4772
Muslim	64.5	0.6447	59.9	0.5987	36.8	0.3684	0.5373
Others	57.4	0.5742	71.3	0.7129	54.6	0.5463	0.6112
Total	57.1	0.5710	60.8	0.6076	42.7	0.4273	0.5353

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, women from the Byansi, Punjabi Shikh, Baramu/Bramu, Chhantyal, Chepang, Thakali, Pahari, Meche, Kumal, and Thakuri groups rank in the top ten. Most of these groups are Hill Janajatis. Tarai Dalit women from the Halkhor, Musahar, Tatma, Dom, Patharkata, Kewat, Badhae, Kahar, Kurmi and Bin groups rank lowest, indicating lower levels of gender inclusion.

## 7.2 Access to Social Services

Access to social services enhances an individual's capability, which in turn shapes the opportunities available to that individual. In Nepal, there is unequal access to social services with men enjoying more privileges than women. This is an indicator of women's exclusion. In this chapter, access to social services refers to gender parity in school enrolment, and gender parity in private schooling.

### 7.2.1 Gender parity in school enrolment (up to secondary level)

Nepal's education policy ensures equal opportunities for girls and boys. This has influenced social values with most parents agreeing that both sons and daughters should have equal access to education. In practice, however, discrimination persists up to secondary level. The gender parity in school enrolment index shows that girls from the Newari community are more likely to be educated up to secondary level than girls from other groups. They are followed by Hill Brahman

girls, Mountain/Hill Janajati girls and Tarai Janajati girls. The lowest levels of school enrolment up to secondary level can be seen among Tarai Dalit and Muslim girls.

The parity in enrolment index shows that girls from the Walung, Lepcha, Kisan, Raji, Dura, Chidimar, Bangali, Kamar, Gangai and Nurungagroups experience higher levels of inclusion than girls from other groups. High levels of gender disparity can be seen among girls from the Dhunia, Nuniya, Musahar, Mallah, Bote, Halkhor, Lodha, Dhobi, Dusadhar/Paswani, Muslim groups. Many of the groups in the bottom ten are from the Tarai.

**Table 7.3: Non-discrimination in social services index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Parity in Enrolment		Private Schooling		Non-Discrimination in Social Services
		Ratio	Index	Ratio	Index	Index
1	MARWADI	1.00	1.0000	1.01	1.0000	1.0000
2	THAMI	0.99	0.9931	1.01	1.0000	0.9965
3	TAMANG	0.98	0.9751	1.24	1.0000	0.9875
4	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.98	0.9780	0.99	0.9881	0.9830
5	DARAI	0.95	0.9548	1.06	1.0000	0.9774
6	PAHARI	0.95	0.9495	1.12	1.0000	0.9747
7	RAJBANSI	0.94	0.9401	1.00	1.0000	0.9701
8	YAKKHA	0.93	0.9318	1.07	1.0000	0.9659
9	BADI	0.93	0.9292	1.33	1.0000	0.9646
10	SARKI	0.92	0.9162	1.27	1.0000	0.9581
11	GURUNG	0.97	0.9696	0.95	0.9457	0.9577
12	TELI	0.91	0.9112	0.99	0.9926	0.9519
13	BHOTE	0.93	0.9344	0.97	0.9692	0.9518
14	SANYASI	0.96	0.9608	0.94	0.9364	0.9486
15	NEWARI	0.99	0.9896	0.89	0.8854	0.9375
16	HYOLMO	1.00	1.0000	0.87	0.8700	0.9350
17	CHHETRI	0.94	0.9397	0.93	0.9254	0.9326
18	WALUNG	1.36	1.0000	0.86	0.8573	0.9287
19	RAI	0.99	0.9855	0.85	0.8514	0.9185
20	RAUTE	0.83	0.8300	1.04	1.0000	0.9150
21	THAKALI	0.93	0.9260	0.87	0.8733	0.8997
22	KAYASTHA	0.95	0.9500	0.85	0.8463	0.8982
23	BARAE	0.88	0.8767	0.91	0.9107	0.8937
24	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.94	0.9392	0.84	0.8446	0.8919
25	BOTE	0.78	0.7824	1.42	1.0000	0.8912
26	SHERPA	0.97	0.9670	0.81	0.8127	0.8899
27	CHIDIMAR	1.07	1.0000	0.78	0.7792	0.8896
28	MALI	0.95	0.9518	0.83	0.8273	0.8896
29	HILL BRAHMAN	0.98	0.9763	0.80	0.7985	0.8874
30	HALUWAI	0.90	0.8978	0.87	0.8725	0.8852
31	BANIYA	0.94	0.9398	0.83	0.8302	0.8850

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Parity in Enrolment		Private Schooling		Non-Discrimination in Social Services
		Ratio	Index	Ratio	Index	Index
32	BYANGSI	0.84	0.8406	0.93	0.9275	0.8840
33	DHIMAL	0.97	0.9744	0.79	0.7903	0.8824
34	THAKURI	0.95	0.9503	0.80	0.7985	0.8744
35	NUNIYA	0.74	0.7425	1.13	1.0000	0.8712
36	KUMAL	0.96	0.9582	0.78	0.7810	0.8696
37	LIMBU	1.01	1.0000	0.73	0.7295	0.8647
38	SUNUWAR	0.96	0.9620	0.77	0.7668	0.8644
39	SUDHI	0.90	0.8979	0.82	0.8196	0.8587
40	KALWAR	0.94	0.9431	0.77	0.7693	0.8562
41	SONAR	0.93	0.9280	0.78	0.7842	0.8561
42	MUSLIM	0.81	0.8082	0.88	0.8789	0.8436
43	LEPCHA	1.11	1.0000	0.67	0.6734	0.8367
44	MAGAR	0.95	0.9496	0.72	0.7208	0.8352
45	KANU	0.86	0.8582	0.79	0.7887	0.8235
46	DURA	1.07	1.0000	0.65	0.6467	0.8233
47	KOIRI	0.89	0.8912	0.75	0.7545	0.8228
48	JIREL	0.93	0.9314	0.71	0.7059	0.8186
49	RAJPUT	0.97	0.9682	0.66	0.6585	0.8133
50	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.85	0.8491	0.77	0.7748	0.8119
51	YADAV	0.85	0.8522	0.77	0.7659	0.8091
52	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.93	0.9289	0.68	0.6845	0.8067
53	LOHAR	0.88	0.8846	0.73	0.7267	0.8056
54	THARU	0.97	0.9736	0.63	0.6316	0.8026
55	BADHAE	0.86	0.8620	0.74	0.7379	0.7999
56	RAJI	1.08	1.0000	0.60	0.5958	0.7979
57	GANGAI	1.02	1.0000	0.60	0.5956	0.7978
58	MECHE	0.91	0.9104	0.68	0.6801	0.7953
59	DANUWAR	0.93	0.9270	0.65	0.6541	0.7905
60	HAYU	0.87	0.8665	0.71	0.7085	0.7875
61	BANGALI	1.03	1.0000	0.57	0.5702	0.7851
62	MALLAH	0.78	0.7811	0.77	0.7708	0.7759
63	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.98	0.9827	0.57	0.5691	0.7759
64	MAJHI	1.00	0.9963	0.54	0.5381	0.7672
65	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.96	0.9614	0.57	0.5673	0.7644
66	TATMA	0.85	0.8523	0.66	0.6629	0.7576
67	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.93	0.9292	0.57	0.5712	0.7502
68	KOCHE	0.85	0.8481	0.64	0.6393	0.7437
69	MUNDA	0.87	0.8735	0.61	0.6087	0.7411
70	KURMI	0.87	0.8699	0.61	0.6092	0.7396
71	KEWAT	0.88	0.8815	0.56	0.5580	0.7198



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S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Parity in Enrolment		Private Schooling		Non-Discrimination in Social Services
		Ratio	Index	Ratio	Index	Index
72	KAMI	0.92	0.9233	0.51	0.5118	0.7176
73	KAHAR	0.91	0.9137	0.51	0.5141	0.7139
74	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	0.81	0.8052	0.59	0.5948	0.7000
75	DHOBI	0.81	0.8072	0.59	0.5893	0.6982
76	DHANUK	0.86	0.8562	0.52	0.5232	0.6897
77	KAMAR	1.02	1.0000	0.38	0.3791	0.6895
78	BING/BINDA	0.71	0.7065	0.67	0.6710	0.6888
79	GAINE	0.94	0.9389	0.44	0.4382	0.6885
80	HALKHOR	0.79	0.7947	0.56	0.5648	0.6798
81	KISAN	1.09	1.0000	0.36	0.3571	0.6786
82	TAJPURIYA	0.93	0.9267	0.42	0.4156	0.6711
83	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.99	0.9863	0.30	0.3036	0.6449
84	RAJBHAR	0.83	0.8284	0.46	0.4582	0.6433
85	CHHANTYAL	0.87	0.8744	0.41	0.4092	0.6418
86	DOM	0.75	0.7533	0.52	0.5217	0.6375
87	NURANG	1.02	1.0000	0.27	0.2692	0.6346
88	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	1.06	1.0000	0.24	0.2417	0.6208
89	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.83	0.8335	0.39	0.3932	0.6133
90	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.87	0.8664	0.36	0.3571	0.6118
91	KUMHAR	0.84	0.8437	0.36	0.3555	0.5996
92	DHUNIA	0.73	0.7276	0.39	0.3937	0.5606
93	KHATWE	0.77	0.7673	0.33	0.3328	0.5500
94	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.83	0.8343	0.27	0.2650	0.5496
95	LODHA	0.81	0.8103	0.27	0.2716	0.5409
96	BANTAR	0.87	0.8674	0.11	0.1082	0.4878
97	MUSAHAR	0.74	0.7391	0.00	0.0000	0.3696
	<b>Total</b>	0.9406	0.9406	0.82	0.8194	0.8800

### 7.2.2 Opportunities for private schooling

Access to opportunities to study in a private school, particularly an English medium boarding school, is one of the most important social inclusion indicators. Although parents would prefer to send all of their children to private schools, what often happens is that boys are sent to private schools while girls are sent to state schools. This indicator reveals the disparity of opportunity for private schooling between boys and girls.

Equal private schooling opportunities for girls are common among the Newari and Hill Chhetri groups and rare among Tarai Dalit groups. Other caste/ethnic groups with higher levels of inclusion for this indicator are Bote, Badi, Sarki, Tamang, Nuniya, Pahari, Yakkha, Darai, Raute and Marwadi. There are few opportunities for private schooling for girls from Hill and Tarai Brahman groups. Hill and Tarai Dalit girls have almost no chance of studying in a private boarding school.

### 7.2.3 Access to Social Services

Access to social services is measured here in terms of gender balance in schooling opportunities and enrolment. Overall, there is disparity among the broader social groups. Newari and Hill Chhetri girls have the highest levels of access, while Tarai and Hill Dalit girls have the lowest.

**Table 7.4: Non-discrimination in Social Services index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Parity in Enrolment		Private Schooling		Non-Discrimination in Social Services
	Ratio	Index	Ratio	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	0.9763	0.9763	0.80	0.7985	0.8874
Hill Chhetri	0.9415	0.9415	0.93	0.9283	0.9349
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	0.9467	0.9467	0.80	0.8035	0.8751
Tarai Other Caste	0.8727	0.8727	0.77	0.7724	0.8225
Hill Dalit	0.9235	0.9235	0.59	0.5878	0.7557
Tarai Dalit	0.8057	0.8057	0.49	0.4874	0.6466
Newari	0.9896	0.9896	0.89	0.8854	0.9375
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.9674	0.9674	0.85	0.8516	0.9095
Tarai Janajati	0.9630	0.9630	0.64	0.6422	0.8026
Muslim	0.8082	0.8082	0.88	0.8789	0.8436
Others	1.0093	1.0000	0.96	0.9581	0.9790
Total	0.9406	0.9406	0.82	0.8194	0.8800

Of the 97 caste/ethnic groups, Marwadis, Thamias, Tamangs, Punjabis, Darais, Paharis, Rajbansis, Yakhkhas, Badis and Sarkis all have index scores of above 0.95. The Musahar, Bantar, Lodha, Chamar/Harijan/Ram, Khatwe, Dhuniya, Kumhar, Chepang, Bhediyar/Ghaderi and Patharkata groups have the lowest scores.

Overall, Hill Janajatis have the best levels of access to social services while Tarai Dalits have the lowest. Some Hill Dalit groups, however, including the Badi and Sarki, experience higher levels of inclusion.

## 7.3 Economic autonomy

Economic autonomy empowers women in many respects. Women who are economically autonomous are able to play a greater role in household decision making and tend to participate more in the public arena. Women's economic empowerment is measured in terms of access to land ownership and control over economic resources.

### 7.3.1 Land Ownership

Land provides a ready source of income, including access to loans from banks and other financial institutions. Land ownership, therefore, can bring many positive changes to a woman's life. In Nepal, less than 25% of women own land.

Among the broader ethnic groups, Tarai Brahman/Chhetri women, women from other Tarai castes, and Tarai Dalit women experience higher levels of inclusion. These groups are followed by Tarai Janajati and Muslim women. This indicates that women from the Tarai are more likely to own land. The lowest rates of land ownership for women are found among Hill Chhetri and Hill Dalit women. Fewer women of hill origin own land than women of Tarai origin.

Among the caste/ethnic groups, women from the Raute, Nurang, Meche, Dhimal Tajpuriya, Lepcha, Santhal/Satar, Munda, Rajbansi and Patharkatagroups have the best access to land ownership. Women from the Chidimar, Byansi, Thakuri, Raji, Jirel, Lohar, Kisan, Chepang, Kami and Chhetri groups have the least access.

**Table 7.5: Economic Autonomy Index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Land Ownership		Economic Control		Economic Autonomy
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
1	RAUTE	41.4	0.4138	100.0	1.0000	0.7069
2	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	28.8	0.2878	66.7	0.6667	0.4772
3	BADI	16.9	0.1686	58.3	0.5833	0.3759
4	KAYASTHA	22.4	0.2242	52.2	0.5217	0.3729
5	MUSAHAR	23.5	0.2351	50.0	0.5000	0.3675
6	DHIMAL	31.5	0.3146	38.1	0.3810	0.3478
7	PUNJABI/SIKH	25.9	0.2587	43.5	0.4348	0.3467
8	MARWADI	26.9	0.2693	39.3	0.3929	0.3311
9	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	16.1	0.1614	50.0	0.5000	0.3307
10	RAJBANSI	29.0	0.2900	36.6	0.3659	0.3279
11	TAJPURIYA	30.3	0.3030	34.0	0.3404	0.3217
12	BYANGSI	4.3	0.0434	60.0	0.6000	0.3217
13	RAJPUT	20.3	0.2027	43.9	0.4390	0.3208
14	CHHANTYAL	17.7	0.1771	46.2	0.4615	0.3193
15	LODHA	23.1	0.2313	40.0	0.4000	0.3157
16	KAHAR	21.6	0.2158	38.5	0.3846	0.3002
17	GURUNG	22.3	0.2228	37.5	0.3750	0.2989
18	BHOTE	19.7	0.1974	40.0	0.4000	0.2987
19	RAI	22.8	0.2285	36.1	0.3611	0.2948
20	BANGALI	25.5	0.2549	33.3	0.3333	0.2941
21	MECHE	31.5	0.3152	26.7	0.2667	0.2909
22	NURANG	36.7	0.3667	21.4	0.2143	0.2905
23	JIREL	14.9	0.1495	42.3	0.4231	0.2863
24	BANIYA	21.0	0.2097	36.1	0.3611	0.2854
25	GAINE	18.9	0.1894	38.1	0.3810	0.2852
26	THAKALI	18.4	0.1842	37.8	0.3778	0.2810
27	WALUNG	19.4	0.1935	36.8	0.3684	0.2810
28	GANGAI	27.2	0.2716	28.9	0.2895	0.2806
29	THAKURI	11.0	0.1104	44.4	0.4444	0.2774
30	BOTE	23.6	0.2360	31.8	0.3182	0.2771
31	THAMI	19.0	0.1895	36.4	0.3636	0.2766
32	BRAHMAN - TARAI	21.9	0.2193	33.3	0.3333	0.2763
33	DHOBI	21.7	0.2174	33.3	0.3333	0.2754
34	DURA	26.8	0.2679	28.0	0.2800	0.2740
35	KALWAR	21.4	0.2138	33.3	0.3333	0.2736

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Land Ownership		Economic Control		Economic Autonomy
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
36	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	21.1	0.2115	33.3	0.3333	0.2724
37	SANYASI	18.6	0.1865	34.2	0.3421	0.2643
38	YAKKHA	20.7	0.2067	31.4	0.3143	0.2605
39	PAHARI	21.5	0.2151	30.0	0.3000	0.2576
40	DARAI	25.9	0.2586	25.0	0.2500	0.2543
41	KUMHAR	21.1	0.2113	29.4	0.2941	0.2527
42	MAJHI	20.0	0.2001	30.0	0.3000	0.2501
43	KURMI	21.4	0.2136	28.6	0.2857	0.2496
44	THARU	22.2	0.2220	27.7	0.2766	0.2493
45	BANTAR	27.2	0.2724	21.4	0.2143	0.2434
46	BARAE	21.4	0.2136	27.3	0.2727	0.2432
47	KOCHE	23.4	0.2340	25.0	0.2500	0.2420
48	NEWARI	21.4	0.2137	26.9	0.2692	0.2414
49	SUDHI	20.8	0.2076	27.3	0.2727	0.2402
50	DHUNIA	18.8	0.1883	29.2	0.2917	0.2400
51	GHARTI/BHUJEL	21.7	0.2172	25.8	0.2581	0.2376
52	SANTHAL/SATAR	29.3	0.2934	18.2	0.1818	0.2376
53	MUNDA	29.2	0.2916	17.6	0.1765	0.2340
54	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	24.7	0.2473	21.9	0.2188	0.2330
55	HYOLMO	20.1	0.2006	26.1	0.2609	0.2307
56	HILL BRAHMAN	20.4	0.2039	25.0	0.2500	0.2270
57	SHERPA	20.4	0.2039	25.0	0.2500	0.2269
58	CHHETRI	16.4	0.1637	28.0	0.2800	0.2218
59	LIMBU	21.2	0.2123	22.9	0.2286	0.2204
60	DAMAI/DHOLI	18.1	0.1813	25.0	0.2500	0.2157
61	NUNIYA	20.9	0.2086	22.2	0.2222	0.2154
62	DANUWAR	20.3	0.2031	22.7	0.2273	0.2152
63	DHANUK	21.1	0.2112	20.9	0.2093	0.2103
64	MALLAH	21.3	0.2128	20.0	0.2000	0.2064
65	MALI	20.8	0.2076	20.0	0.2000	0.2038
66	BING/BINDA	21.3	0.2127	19.4	0.1935	0.2031
67	TAMANG	20.1	0.2011	20.0	0.2000	0.2006
68	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	26.2	0.2616	13.8	0.1379	0.1997
69	LEPCHA	29.9	0.2991	10.0	0.1000	0.1996
70	DOM	25.1	0.2515	14.3	0.1429	0.1972
71	MUSLIM	22.2	0.2222	16.7	0.1667	0.1944
72	HAYU	19.7	0.1969	17.4	0.1739	0.1854
73	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	21.2	0.2119	15.8	0.1579	0.1849
74	RAJBHAR	26.1	0.2608	10.8	0.1081	0.1844

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S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Land Ownership		Economic Control		Economic Autonomy
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
75	YADAV	21.2	0.2115	15.6	0.1563	0.1839
76	KAMAR	23.3	0.2326	13.3	0.1333	0.1830
77	MAGAR	18.8	0.1882	16.7	0.1667	0.1774
78	TELI	21.7	0.2168	13.6	0.1364	0.1766
79	BRAHMU/BARAMU	18.4	0.1844	16.7	0.1667	0.1755
80	KANU	18.4	0.1843	16.7	0.1667	0.1755
81	HAJAM/THAKUR	21.2	0.2123	12.9	0.1290	0.1707
82	SUNUWAR	20.4	0.2044	13.3	0.1333	0.1689
83	KUMAL	18.4	0.1838	15.4	0.1538	0.1688
84	LOHAR	15.2	0.1517	17.6	0.1765	0.1641
85	KEWAT	24.8	0.2475	8.0	0.0800	0.1638
86	KAMI	16.3	0.1632	15.0	0.1500	0.1566
87	BADHAE	22.8	0.2275	8.0	0.0800	0.1538
88	HALKHOR	25.5	0.2552	3.6	0.0357	0.1454
89	HALUWAI	22.7	0.2269	5.9	0.0588	0.1429
90	CHIDIMAR	0.0	0.0000	28.6	0.2857	0.1429
91	TATMA	19.0	0.1897	8.6	0.0857	0.1377
92	KHATWE	20.8	0.2077	6.7	0.0667	0.1372
93	KOIRI	21.5	0.2152	5.9	0.0588	0.1370
94	SONAR	21.6	0.2157	4.8	0.0476	0.1317
95	SARKI	17.3	0.1729	7.7	0.0769	0.1249
96	KISAN	16.1	0.1605	0.0	0.0000	0.0803
97	RAJI	14.7	0.1474	0.0	0.0000	0.0737
	Total	19.7	0.1971	24.7	0.2473	0.2222

### 7.3.2 Economic Control

Control over assets and productive resources are other important aspects of social inclusion. Women who have control over domestic expenditure, have the freedom to spend, save or invest in ways which will serve them best.

Table 7.6 shows that among the broader social groups, Tarai Brahman/Chhetri women have the highest levels of economic control followed by Chhetri and Tarai Janajati. The situation is less positive for Hill Dalit, Tarai other caste and Muslim women.

Looking at the 97 caste/ethnic groups, women from the Raute, Patharkata, Byansi, Badi, Kayastha, Musahar, Chepang, Rajput, Chhantyal and Thakurigroups hold the top ten index positions (table 7.5). The bottom ten groups are Kisan, Raji, Sonar, Koiri, Haluwai, Khatwe, Sarki, Badhae and Kewat women.

### 7.3.3 Economic Autonomy Index by broad social group

TaraiBrahman/Chhetri and Tarai Janajati women score highest on the economic autonomy index (Table 7.6). They are followed by Newari women. Hill Dalit women, women from other Tarai castes, and Muslim women score lowest.

Economic autonomy measured in terms of landownership and economic control is highest for Raute, Pattharkata, Badi, Kayastha, Musahar, Dhimal, Punjabi Shikh, Marwadi, Chepang and Rajbansi women. Women with the lowest index values are from the Raji, Kisan, Sarki, Sonar, Koiri, Khatwe, Tatma, Chidimar, Haluwai and Halkhor groups. There is a wide economic autonomy gap across caste/ethnic groups.

**Table 7.6: Economic Autonomy Index by broad social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Land Ownership		Economic Control		Economic Autonomy
	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	20.4	0.2039	25.0	0.2500	0.2270
Hill Chhetri	16.0	0.1599	29.0	0.2896	0.2247
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	21.7	0.2169	39.2	0.3924	0.3046
Tarai Other Caste	21.2	0.2125	17.6	0.1763	0.1944
Hill Dalit	16.9	0.1691	16.3	0.1635	0.1663
Tarai Dalit	21.9	0.2192	21.0	0.2096	0.2144
Newari	21.4	0.2137	26.9	0.2692	0.2414
Mountain/Hill Janajati	20.3	0.2026	26.2	0.2617	0.2321
Tarai Janajati	23.0	0.2296	27.4	0.2735	0.2516
Muslim	22.2	0.2222	16.7	0.1667	0.1944
Others	26.4	0.2639	27.7	0.2774	0.2707
Total	19.7	0.1971	24.7	0.2473	0.2222

## 7.4 Participation and Decision Making

The participation and decision-making index shows levels of inclusion of women across three domains: women with professional/technical jobs, political participation, and representation in the national bureaucracy. Women who participate in these sectors are likely to enjoy a higher standard of living.

### 7.4.1 Women in professional and technical / skilled job

Women's levels of access to professional/technical jobs differ among the broader groups. Access levels are highest for Newari women followed by Mountain/Hill Janajati women. Muslim women have the lowest levels of access.

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, women from the Walung, Lepcha, Dura, Dom, Chamar, Gurung, Yakkha, Halkhor, Tajpuriya and Raigroups have the highest levels of access. Women from the Hayu, Kamar, Raj, Santhal/Satar, Badhae, Nuniya, Bing/Bind, Gaine, Kumhar, and Hyolmogroups have the lowest levels of access.

### 7.4.2 Political Participation

Political participation gives women the opportunity to directly influence national and local decision making processes. However, levels of women's participation are low. The highest levels of inclusion are experienced by Newari women, followed by women from other Tarai castes, and Chhetri women. Muslim women have the lowest index scores indicating low levels of political inclusion.

Among the 97 ethnic groups Garti/Bhujel, Sunuwar, and Newari women enjoy the high levels of political inclusion. It is heartening to note that the women with the highest level of political

inclusion come from one of the other Tarai caste groups. Inclusion levels for Tarai Dalit and Muslim women, however, are very low. Many of the women from the caste/ethnic groups listed in Table 7.7 do not participate in politics or in political decision making.

**Table 7.7: Political Participation and Decision Making index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Women in Professional/ Technical Jobs		Political Participation		Representation in the National Bureaucracy		Political Participation and Decision Making
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
1	DURA	56.2	1.0000			52.9	1.0000	1.0000
2	LEPCHA	51.3	1.0000					1.0000
3	WALUNG	89.2	1.0000					1.0000
4	HALKHOR	44.0	0.8808			100.0	1.0000	0.9404
5	YAKKHA	44.4	0.8886			34.8	0.6957	0.7921
6	SUNUWAR	35.9	0.7187	50.0	1.0000	31.5	0.6299	0.7829
7	BADI	37.1	0.7421					0.7421
8	DOM	46.0	0.9203			28.0	0.5600	0.7402
9	DHUNIA	18.1	0.3618			50.0	1.0000	0.6809
10	RAI	41.2	0.8250	21.7	0.4348	32.7	0.6534	0.6377
11	GHARTI/BHUJEL	30.6	0.6119	100.0	1.0000	12.9	0.2572	0.6230
12	NEWARI	39.1	0.7821	27.0	0.5397	24.1	0.4815	0.6011
13	GURUNG	45.2	0.9049	9.5	0.1905	33.1	0.6621	0.5858
14	THAKALI	40.4	0.8085	16.7	0.3333	28.3	0.5652	0.5690
15	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	28.0	0.5599					0.5599
16	MUSAHAR	31.8	0.6364	33.3	0.6667	18.5	0.3704	0.5578
17	BHOTE	33.6	0.6714			21.1	0.4211	0.5462
18	JIREL	32.3	0.6455			17.5	0.3500	0.4978
19	LIMBU	38.5	0.7696	10.0	0.2000	24.4	0.4883	0.4860
20	THAMI	35.3	0.7051			12.5	0.2500	0.4776
21	SARKI	33.8	0.6753	25.0	0.5000	12.7	0.2542	0.4765
22	MAGAR	38.2	0.7646	14.3	0.2857	17.1	0.3419	0.4641
23	KOCHE	31.4	0.6282			14.3	0.2857	0.4569
24	BYANGSI	45.3	0.9065			0.0	0.0000	0.4533
25	LODHA	30.9	0.6178			14.3	0.2857	0.4517
26	PUNJABI/SIKH	11.5	0.2306			33.3	0.6667	0.4486
27	TAJPURIYA	44.0	0.8800			0.0	0.0000	0.4400
28	MECHE	26.4	0.5275	20.0	0.4000	18.7	0.3743	0.4339
29	GAINE	9.8	0.1956			33.3	0.6667	0.4312
30	SANYASI	32.0	0.6395	18.2	0.3636	13.9	0.2786	0.4272
31	KALWAR	23.3	0.4662	33.3	0.6667	7.4	0.1488	0.4272
32	BRAHMU/BARAMU	22.5	0.4494			20.0	0.4000	0.4247
33	CHHANTYAL	36.9	0.7378	0.0	0.0000	26.7	0.5333	0.4237
34	CHHETRI	32.4	0.6481	16.5	0.3308	14.3	0.2858	0.4216

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Women in Professional/ Technical Jobs		Political Participation		Representation in the National Bureaucracy		Political Participation and Decision Making
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
35	GANGAI	22.0	0.4390			20.0	0.4000	0.4195
36	TAMANG	34.7	0.6945	8.1	0.1622	19.5	0.3904	0.4157
37	DHIMAL	21.9	0.4374			19.5	0.3902	0.4138
38	THAKURI	33.8	0.6766	11.4	0.2286	16.8	0.3351	0.4134
39	SHERPA	35.8	0.7160	0.0	0.0000	24.2	0.4835	0.3998
40	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	39.9	0.7970			0.0	0.0000	0.3985
41	TELI	11.9	0.2374	42.9	0.8571	4.3	0.0869	0.3938
42	DAMAI/DHOLI	37.6	0.7513	0.0	0.0000	21.1	0.4218	0.3910
43	DANUWAR	25.8	0.5163			12.5	0.2500	0.3831
44	HILL BRAHMAN	28.9	0.5782	10.4	0.2083	17.4	0.3479	0.3782
45	KAMI	31.8	0.6363	10.0	0.2000	14.9	0.2973	0.3779
46	KAYASTHA	17.3	0.3464	25.0	0.5000	12.4	0.2487	0.3650
47	RAJBANSI	25.6	0.5118	14.3	0.2857	13.3	0.2667	0.3547
48	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	13.7	0.2738			21.4	0.4286	0.3512
49	BANTAR	27.7	0.5539			7.1	0.1429	0.3484
50	MAJHI	23.2	0.4637			9.3	0.1864	0.3251
51	KOIRI	17.2	0.3430	25.0	0.5000	5.7	0.1146	0.3192
52	PAHARI	15.7	0.3145			16.0	0.3191	0.3168
53	RAJPUT	19.6	0.3923	12.5	0.2500	13.4	0.2686	0.3036
54	THARU	26.6	0.5322	8.5	0.1702	10.4	0.2070	0.3031
55	DARAI	30.7	0.6147	0.0	0.0000	14.3	0.2857	0.3001
56	MALI	22.6	0.4519			7.3	0.1463	0.2991
57	BOTE	16.9	0.3378			12.5	0.2500	0.2939
58	KAHAR	20.0	0.3999			7.8	0.1569	0.2784
59	SUDHI	13.8	0.2763	25.0	0.5000	2.3	0.0465	0.2743
60	SANTHAL/SATAR	25.6	0.5125			0.0	0.0000	0.2562
61	KUMAL	30.3	0.6067	0.0	0.0000	7.3	0.1467	0.2511
62	KUMHAR	10.4	0.2084	25.0	0.5000	0.7	0.0135	0.2406
63	BRAHMAN-TARAI	20.0	0.3990	4.2	0.0833	9.1	0.1817	0.2213
64	NUNIYA	7.5	0.1508			14.3	0.2857	0.2182
65	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	12.1	0.2424	16.7	0.3333	3.7	0.0741	0.2166
66	BADHAE	7.2	0.1430			14.3	0.2857	0.2144
67	HYOLMO	10.4	0.2082					0.2082
68	BANGALI	23.1	0.4618	0.0	0.0000	8.1	0.1622	0.2080
69	CHAMAR, HARI-JAN, RAM	22.9	0.4588	0.0	0.0000	6.6	0.1314	0.1967
70	KHATWE	28.4	0.5681	0.0	0.0000	0.0	0.0000	0.1894
71	YADAV	14.7	0.2948	7.0	0.1404	6.0	0.1193	0.1848
72	BANIYA	16.4	0.3277	0.0	0.0000	10.7	0.2145	0.1807



S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Women in Professional/ Technical Jobs		Political Participation		Representation in the National Bureaucracy		Political Participation and Decision Making
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
73	BARAE	14.3	0.2869			3.7	0.0741	0.1805
74	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	17.1	0.3423			0.0	0.0000	0.1712
75	BING/BINDA	9.0	0.1800	0.0	0.0000	16.7	0.3333	0.1711
76	RAJI	0.0	0.0000	0.0	0.0000	25.0	0.5000	0.1667
77	KISAN					8.2	0.1647	0.1647
78	KEWAT	13.6	0.2719			2.7	0.0541	0.1630
79	MUSLIM	12.5	0.2504	8.0	0.1600	3.2	0.0638	0.1581
80	MARWADI	14.6	0.2914	0.0	0.0000	8.8	0.1750	0.1555
81	LOHAR	16.5	0.3308	0.0	0.0000	6.7	0.1333	0.1547
82	DHANUK	17.7	0.3534	0.0	0.0000	4.7	0.0934	0.1489
83	MALLAH	11.6	0.2326			2.7	0.0548	0.1437
84	TATMA	21.5	0.4301	0.0	0.0000	0.0	0.0000	0.1434
85	MUNDA	20.4	0.4077					0.1359
86	DHOBI	15.1	0.3012	0.0	0.0000	4.5	0.0909	0.1307
87	HALUWAI	11.6	0.2327	0.0	0.0000	7.0	0.1393	0.1240
88	SONAR	12.1	0.2429			0.0	0.0000	0.1214
89	HAJAM/THAKUR	13.1	0.2625	0.0	0.0000	4.8	0.0969	0.1198
90	KURMI	14.2	0.2843	0.0	0.0000	2.9	0.0585	0.1143
91	RAJBHAR	17.0	0.3391			0.0	0.0000	0.1130
92	KANU	10.5	0.2109			0.0	0.0000	0.1054
93	CHIDIMAR					0.0	0.0000	0.0000
94	HAYU	0.0	0.0000			0.0	0.0000	0.0000
95	KAMAR	0.0	0.0000			0.0	0.0000	0.0000
96	RAUTE	0.0	0.0000					0.0000
97	NURANG							
	<b>Total</b>	30.5	0.6097	13.2	0.2634	15.8	0.3166	0.3966

#### 7.4.3 Representation in the national bureaucracy

Far fewer women work for Nepal's civil service than men – only one in seven bureaucrats is female. This information is important in the assessment of gender inclusion in the national bureaucracy. The highest levels of representation are found among Newari and Hill/Mountain Janajati women. Muslim women have the lowest levels of representation.

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, Dura, Halkhor, Dhuniya, Gaine, Panjabi, Gurung, Rai, Yakka, Sunuwar, Dom, and Musahar women are the best represented while Tatma, Sonar, Chidimar, Hayu, Kamar, Rajnhar, Bhediar, Khatwe, Barai, and Santhal/Satar women are the worst represented.

#### 7.4.4 Participation and Decision- Making Index by broad social group

Among the broad social groups, levels of political participation are highest for Newari women, followed by Mountain/Hill Janajati women. The lowest levels of participation can be seen among Muslim women, and women from other Tarai caste groups.

**Table 7.8: Political Participation and Decision Making index by broad social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Women with Professional/ Technical Jobs		Political Participation		Representation in the National Bureaucracy		Political Participation and Decision Making
	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	28.9	0.5782	10.4	0.2083	17.4	0.3479	0.3782
Hill Chhetri	32.5	0.6505	15.6	0.3128	14.4	0.2886	0.4173
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	19.1	0.3829	10.0	0.2000	11.0	0.2198	0.2676
Tarai Other Caste	14.6	0.2926	16.7	0.3333	5.3	0.1069	0.2443
Hill Dalit	33.3	0.6657	10.7	0.2143	15.9	0.3174	0.3991
Tarai Dalit	21.6	0.4319	11.1	0.2222	7.4	0.1471	0.2670
Newari	39.1	0.7821	27.0	0.5397	24.1	0.4815	0.6011
Mountain/Hill Janajati	38.2	0.7632	13.0	0.2597	22.0	0.4400	0.4877
Tarai Janajati	25.7	0.5140	8.7	0.1739	9.9	0.1979	0.2953
Muslim	12.5	0.2504	8.0	0.1600	3.2	0.0638	0.1581
Others	16.7	0.3333	0.0	0.0000	8.8	0.1753	0.1696
Total	30.5	0.6097	13.2	0.2634	15.8	0.3166	0.3966

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, Dura, Lepcha, Walung, Halkhor, Yakhkha, Sunuwar, Badi, Dom, Dhuniya and Rai women enjoy the highest levels of political participation while Raute, Kamar, Hayu, Kanu, Rajbhar, Kurmi, Hajam, Sonar, Halwai, Dhobi and Munda women have the lowest levels.

## 7.5 Gender Dimension Index

The Gender Dimension Index is a composite index reflecting levels of gender inclusion for women from Nepal's caste/ethnic groups. Among the broader groups, Newars, Hill Janajatis, Hill Brahmans and Hill Chhetris enjoy the highest levels of inclusion and have gender index scores. Tarai Dalits have the lowest index score among these groups.

**Table 7.9: Gender Dimension Index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Non-Violence	Access to Social Services	Economic Autonomy	Political Participation and Decision Making	Gender Dimension
	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	0.6215	0.8874	0.2270	0.3782	0.5285
Hill Chhetri	0.5890	0.9349	0.2247	0.4173	0.5415
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	0.4896	0.8751	0.3046	0.2676	0.4842
Tarai Other Caste	0.3572	0.8225	0.1944	0.2443	0.4046
Hill Dalit	0.6176	0.7557	0.1663	0.3991	0.4847
Tarai Dalit	0.2738	0.6466	0.2144	0.2670	0.3505
Newari	0.5236	0.9375	0.2414	0.6011	0.5759
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.5771	0.9095	0.2321	0.4877	0.5516
Tarai Janajati	0.4772	0.8026	0.2516	0.2953	0.4566
Muslim	0.5373	0.8436	0.1944	0.1581	0.4333
Others	0.6112	0.9790	0.2707	0.1696	0.5076
Total	0.5353	0.8800	0.2222	0.3966	0.5085

**Table 7.10: GenderDimension Index by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Non-Violence	Access to Social Services	Economic Autonomy	Political Participation and Decision Making	Gender Dimension
		Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
1	WALUNG	0.5724	0.9287	0.2810	1.0000	0.6955
2	BADI	0.6410	0.9646	0.3759	0.7421	0.6809
3	LEPCHA	0.6473	0.8367	0.1996	1.0000	0.6709
4	YAKKHA	0.6432	0.9659	0.2605	0.7921	0.6654
5	DURA	0.5039	0.8233	0.2740	1.0000	0.6503
6	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.7896	0.9830	0.3467	0.4486	0.6420
7	THAKALI	0.7338	0.8997	0.2810	0.5690	0.6209
8	BYANGSI	0.8176	0.8840	0.3217	0.4533	0.6192
9	GURUNG	0.6162	0.9577	0.2989	0.5858	0.6147
10	RAI	0.5393	0.9185	0.2948	0.6377	0.5976
11	BHOTE	0.5840	0.9518	0.2987	0.5462	0.5952
12	SUNUWAR	0.5599	0.8644	0.1689	0.7829	0.5940
13	NEWARI	0.5236	0.9375	0.2414	0.6011	0.5759
14	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.6652	0.7759	0.2376	0.6230	0.5754
15	THAMI	0.5475	0.9965	0.2766	0.4776	0.5746
16	SANYASI	0.6501	0.9486	0.2643	0.4272	0.5726
17	PAHARI	0.7153	0.9747	0.2576	0.3168	0.5661
18	THAKURI	0.6880	0.8744	0.2774	0.4134	0.5633
19	RAJBANSI	0.5899	0.9701	0.3279	0.3547	0.5607
20	JIREL	0.6303	0.8186	0.2863	0.4978	0.5582
21	MECHE	0.6946	0.7953	0.2909	0.4339	0.5537
22	KAYASTHA	0.5592	0.8982	0.3729	0.3650	0.5488
23	DHIMAL	0.5425	0.8824	0.3478	0.4138	0.5466
24	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.7741	0.8119	0.1755	0.4247	0.5466
25	SARKI	0.6263	0.9581	0.1249	0.4765	0.5465
26	DARAI	0.6424	0.9774	0.2543	0.3001	0.5436
27	RAUTE	0.5333	0.9150	0.7069	0.0000	0.5388
28	TAMANG	0.5500	0.9875	0.2006	0.4157	0.5385
29	CHHETRI	0.5768	0.9326	0.2218	0.4216	0.5382
30	CHHANTYAL	0.7605	0.6418	0.3193	0.4237	0.5363
31	MARWADI	0.6408	1.0000	0.3311	0.1555	0.5318
32	SHERPA	0.6080	0.8899	0.2269	0.3998	0.5312
33	HILL BRAHMAN	0.6215	0.8874	0.2270	0.3782	0.5285
34	LIMBU	0.5277	0.8647	0.2204	0.4860	0.5247
35	BOTE	0.6022	0.8912	0.2771	0.2939	0.5161
36	MAGAR	0.5835	0.8352	0.1774	0.4641	0.5151
37	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.7542	0.6118	0.3307	0.3512	0.5120
38	GAINE	0.6423	0.6885	0.2852	0.4312	0.5118
39	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.6698	0.7502	0.2157	0.3910	0.5067

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Non-Violence	Access to Social Services	Economic Autonomy	Political Participation and Decision Making	Gender Dimension
		Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
40	KALWAR	0.4681	0.8562	0.2736	0.4272	0.5063
41	HYOLMO	0.6413	0.9350	0.2307	0.2082	0.5038
42	KUMAL	0.6886	0.8696	0.1688	0.2511	0.4945
43	MAJHI	0.6198	0.7672	0.2501	0.3251	0.4905
44	KOCHE	0.5055	0.7437	0.2420	0.4569	0.4870
45	TELI	0.4175	0.9519	0.1766	0.3938	0.4849
46	RAJPUT	0.4993	0.8133	0.3208	0.3036	0.4843
47	DANUWAR	0.5395	0.7905	0.2152	0.3831	0.4821
48	BANGALI	0.6243	0.7851	0.2941	0.2080	0.4779
49	GANGAI	0.3976	0.7978	0.2806	0.4195	0.4739
50	HALKHOR	0.1281	0.6798	0.1454	0.9404	0.4734
51	TAJPURIYA	0.4312	0.6711	0.3217	0.4400	0.4660
52	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.4628	0.8919	0.2763	0.2213	0.4631
53	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.1922	0.6208	0.4772	0.5599	0.4625
54	THARU	0.4912	0.8026	0.2493	0.3031	0.4616
55	KAMI	0.5915	0.7176	0.1566	0.3779	0.4609
56	DHUNIA	0.3618	0.5606	0.2400	0.6809	0.4608
57	SUDHI	0.4512	0.8587	0.2402	0.2743	0.4561
58	BANIYA	0.4679	0.8850	0.2854	0.1807	0.4548
59	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.5126	0.7644	0.2376	0.2562	0.4427
60	DOM	0.1883	0.6375	0.1972	0.7402	0.4408
61	MUSLIM	0.5373	0.8436	0.1944	0.1581	0.4333
62	MALI	0.3333	0.8896	0.2038	0.2991	0.4315
63	KOIRI	0.4230	0.8228	0.1370	0.3192	0.4255
64	NURANG	0.3165	0.6346	0.2905		0.4139
65	NUNIYA	0.3435	0.8712	0.2154	0.2182	0.4121
66	MUNDA	0.5258	0.7411	0.2340	0.1359	0.4092
67	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.3792	0.6449	0.1997	0.3985	0.4056
68	LOHAR	0.4897	0.8056	0.1641	0.1547	0.4035
69	RAJI	0.5541	0.7979	0.0737	0.1667	0.3981
70	BARAE	0.2722	0.8937	0.2432	0.1805	0.3974
71	HAYU	0.6111	0.7875	0.1854	0.0000	0.3960
72	LODHA	0.2523	0.5409	0.3157	0.4517	0.3902
73	KUMHAR	0.4336	0.5996	0.2527	0.2406	0.3816
74	KANU	0.4181	0.8235	0.1755	0.1054	0.3806
75	HALUWAI	0.3684	0.8852	0.1429	0.1240	0.3801
76	YADAV	0.3390	0.8091	0.1839	0.1848	0.3792
77	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.4172	0.8067	0.1707	0.1198	0.3786
78	KAHAR	0.2070	0.7139	0.3002	0.2784	0.3749
79	KISAN	0.5736	0.6786	0.0803	0.1647	0.3743

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Gender Non-Violence	Access to Social Services	Economic Autonomy	Political Participation and Decision Making	Gender Dimension
		Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
80	BANTAR	0.3954	0.4878	0.2434	0.3484	0.3687
81	DHOBI	0.3562	0.6982	0.2754	0.1307	0.3651
82	MUSAHAR	0.1498	0.3696	0.3675	0.5578	0.3612
83	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.4247	0.6133	0.2330	0.1712	0.3606
84	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	0.3297	0.7000	0.1849	0.2166	0.3578
85	MALLAH	0.3048	0.7759	0.2064	0.1437	0.3577
86	SONAR	0.3092	0.8561	0.1317	0.1214	0.3546
87	CHIDIMAR	0.3478	0.8896	0.1429	0.0000	0.3451
88	DHANUK	0.3268	0.6897	0.2103	0.1489	0.3439
89	BADHAE	0.1967	0.7999	0.1538	0.2144	0.3412
90	RAJBHAR	0.4150	0.6433	0.1844	0.1130	0.3389
91	KURMI	0.2283	0.7396	0.2496	0.1143	0.3330
92	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.3083	0.5496	0.2724	0.1967	0.3318
93	BING/BINDA	0.2517	0.6888	0.2031	0.1711	0.3287
94	KEWAT	0.1938	0.7198	0.1638	0.1630	0.3101
95	KAMAR	0.3622	0.6895	0.1830	0.0000	0.3087
96	TATMA	0.1689	0.7576	0.1377	0.1434	0.3019
97	KHATWE	0.2521	0.5500	0.1372	0.1894	0.2822
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.5353</b>	<b>0.8800</b>	<b>0.2222</b>	<b>0.3966</b>	<b>0.5085</b>

Table 7.10 shows the gender inclusion index for the 97 caste/ethnic groups. Groups with the highest index values are the Walung, Badi, Lepcha, Yakhkha, Dura, Punjabi, Thakali, yansi, Gurung and Rai. Those with the lowest index values are the Dhanuk, Badhae, Rajbhar, Kurmi, Chamar/Harijan/Ram, Bing/Binda, Kewat, Kamar, Tatma, and Khatwe.

## 7.6 Conclusion

Gender inclusion encompasses a number of elements related to the empowerment of women and is one of the most important aspects of social inclusion in the current national debate. Despite its apparent importance, gender inclusion rates for women are still relatively low.

Among the broader groups, Newars enjoy the highest levels of gender inclusion, while Tarai Dalits have the lowest. Disaggregated data shows that the Walung, Badi and Lepcha groups are the most gender inclusive while the Kamar, Tatma, and Khatwe are the least gender inclusive groups. The index shows that none of the caste/ethnic groups scores highly across all gender inclusion indicators suggesting that none of the groups is totally gender inclusive.

# THE SOCIAL COHESION INDEX

## 8.1 Introduction

The UNDP Human Development Report of 2004 frames social exclusion as cultural exclusion. It outlines two forms of cultural exclusion – living mode exclusion and participation exclusion. Living mode exclusion occurs when the state or social custom denigrates or suppresses a group’s culture, including its language, religion, traditional practices or lifestyle. Participation exclusion refers to discrimination or disadvantage based on cultural identity such as ethnicity, language or religion. Cultural exclusion is operated through discriminatory policies instituted by the state, and social practices based on past discrimination that have not been addressed (such as the concept that some people are ‘untouchable’ in Nepal’s caste system). A 2006 World Bank and DfID report identifies social exclusion in Nepal that is based on gender, caste, ethnicity/race, language, religion, and geo-politics. The government of Nepal acknowledges that social exclusion is one of the barriers to social and economic development in the country. The Tenth Plan (2003–2007) recognizes caste and ethnicity, gender, and geographical location as the dimensions of social exclusion, and proposes inclusive policy measures to address the situation (NPC, 2003)<sup>10</sup>.

Discrimination is closely linked to human dignity and respect which in turn reflect the status of human value and self-respect in a society. Exclusion exists in societies that construct prejudices of dominance, denial, or restriction. Targets of such prejudices are factors such as ethnicity and caste, gender, place of residence, and color of skin/race. Such discriminatory practices induced by social values and norms are the focus of this chapter. Indices developed to measure degrees of social cohesion are presented as a composite social cohesion dimension index (SCDI). This composite index is compiled from the Social Sphere index (SSI), and Social Respect/Identity index (SRII). The analysis proceeds on two levels, first, the broader social groups, and then 97 different caste and ethnic groups.

## 8.2 Social Sphere Index (SSI)

This dimensional index deals with denial of entry based on identity as a form of discrimination. Much of this discrimination concerns caste and the concept of being ‘untouchable’, although other discriminatory behavior based on differences in ethnicity, religion, traditional practices, region of residence and economic class is also covered. Denial of entry is defined as: a) denial of entry into a private house; b) denial of entry into a religious place; c) denial of entry into the life of a community. These elements are measured in terms of non-discrimination. An index is computed for each element separately, and then aggregated into the Social Sphere Index (SSI). All indices are based on experiences reported by respondents.

### 8.2.1 Entry into a private house

This index reveals two unsurprising extremes: firstly, that Hill Brahmins have an index of 0.9934, indicating virtually no one from this group faces discrimination; secondly that Hill Dalits have an

10. NPC (2003). The Tenth Plan (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper) 2003-2007. Kathmandu: National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal.

index of 0.1710 indicating that nearly everyone from this group faces discrimination (Table 8.1). Hill Brahmans are closely followed by Tarai Janajatis (0.9639). Muslims and Tarai Dalits appear towards the bottom of the index. Other Tarai castes, Tarai/Hill Janajatis, Tarai Brahman/Chhetris and Hill Chhetris have index values that range between 0.7915 and 0.8896.

### 8.2.2 Entry into religious places

The index dealing with entry into religious places shows that Hill Brahmans have an index value of 1 indicating that they experience the highest level of social cohesion. The index values for Newars and for Tarai Brahman/Chhetris are similar. Hill Dalits face higher levels of discrimination when attempting to gain entry to the religious places of their faith and have an index value of 0.7147.

### 8.2.3 Permitted to participate in the life of the community

Permission to participate in the life of the community is defined as non-discrimination in public places and thoroughfares including markets, drinking water sources, schools, public meeting halls and other community meeting spaces, and local offices. The index is 1.0 for Hill Brahmans and Tarai Brahman/Chhetris which means that every person from these groups is permitted to participate in community life (Table 8.1). These groups are closely followed by Hill Chhetris (0.9997). The index score for Hill Dalits is 0.3416 indicating that fewer people from this group are permitted to participate in the life of the community in cases when they are different from others in terms of caste/ethnicity, language, religion, traditional practices, etc.

### 8.2.4 Social Sphere Index (SSI)

The Social Sphere Index is a domain level index that is a composite of the three indices described above (Table 8.1). SSI is highest for Hill Brahmans (0.9978); Hill Dalits score 0.4091 and Tarai Janajatis 0.9705. Tarai Dalits have a slightly higher index (0.6496) than Hill Dalits. Mountain/Hill and Tarai Janajatis and other Tarai castes have a mid-level Social Sphere index score.

**Table 8.1: Social Sphere Index by its components by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Entry Into Private House		Entry Into Religious Place		Permission to Participate in Community Life		Social Sphere Domain
	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	99.3	.9934	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	0.9978
Hill Chhetri	79.1	.7915	91.8	.9179	100.0	.9997	0.9030
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	85.0	.8500	98.0	.9803	100.0	1.0000	0.9435
Tarai Other Caste	89.0	.8896	96.8	.9684	97.7	.9766	0.9449
Hill Dalit	17.1	.1710	71.5	.7147	34.2	.3416	0.4091
Tarai Dalit	31.7	.3169	84.0	.8403	79.1	.7914	0.6496
Newari	92.8	.9276	99.3	.9934	96.1	.9605	0.9605
Mountain/Hill Janajati	85.2	.8518	93.3	.9328	90.4	.9037	0.8961
Tarai Janajati	96.4	.9639	97.4	.9737	97.4	.9740	0.9705
Muslim	52.6	.5263	92.1	.9211	74.3	.7434	0.7303
Others	98.3	.9834	99.5	.9953	96.1	.9612	0.9800
Total	79.3	.7933	93.1	.9306	90.2	.9021	0.8754

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, Hill Brahmans and Thakuris, Tajpurias (Tarai Janajati), and some other Tarai castes such as Nurangs, Kewats, Nuniyas, and Baniyasmake up the top ten (table 8.2). Groups with the lowest index values are all Dalits from both the hills (Badi, Gaine, Kami, Damai/Dholi, and Sarki) and the Tarai (Halkhor, Tatma, Khatwe, Musahar, and Dom).

**Table 8.2: Social Sphere Index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Entry Into Private House		Entry Into Religious Place		Permission to Participate in Community		Social Sphere Domain
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
1	HILL BRAHMAN	99.3	.9934	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	0.9978
2	NUNIYA	100.0	1.0000	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	0.9934
3	NURANG	98.0	.9801	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	0.9934
4	BANIYA	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	99.3	.9934	0.9912
5	TAJPURIYA	98.7	.9868	99.3	.9934	99.3	.9934	0.9912
6	HALUWAI	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	98.7	.9868	0.9890
7	KEWAT	100.0	1.0000	96.7	.9671	100.0	1.0000	0.9890
8	THAKURI	96.7	.9671	99.3	.9934	100.0	1.0000	0.9868
9	BANGALI	97.4	.9737	99.3	.9934	99.3	.9934	0.9868
10	TELI	100.0	1.0000	96.0	.9603	100.0	1.0000	0.9868
11	BYANGSI	100.0	1.0000	96.1	.9605	98.7	.9868	0.9825
12	RAJBHAR	94.7	.9474	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	0.9825
13	BHEDIYAR/ GADERI	95.4	.9539	100.0	1.0000	99.3	.9934	0.9825
14	KAYASTHA	100.0	1.0000	94.7	.9474	100.0	1.0000	0.9825
15	DARAI	97.4	.9737	99.3	.9934	98.0	.9803	0.9825
16	DHIMAL	98.0	.9803	98.7	.9868	98.0	.9803	0.9825
17	PUNJABI/SIKH	98.0	.9803	97.4	.9737	99.3	.9934	0.9825
18	THARU	99.3	.9934	98.0	.9803	97.4	.9737	0.9825
19	JIREL	94.7	.9474	100.0	1.0000	99.3	.9934	0.9803
20	SHERPA	94.7	.9474	99.3	.9934	100.0	1.0000	0.9803
21	MALI	95.4	.9536	98.0	.9801	100.0	1.0000	0.9779
22	HYOLMO	96.1	.9605	99.3	.9934	97.4	.9737	0.9759
23	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	94.1	.9408	0.9737
24	SUDHI	99.3	.9934	94.1	.9408	98.7	.9868	0.9737
25	HAJAM/THAKUR	92.7	.9272	100.0	1.0000	99.3	.9934	0.9735
26	BARAE	96.7	.9671	95.4	.9539	99.3	.9934	0.9715
27	GHARTI/BHUJEL	94.7	.9474	98.7	.9868	98.0	.9803	0.9715
28	MECHE	93.4	.9342	99.3	.9934	98.0	.9803	0.9693
29	MARWADI	98.7	.9868	97.0	.9704	94.7	.9474	0.9682
30	KANU	96.1	.9605	95.4	.9539	98.7	.9868	0.9671
31	CHIDIMAR	96.7	.9671	93.4	.9342	99.3	.9934	0.9649
32	BRAHMU/BARAMU	89.5	.8947	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	0.9649
33	HAYU	99.3	.9934	100.0	1.0000	90.1	.9013	0.9649



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S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Entry Into Private House		Entry Into Religious Place		Permission to Participate in Community		Social Sphere Domain
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
34	SONAR	99.3	.9934	92.1	.9211	98.0	.9803	0.9649
35	RAJI	95.4	.9539	94.7	.9474	98.7	.9868	0.9627
36	GURUNG	92.8	.9276	96.1	.9605	100.0	1.0000	0.9627
37	NEWARI	92.8	.9276	99.3	.9934	96.1	.9605	0.9605
38	KOCHE	86.2	.8618	100.0	1.0000	100.0	1.0000	0.9539
39	RAJBANSI	89.5	.8947	96.7	.9671	100.0	1.0000	0.9539
40	SANYASI	89.5	.8947	97.4	.9737	99.3	.9934	0.9539
41	BANTAR	93.4	.9342	95.4	.9539	96.7	.9671	0.9518
42	RAJPUT	86.1	.8609	99.3	.9934	100.0	1.0000	0.9514
43	GANGAI	86.8	.8684	98.0	.9803	100.0	1.0000	0.9496
44	LEPCHA	87.5	.8750	98.0	.9803	99.3	.9934	0.9496
45	DHANUK	91.4	.9145	93.4	.9342	98.0	.9803	0.9430
46	MUNDA	87.5	.8750	96.7	.9671	98.0	.9803	0.9408
47	YADAV	89.5	.8947	96.7	.9671	95.4	.9539	0.9386
48	KUMHAR	95.4	.9539	92.1	.9211	93.4	.9342	0.9364
49	BOTE	87.5	.8750	98.7	.9868	94.1	.9408	0.9342
50	SUNUWAR	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	82.2	.8224	0.9342
51	BING/BINDA	84.9	.8487	98.7	.9868	95.4	.9539	0.9298
52	BRAHMAN - TARAI	79.6	.7961	98.7	.9868	100.0	1.0000	0.9276
53	KOIRI	80.3	.8026	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	0.9276
54	LODHA	78.3	.7829	96.7	.9671	100.0	1.0000	0.9167
55	MAGAR	86.2	.8618	88.8	.8882	100.0	1.0000	0.9167
56	MALLAH	76.3	.7632	99.3	.9934	98.7	.9868	0.9145
57	KAMAR	78.9	.7895	96.1	.9605	98.7	.9868	0.9123
58	TAMANG	84.2	.8421	95.4	.9539	92.8	.9276	0.9079
59	THAMI	86.8	.8684	95.4	.9539	90.1	.9013	0.9079
60	KALWAR	82.2	.8224	94.7	.9474	94.1	.9408	0.9035
61	DURA	77.0	.7697	97.4	.9737	96.1	.9605	0.9013
62	LOHAR	76.3	.7632	98.7	.9868	94.7	.9474	0.8991
63	DANUWAR	85.5	.8553	87.5	.8750	96.1	.9605	0.8969
64	KAHAR	74.3	.7434	94.7	.9474	99.3	.9934	0.8947
65	CHHETRI	77.0	.7697	90.8	.9079	100.0	1.0000	0.8925
66	SANTHAL/SATAR	85.5	.8553	94.1	.9408	86.2	.8618	0.8860
67	KURMI	67.8	.6776	97.4	.9737	99.3	.9934	0.8816
68	THAKALI	65.1	.6513	98.0	.9803	100.0	1.0000	0.8772
69	YAKKHA	78.9	.7895	98.7	.9868	84.9	.8487	0.8750
70	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	67.1	.6711	96.7	.9671	98.0	.9803	0.8728
71	RAUTE	82.2	.8219	84.9	.8493	93.2	.9315	0.8676
72	KISAN	64.5	.6447	97.4	.9737	95.4	.9539	0.8575

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Entry Into Private House		Entry Into Religious Place		Permission to Participate in Community		Social Sphere Domain
		Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Mean (%)	Index	Index
73	KUMAL	81.6	.8158	94.1	.9408	80.9	.8092	0.8553
74	PAHARI	75.7	.7566	98.7	.9868	79.6	.7961	0.8465
75	RAI	80.9	.8092	93.4	.9342	79.6	.7961	0.8465
76	DHOBI	63.2	.6316	95.4	.9539	93.4	.9342	0.8399
77	BADHAE	47.4	.4737	96.1	.9605	100.0	1.0000	0.8114
78	WALUNG	100.0	1.0000	96.7	.9671	40.8	.4079	0.7917
79	MAJHI	84.9	.8487	88.2	.8816	64.5	.6447	0.7917
80	BHOTE	66.4	.6645	98.7	.9868	71.7	.7171	0.7895
81	MUSLIM	52.6	.5263	92.1	.9211	74.3	.7434	0.7303
82	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	33.8	.3377	88.7	.8874	90.7	.9073	0.7108
83	DHUNIA	56.6	.5658	89.5	.8947	67.1	.6711	0.7105
84	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	15.7	.1569	100.0	1.0000	96.1	.9608	0.7059
85	LIMBU	71.1	.7105	93.4	.9342	45.4	.4539	0.6996
86	CHHANTYAL	4.6	.0461	94.7	.9474	100.0	1.0000	0.6645
87	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	14.5	.1447	84.9	.8487	83.6	.8355	0.6096
88	HALKHOR	8.6	.0855	93.4	.9342	77.0	.7697	0.5965
89	BADI	44.1	.4408	72.4	.7237	46.1	.4605	0.5417
90	GAINE	36.2	.3618	74.3	.7434	48.7	.4868	0.5307
91	KHATWE	15.9	.1589	76.2	.7616	66.9	.6689	0.5298
92	MUSAHAR	10.5	.1053	80.9	.8092	63.2	.6316	0.5154
93	DOM	9.9	.0987	96.1	.9605	43.4	.4342	0.4978
94	TATMA	36.2	.3618	52.0	.5197	49.3	.4934	0.4583
95	DAMAI/DHOLI	46.1	.4605	53.9	.5395	32.9	.3289	0.4430
96	KAMI	3.3	.0329	79.6	.7961	37.5	.3750	0.4013
97	SARKI	19.1	.1908	70.4	.7039	26.3	.2632	0.3860
	Total	79.3	.7933	93.1	.9306	90.2	.9021	0.8754

### 8.3 Social Respect and Identity Index (SRII)

The Social Respect and Identity Index is single component domain index dealing with recognition and respect based on identity. The SRII value for Hill Brahmans is 0.9211; for Tarai Dalits it is 0.2945 and for Hill Dalits it is 0.2481 (Table 8.3). This indicates that almost no Hill Brahmans experience prejudice or negativity from people who have a different cultural, religious, spatial, or caste/ethnic identity. There are very few Dalits, on the other hand, who routinely receive recognition and respect from other groups. Other Tarai castes and Muslims have relatively lower indices than the remaining groups.

**Table 8.3: Mean and Index of identity and recognition by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Identity/Recognition	
	Mean (%)	Index
Hill Brahman	92.1	0.9211
Hill Chhetri	83.5	0.8348
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	81.5	0.8146
Tarai Other Caste	69.9	0.6987
Hill Dalit	24.8	0.2481
Tarai Dalit	29.5	0.2945
Newari	84.2	0.8421
Mountain/Hill Janajati	72.3	0.7231
Tarai Janajati	73.9	0.7395
Muslim	65.8	0.6579
Others	77.8	0.7779
Total	72.3	0.7229

Looking at individual groups, the Hyolmo, Chepang, Hayu, Kayastha, Thakali, Hill Brahman, Chhantyal, Sunuwar, Dhimal and Punjabi Sikh all have relatively high index scores and feature in the top ten. Many of them are Hill Janajatis. The groups with the ten lowest index values are mainly Dalits – the Musahar, Dom, Halkhor, Dusadh, and Khatwe groups from the Tarai, and the Sarki, Badi, Gaine and Kami groups from the hills.

**Table 8.4: Identity/Recognition Index by caste/ethnic group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Identity/Recognition	
		Mean (%)	Index
1	HYOLMO	98.0	.9803
2	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	95.4	.9539
3	HAYU	94.7	.9474
4	KAYASTHA	94.7	.9474
5	THAKALI	94.1	.9408
6	HILL BRAHMAN	92.1	.9211
7	CHHANTYAL	91.4	.9145
8	SUNUWAR	90.1	.9013
9	DHIMAL	90.1	.9013
10	PUNJABI/SIKH	89.5	.8947
11	MECHE	89.5	.8947
12	RAJBANSI	88.2	.8816
13	BANIYA	88.2	.8816
14	THAKURI	87.5	.8750
15	SANYASI	87.5	.8750
16	KEWAT	86.2	.8618
17	GANGAI	84.9	.8487
18	SHERPA	84.9	.8487
19	NEWARI	84.2	.8421

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Identity/Recognition	
		Mean (%)	Index
20	DARAI	83.6	.8355
21	CHHETRI	82.9	.8289
22	TELI	82.8	.8278
23	HALUWAI	82.2	.8224
24	RAI	82.2	.8224
25	DURA	82.2	.8224
26	BRAHMAN-TARAI	81.6	.8158
27	GHARTI/BHUJEL	81.6	.8158
28	YADAV	81.6	.8158
29	GURUNG	81.6	.8158
30	LEPCHA	80.9	.8092
31	YAKKHA	79.6	.7961
32	KOCHE	78.9	.7895
33	DANUWAR	78.9	.7895
34	RAJBHAR	78.3	.7829
35	KAHAR	77.0	.7697
36	BANGALI	77.0	.7697
37	NURANG	76.8	.7682
38	SONAR	76.3	.7632
39	MARWADI	76.3	.7632
40	BARAE	75.7	.7566
41	KAMAR	75.0	.7500
42	MAJHI	74.3	.7434
43	MAGAR	73.7	.7368
44	THARU	73.7	.7368
45	TAJPURIYA	73.0	.7303
46	BANTAR	72.4	.7237
47	BHOTE	71.7	.7171
48	PAHARI	71.7	.7171
49	DHANUK	71.1	.7105
50	SANTHAL/SATAR	69.7	.6974
51	RAJPUT	68.2	.6821
52	DHOBI	67.8	.6776
53	TAMANG	67.1	.6711
54	KISAN	66.4	.6645
55	LODHA	66.4	.6645
56	MUSLIM	65.8	.6579
57	KANU	65.8	.6579
58	BADHAE	65.1	.6513
59	KURMI	65.1	.6513
60	THAMI	61.2	.6118

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S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Identity/Recognition	
		Mean (%)	Index
61	SUDHI	60.5	.6053
62	CHIDIMAR	60.5	.6053
63	BOTE	59.9	.5987
64	JIREL	58.6	.5855
65	MALI	58.3	.5828
66	MUNDA	57.9	.5789
67	BYANGSI	57.2	.5724
68	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	56.6	.5658
69	HAJAM/THAKUR	53.6	.5364
70	RAJI	50.7	.5066
71	KALWAR	50.0	.5000
72	KOIRI	49.3	.4934
73	MALLAH	46.1	.4605
74	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	46.1	.4605
75	NUNIYA	45.4	.4539
76	WALUNG	45.4	.4539
77	KUMAL	43.4	.4342
78	KUMHAR	41.4	.4145
79	LIMBU	40.8	.4079
80	BRAHMU/BARAMU	40.1	.4013
81	RAUTE	35.6	.3562
82	LOHAR	32.9	.3289
83	BING/BINDA	32.9	.3289
84	DAMAI/DHOLI	32.2	.3224
85	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	31.8	.3179
86	DHUNIA	30.9	.3092
87	TATMA	26.3	.2632
88	BADI	25.7	.2566
89	KAMI	25.7	.2566
90	KHATWE	25.2	.2517
91	GAINI	22.4	.2237
92	PATHARKATA/KUSWADIYA	19.6	.1961
93	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	15.8	.1579
94	SARKI	13.8	.1382
95	HALKHOR	7.2	.0724
96	DOM	4.6	.0461
97	MUSAHAR	4.6	.0461
	<b>Total</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>0.7229</b>

## 8.4 Social Cohesion Dimension Index (SCDI)

The Social Cohesion Dimension Index is a composite of the two domain-level indices described above. As in the domain level indices, Hill Brahmans have the highest index value (0.9594) (Table 8.5). Tarai Brahman/Chhetris, Hill Chhetris and Newars follow closely. Mountain/Hill and Tarai Janajatis have slightly lower levels of inclusion while Tarai and Hill Dalits have a very long way to go before they achieve social cohesion.

**Table 8.5: Social Cohesion Dimension index (social sphere and identity/ recognition index) and social cohesion dimension index by broader social group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Social Sphere	Identity/Recognition	Social Cohesion Dimension
	Index	Index	Index
Hill Brahman	0.9978	0.9211	0.9594
Hill Chhetri	0.9030	0.8348	0.8689
TaraiBrahman/Chhetri	0.9435	0.8146	0.8790
Tarai Other Caste	0.9449	0.6987	0.8218
Hill Dalit	0.4091	0.2481	0.3286
Tarai Dalit	0.6496	0.2945	0.4720
Newari	0.9605	0.8421	0.9013
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.8961	0.7231	0.8096
Tarai Janajati	0.9705	0.7395	0.8550
Muslim	0.7303	0.6579	0.6941
Others	0.9800	0.7779	0.8789
Total	0.8754	0.7229	0.7991

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, the 10 highest social cohesion index values are attributed to Hyolmos, Kayasthas, Chepangs, Hill Brahmans, Hayus, Dhimals, Punjabis, Baniyas, Meches and Thakuris. In contrast, Tarai Dalits including the Musahar, Dom, Halkhor, Dusadh/Paswan/Pasi, Khatwe, and Tatma groups, and Hill Dalits including the Sarki, Gaine, Damai and Kami groups, make up the bottom ten.

**Table 8.6 Social Cohesion Dimension Index by caste/ethnic group**

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Sphere	Identity/Recognition	Social Cohesion Dimension
		Index	Index	Index
1	HYOLMO	0.9759	0.9803	0.9781
2	KAYASTHA	0.9825	0.9474	0.9649
3	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.9737	0.9539	0.9638
4	HILL BRAHMAN	0.9978	0.9211	0.9594
5	HAYU	0.9649	0.9474	0.9561
6	DHIMAL	0.9825	0.9013	0.9419
7	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.9825	0.8947	0.9386
8	BANIYA	0.9912	0.8816	0.9364
9	MECHE	0.9693	0.8947	0.9320
10	THAKURI	0.9868	0.8750	0.9309
11	KEWAT	0.9890	0.8618	0.9254
12	RAJBANSI	0.9539	0.8816	0.9178

Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Sphere	Identity/Recognition	Social Cohesion Dimension
		Index	Index	Index
13	SUNUWAR	0.9342	0.9013	0.9178
14	SANYASI	0.9539	0.8750	0.9145
15	SHERPA	0.9803	0.8487	0.9145
16	DARAI	0.9825	0.8355	0.9090
17	THAKALI	0.8772	0.9408	0.9090
18	TELI	0.9868	0.8278	0.9073
19	HALUWAI	0.9890	0.8224	0.9057
20	NEWARI	0.9605	0.8421	0.9013
21	GANGAI	0.9496	0.8487	0.8991
22	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.9715	0.8158	0.8936
23	GURUNG	0.9627	0.8158	0.8893
24	RAJBHAR	0.9825	0.7829	0.8827
25	NURANG	0.9934	0.7682	0.8808
26	LEPCHA	0.9496	0.8092	0.8794
27	BANGALI	0.9868	0.7697	0.8783
28	YADAV	0.9386	0.8158	0.8772
29	KOCHE	0.9539	0.7895	0.8717
30	BRAHMAN - TARAI	0.9276	0.8158	0.8717
31	MARWADI	0.9682	0.7632	0.8657
32	BARAE	0.9715	0.7566	0.8640
33	SONAR	0.9649	0.7632	0.8640
34	DURA	0.9013	0.8224	0.8618
35	CHHETRI	0.8925	0.8289	0.8607
36	TAJPURIYA	0.9912	0.7303	0.8607
37	THARU	0.9825	0.7368	0.8596
38	DANUWAR	0.8969	0.7895	0.8432
39	BANTAR	0.9518	0.7237	0.8377
40	YAKKHA	0.8750	0.7961	0.8355
41	RAI	0.8465	0.8224	0.8344
42	KAHAR	0.8947	0.7697	0.8322
43	KAMAR	0.9123	0.7500	0.8311
44	DHANUK	0.9430	0.7105	0.8268
45	MAGAR	0.9167	0.7368	0.8268
46	RAJPUT	0.9514	0.6821	0.8168
47	KANU	0.9671	0.6579	0.8125
48	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.8860	0.6974	0.7917
49	LODHA	0.9167	0.6645	0.7906
50	CHHANTYAL	0.6645	0.9145	0.7895
51	TAMANG	0.9079	0.6711	0.7895
52	SUDHI	0.9737	0.6053	0.7895
53	CHIDIMAR	0.9649	0.6053	0.7851

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Sphere	Identity/Recognition	Social Cohesion Dimension
		Index	Index	Index
54	JIREL	0.9803	0.5855	0.7829
55	PAHARI	0.8465	0.7171	0.7818
56	MALI	0.9779	0.5828	0.7804
57	BYANGSI	0.9825	0.5724	0.7774
58	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.9825	0.5658	0.7741
59	MAJHI	0.7917	0.7434	0.7675
60	BOTE	0.9342	0.5987	0.7664
61	KURMI	0.8816	0.6513	0.7664
62	KISAN	0.8575	0.6645	0.7610
63	THAMI	0.9079	0.6118	0.7599
64	MUNDA	0.9408	0.5789	0.7599
65	DHOBI	0.8399	0.6776	0.7588
66	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.9735	0.5364	0.7550
67	BHOTE	0.7895	0.7171	0.7533
68	RAJI	0.9627	0.5066	0.7346
69	BADHAE	0.8114	0.6513	0.7314
70	NUNIYA	0.9934	0.4539	0.7237
71	KOIRI	0.9276	0.4934	0.7105
72	KALWAR	0.9035	0.5000	0.7018
73	MUSLIM	0.7303	0.6579	0.6941
74	MALLAH	0.9145	0.4605	0.6875
75	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.9649	0.4013	0.6831
76	KUMHAR	0.9364	0.4145	0.6754
77	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.8728	0.4605	0.6667
78	KUMAL	0.8553	0.4342	0.6447
79	BING/BINDA	0.9298	0.3289	0.6294
80	WALUNG	0.7917	0.4539	0.6228
81	LOHAR	0.8991	0.3289	0.6140
82	RAUTE	0.8676	0.3562	0.6119
83	LIMBU	0.6996	0.4079	0.5537
84	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.7108	0.3179	0.5143
85	DHUNIA	0.7105	0.3092	0.5099
86	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.7059	0.1961	0.4510
87	BADI	0.5417	0.2566	0.3991
88	KHATWE	0.5298	0.2517	0.3907
89	DUSADH/PASWAN/ PASI	0.6096	0.1579	0.3838
90	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.4430	0.3224	0.3827
91	GAINE	0.5307	0.2237	0.3772
92	TATMA	0.4583	0.2632	0.3607



Cont....

S. N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Sphere	Identity/Recognition	Social Cohesion Dimension
		Index	Index	Index
93	HALKHOR	0.5965	0.0724	0.3344
94	KAMI	0.4013	0.2566	0.3289
95	MUSAHAR	0.5154	0.0461	0.2807
96	DOM	0.4978	0.0461	0.2719
97	SARKI	0.3860	0.1382	0.2621
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.8754</b>	<b>0.7229</b>	<b>0.7991</b>

## 8.5 Conclusion

Overall social cohesion index is more than three fourth of the full inclusion index value. However, this index value ranges from one fourth among Sarki to about full index among Hyolmo, Kayastha and Chepang. Also there is variation in the sub-dimensional indices among both broader and individual caste/ethnic group.

# The Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index

The Nepal Social Inclusion Index (NSII) is a composite index of the six different dimensions (social, economic, political, cultural, gender and social cohesion) described in previous chapters, which explores current levels of social inclusion in Nepal. This chapter begins with a brief description of each sub-dimensional (domain) index, highlighting the caste/ethnic groups with the ten highest and ten lowest index values. An analysis of the sub-dimensional indices shows that different levels of inclusion are experienced by the different caste/ethnic groups, and that inequality prevails. We then turn to the overall social inclusion situation as reflected in the composite NSII, which also contains high levels of variation both among the broader social groups (Hill Brahman, Hill Chhetri, Tarai Brahman/Chhetri, other Tarai caste, Hill Dalit, Tarai Dalit, Newari, Hill Janajati, Tarai Janajati, Muslim and Other), and the 97 caste/ethnic groups. The chapter concludes that the level of inclusion in different dimensions varies across the caste/ethnic groups, indicating that none of the groups experiences inclusion across all of the dimensions.

## 9.1 Social Dimension Index

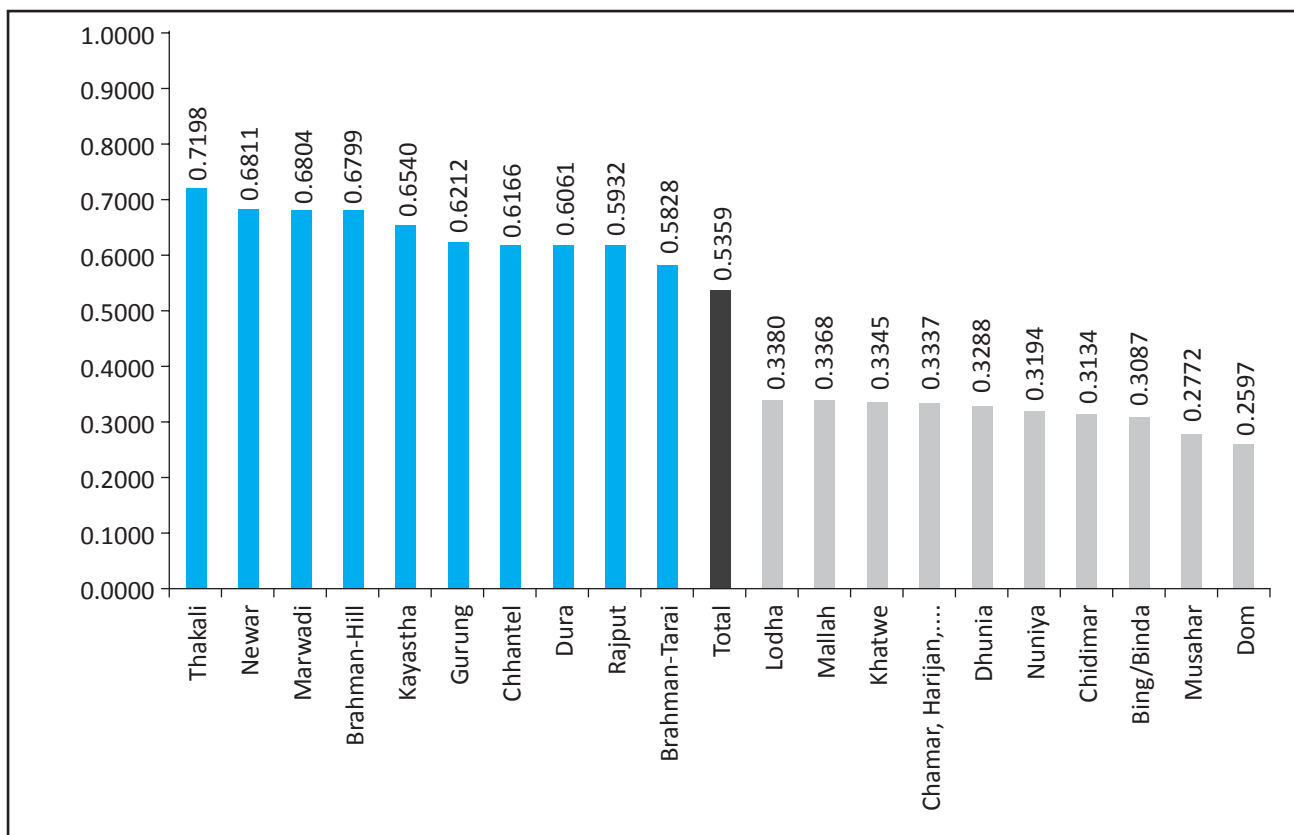
“Good health, of itself, is an end for all human endeavor. In addition, access to all other human development opportunities and use and enhancement of all other human capabilities, are fundamentally contingent on continued survival, and on the maintenance of good health” (NHDR, 1998:56). NHDR (1998) continues:

Human social relationships, in turn, are structured in terms of social organizations. Social institutions, apart from organizing human relationships in particular ways, also produce various forms and degrees of social capital. Some of the ways of organizing social relationships, particularly those which are built on the bases of cooperation, equity, universalism, more intense promotion and use of capability, sustainability etc., are more intrinsic to the promotion of human development than others (p. xiv).

Distribution in the Social Dimension Index (table 9.1) shows that the ten groups with the highest index values are the Thakali, Newari, Marwadi, Hill Brahman, Kayastha, Gurung, Chhantyal, Dura, Rajput and TaraiBrahman. These groups originate from all three geographic regions of the country - the mountains, the hills and the plains. Of the broader social groups, Hill Brahman, TaraiBrahman/Chhetri and Mountain/Hill/TaraiJanajati are represented in the top 10. No Dalit groups appear in the top 10 positions on the index.

The Dom, Musahar, Bing/Bind, Chidimar, Nuniya, Dhuniya, Chamar, Khatwe, Mallah and Lodha groups have the lowest Social Dimension Index scores. This indicates that Dalits, particularly Tarai Dalits experience very low levels of social inclusion.

**Figure 1: Top and Bottom Ten Social Groups in Social Dimensional Index among 97 Caste/Ethnic Groups**



Levels of inclusion vary widely across caste/ethnic groups: the value for the group that appears at the top of the index is around three times greater than the lowest value. In general, Brahman/Chhetris and Hill Janajatis are most likely to appear at the top of the table, whereas Madhesi other caste and Madhesi Dalits are most likely to appear at the bottom.

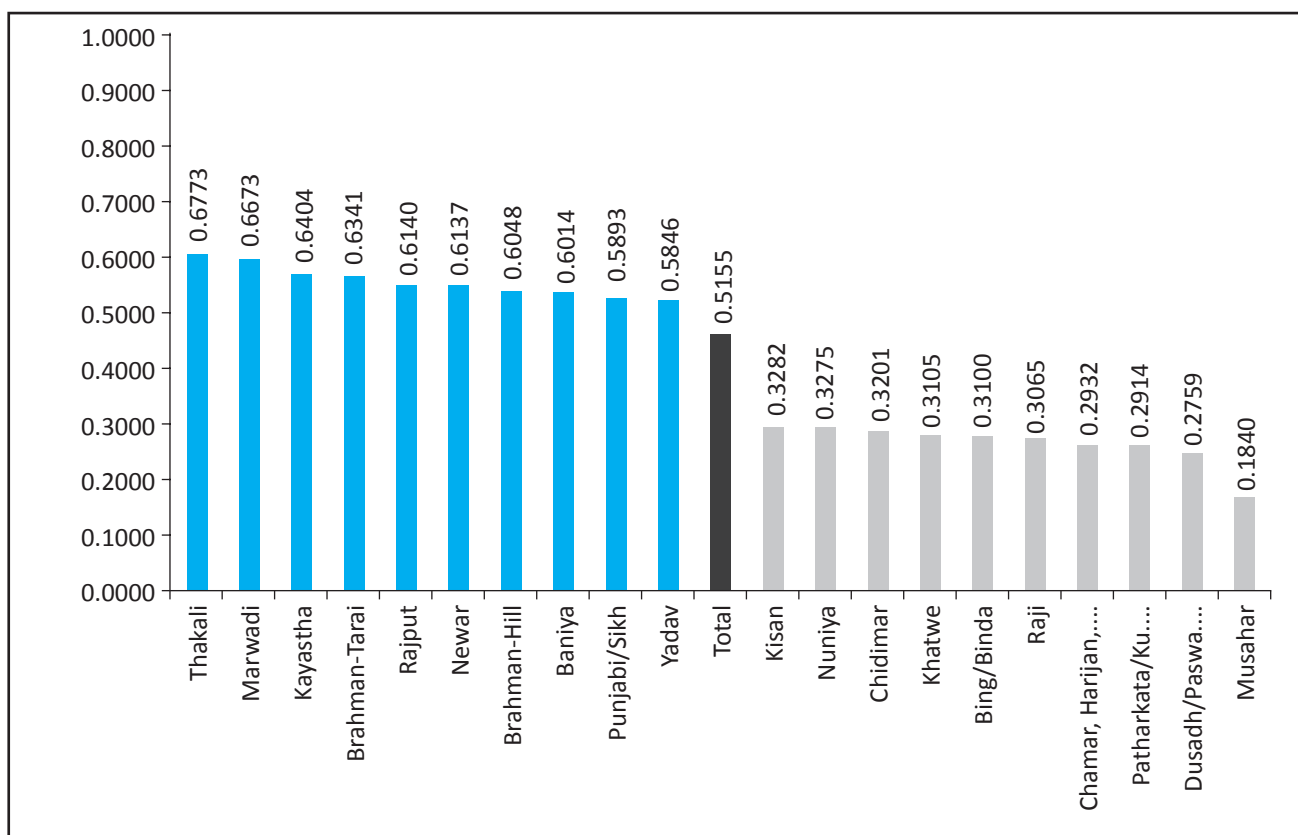
## 9.2 Economic Dimension Index

NHDR (1998:14) states that “disparity in distribution of both assets and income, in turn, influences access to education, health, nutrition and standards of living. Any effort to enhance human development, therefore, must facilitate asset and income redistribution, in addition to enhancing productivity”. Social inclusion that provides opportunities for economic activity therefore, is intrinsically linked to the standard of living experienced by individuals and households.

The distribution of the 97 caste/ethnic groups in the composite economic dimension index (table 9.1) shows a large gap in terms of economic inclusion, indicating inequality. The highest level of economic inclusion is experienced by the Thakali, Marwadi, Kayastha, Hill Brahman, Rajput, Tarai Brahman, Newari, Baniya, Punjabi and Yadav groups with index scores of between 0.58 and 0.68. From the broader social groups, Brahman, Chhetri, Hill Janajati and Tarai caste groups from all three geographical regions of the country are represented. No Dalit groups feature in the top 10.

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, the Kisan, Nuniya, Chidimar, Khatwe, Bing/Bin, Raji, Chamar, Patharkata, Dusadh and Musahar experience the lowest levels of economic inclusion. Many of these groups are Madhesi Dalit. There are also degrees of inequality among the bottom 10 with index values ranging from 0.18 to 0.32.

**Figure 2: Top and Bottom Ten Social Groups in Economic Dimensional Index among 97 Caste/Ethnic Groups**



Levels of economic inclusion also vary widely with the greatest index value four times higher than the lowest index value. Groups such as the Thakalis, Marwadis and Kayasthas are more likely to have access to economic opportunity while groups such as the Musahar, Dusadh and Paththarkatta are less likely experience economic inclusion.

### 9.3 Political Dimension Index

The nature of an electoral system determines to a large extent how inclusively a country’s population is represented in the political system, and how meaningful this participation is for human development (NHDR, 2009: 70). NHDR (2009:79) further states that “even after the restoration of a multi-party system in 1990, Nepal’s bureaucratic structure did not fundamentally change. However, since the 2006 People’s Movement and the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Accord, Nepal has undergone considerable political transformation. Much remains to be done, especially in the social realm.” The Political Dimension Index deals with levels of political inclusion measured using indicators relevant to the current political context.

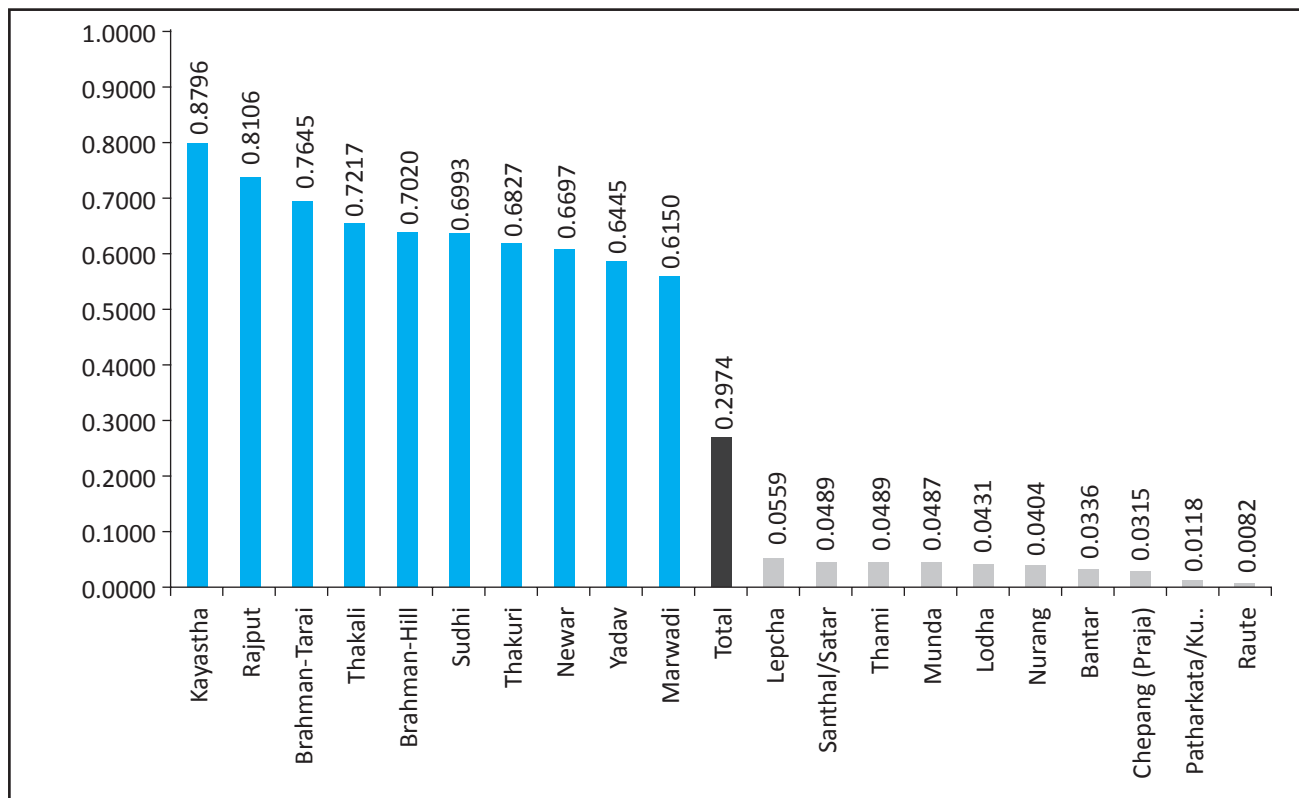
Political inclusion describes the degree of political participation at various levels of the power structure, and includes the concepts of representation, ‘voice’ and ‘agency’. The representation domain index is computed by measuring representation on the central committees of political parties, representation on the Council of Ministers, and representation in the national bureaucracy. ‘Voice’ and ‘agency’ refer to whether an individual’s voice is likely to be heard or not when he/she is attempting to access services.

Table 9.1 shows that the Kayastha, Rajput, Hill Brahman, Thakali, TaraiBrahman, Sudhi, Thakuri, Newar, Yadav and Marwadi groups experience the highest levels of political inclusion. Brahmans,

Hill and Tarai Janajatis and Tarai castes are represented in the top 10. None of the Dalit groups feature in the top 10.

The groups that make up the bottom 10 are the Raute, Patharkata, Chepang, Bantar, Nurang, Lodha, Munda, Thami, Santhal and Lepcha. These groups experience the lowest levels of political inclusion. The majority of these groups are Janajatis.

**Figure 3: Top and Bottom Ten Social Groups in Political Dimensional Index among 97 Caste/Ethnic Groups**



Again, levels of political inclusion widely vary among the 97 caste/ethnic groups with index scores ranging from 0.8786 (Kayastha), to 0.0082 (Raute). The top index value is about hundred times higher than the bottom index value. There is also variation among the top 10 and bottom 10 groups.

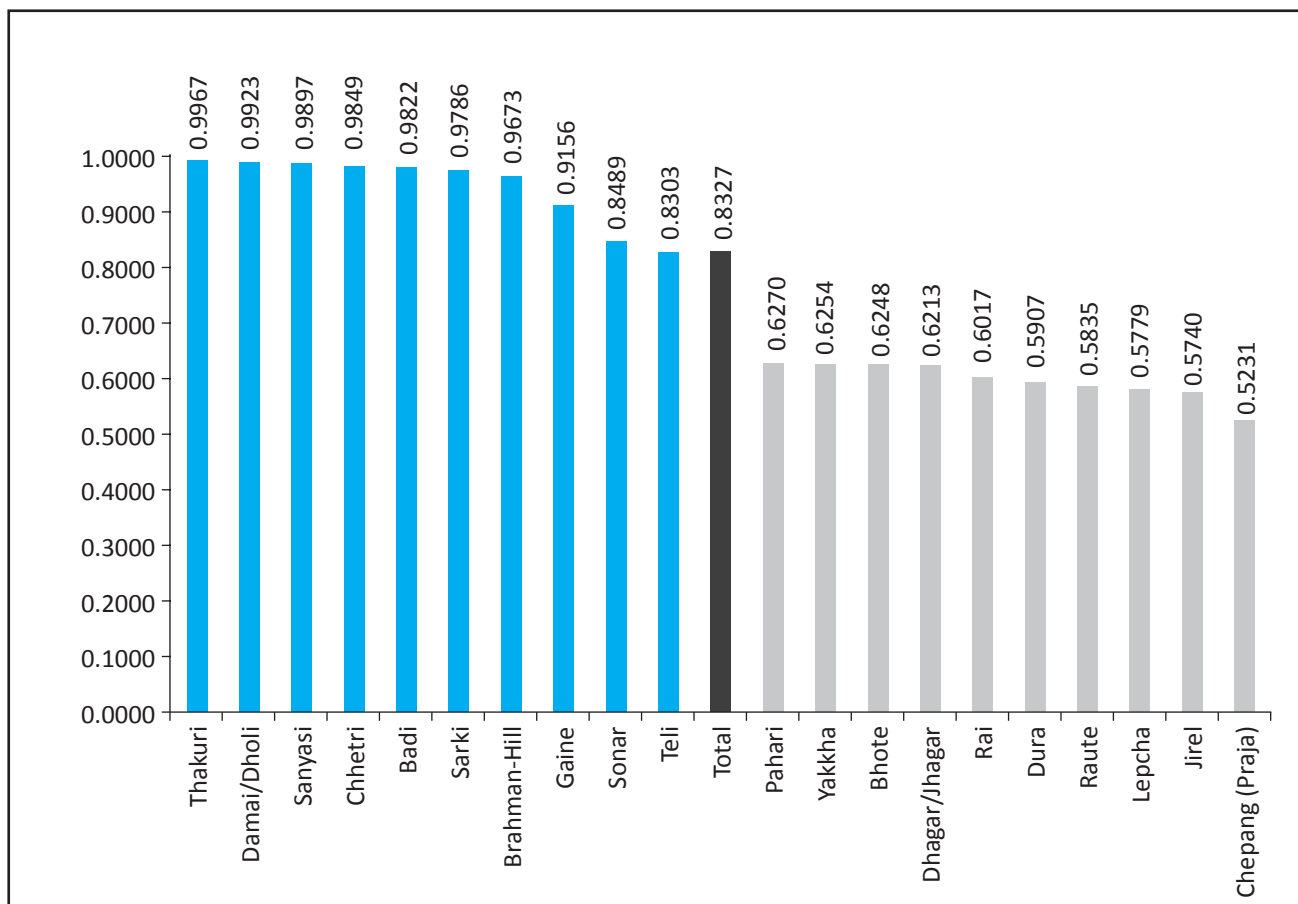
### 9.4 Cultural Dimension Index

The Cultural Dimension is one of the key markers of inclusion/exclusion in Nepal. It is viewed as the driver of social inclusion. Changes in traditional value systems promote social inclusion in the country. This is discussed in more detail in chapters one and two.

Table 9.1 presents a clear picture of levels of cultural inclusion across the 97 caste/ethnic groups. Groups appearing at the top of the index include the Thakuri, Damai, Sanyasi, Chhetri, Badi, Sarki, Hill Brahman, Gaine, Sonar and Teli. Among these top ten groups there are mostly Brahman/Chhetri and Dalits. It is important to note that Hill Dalits such the Damai, Badi and Sarki groups experience high levels of cultural inclusion.

The Chepang, Jirel, Lepcha, Raute, Dura, Rai, Dhagar, Bhote, Yakkha and Pahari groups occupy the bottom ten positions in the index, belonging to Janajatis.

**Figure 4: Top and Bottom Ten Social Groups in Cultural Dimensional Index among 97 Caste/Ethnic Groups**



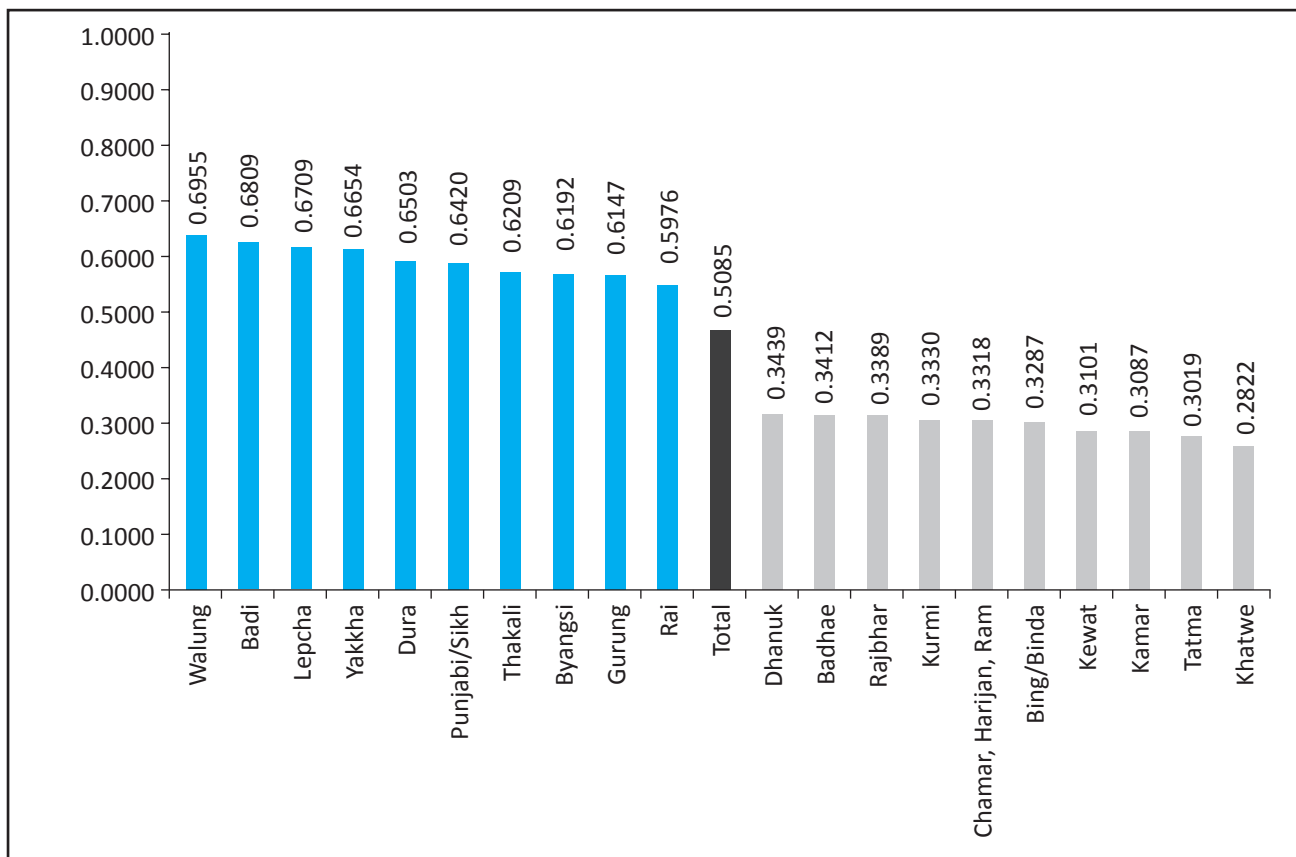
The index reveals a gap in the levels of cultural inclusion experienced by the different caste/ethnic groups. The group with the highest index value (Thakuri – 0.997) scores around than double of the group with the lowest index value (Chepang – 0.523). Hill Dalit groups such as the Damai, Badi, Sarki and Gaine experience high levels of cultural inclusion.

## 9.5 Gender Dimension Index

The majority of Nepali women still experience degrees of exclusion in a number of areas. These include education, control over the decision to marry, and control over reproductive decisions. Only half of Nepali women experience gender inclusion in different aspects of their lives. Caste/ethnic groups with the highest gender inclusion index values are the Walung, Badi, Lepcha, Yakkha, Dura, Punjabi, Thakali, Byansi, Gurung and Rai. Most of these are Janajati groups, although some Dalit groups (e.g. the Badi) also feature at the top of the index.

The caste/ethnic groups that experience the lowest levels of gender inclusion are the Khatwe, Tatma, Kamar, Kewat, Bing, Chanar, Kurmi, Rajbhar, Badhae and Dhanuk. Although there is some variation between these bottom 10 groups, it is marginal compared to the difference between the highest and lowest index values.

**Figure 5: Top and Bottom Ten Social Groups in Gender Dimensional Index among 97 Caste/Ethnic Groups**



Levels of gender inclusion also vary widely across caste/ethnic groups. The majority of groups with the highest index values are Janajati (such as the Walung, Lepcha, Dura and Rai) or Dalit (such as the Badi). However, Madhesi Dalit and Madhesi other caste feature in the bottom 10. The highest index value (0.6955) is more than double the lowest index value (0.2822).

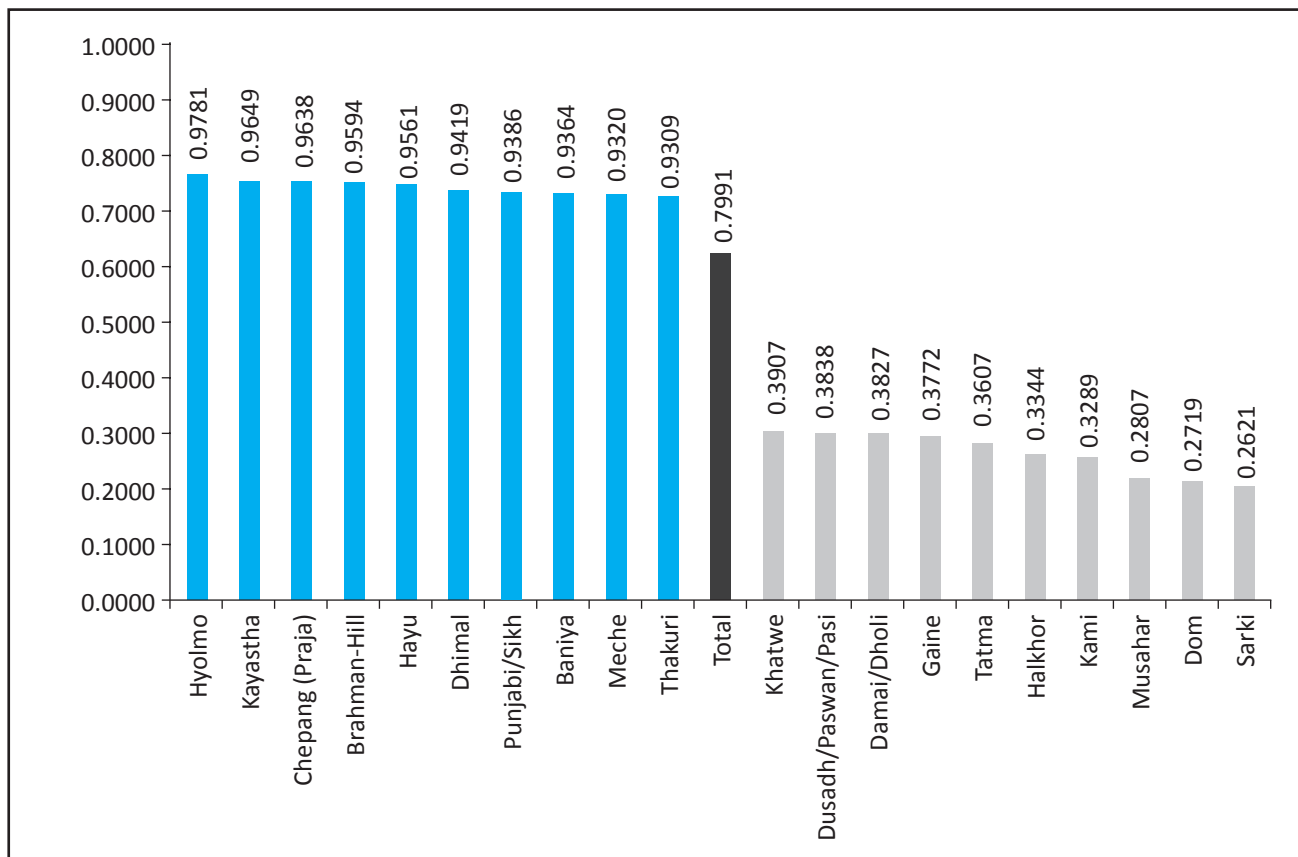
## 9.6 Social Cohesion/Solidarity Index

Social integration and positive social relationships are important indicators of inclusion. Social cohesion (or non-discrimination) is also important for development as it increases levels of social harmony and participation. Dignity and self-respect, therefore, are important elements of social inclusion. The Social Cohesion Index focuses on the areas of identity and social respect.

Among the 97 caste/ethnic groups, the Hyolmo, Kayastha, Chepang, Hill Brahman, Hayu, Dhimal, Punjabi/Shikh, Baniya, Meche and Thakuri have the highest index values. These top ten groups include mainly Hill Janajatis and both Hill and Trarai Brahmans/Chhetri. There is some variation among the top ten groups as well.

The level of social cohesion among the Sarki, Dom, Musahar, Kami, Halkhor, Tatma, Gaine, Damai, Dusadh and Khatwe groups is very low. All of the groups that feature in the bottom ten are Dalit.

**Figure 6: Top and Bottom Ten Social Groups in Social Cohesion Dimensional Index among 97 Caste/Ethnic Groups**



In the Social Cohesion Index, there is also wide variation among the caste/ethnic groups. The index for the top scoring group (Hyolmo – 0.97) is around four times higher than the index for the bottom scoring group (Sarki – 0.26). Janajatis, Brahmans and Chhetris feature in the top ten, while all the groups in the bottom ten are Dalit.

### 9.7 Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index (NSII)

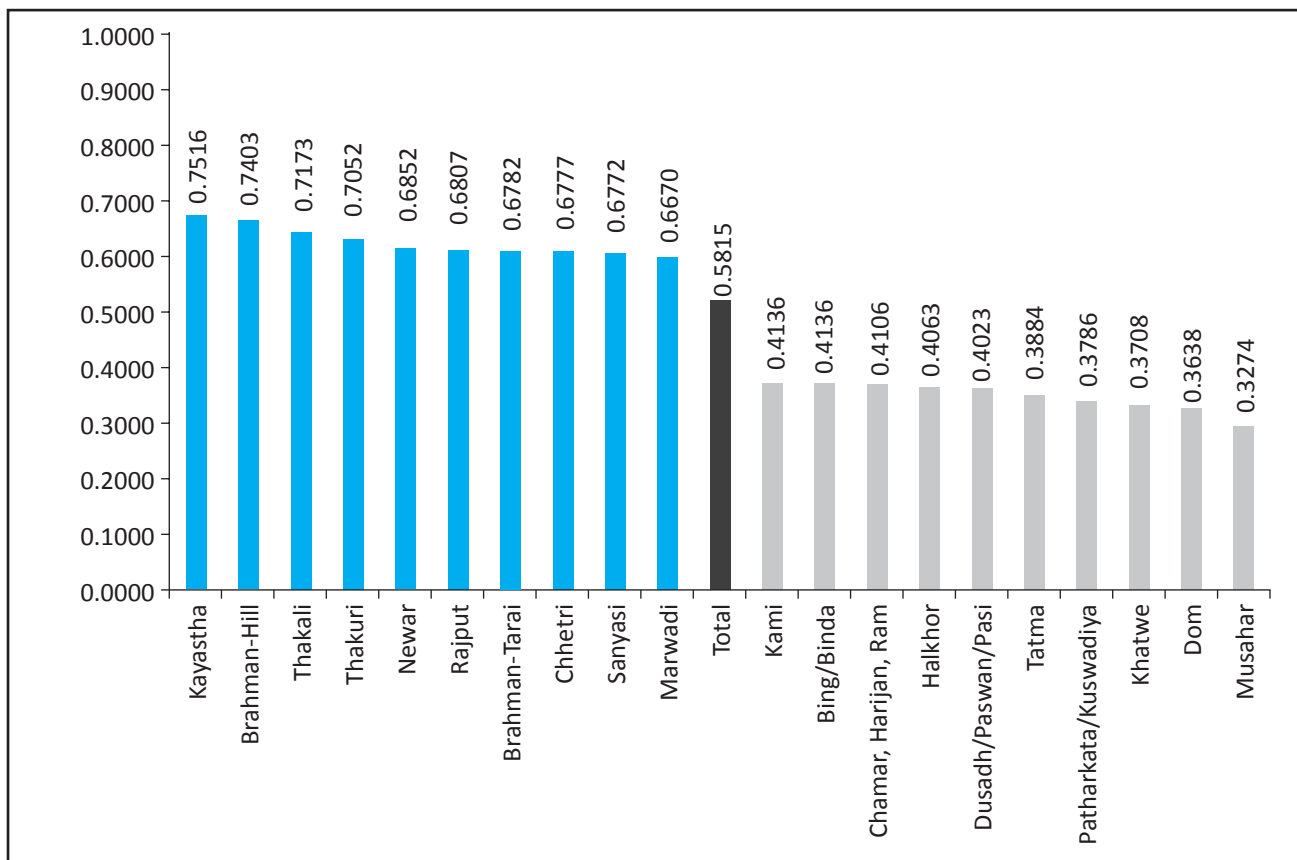
The NSII is a composite index of the six dimensions of social inclusion defined in this study. It is an average of the indices of the six dimensions. NSII thus computed, shows the level of social inclusion of caste/ethnic groups in six major dimensions of inclusion relevant in the context of Nepal. The distribution of values across the 97 caste/ethnic groups shows that there is a wide variation in the levels of social inclusion experienced by the different groups with index values ranging from 0.327 (Musahar), to 0.752 (Kayastha).

The caste/ethnic groups with the top ten index values are Kayastha, Hill Brahman, Thakali, Thakuri, Newar, Rajput, Brahman-Tarai, Chhetri, Sanyasi and Marwadi. The top ten groups except Marwadi belong to Hill Brahman/Chhetri, Hill Janajati and Madhesi Brahman/Chhetri broader social groups.

The 10 groups with the lowest index values are the Musahar, Dom, Khatwe, Pathatharkata, Tatma, Dusadh/Paswan, Halkhor, Chamar, Bing/Binda and Kami. The majority of these groups are Hill or Tarai Dalits.



**Figure 7: Top and Bottom Ten Social Groups in Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index among 97 Caste/Ethnic Groups**



Kayasthas have the highest index score (0.75) while Musahars have the lowest (0.327). Other groups that experience high levels of social inclusion are Hill and Tarai Brahmans and Chhetris, and some Janajati groups such as the Thakalis and Newars. Hill and Tarai Dalit groups experience the lowest levels of social inclusion. The highest value on the index is more than double the lowest. On the other hand, the top most group is at around three fourth of the optimal level. Only around one third of Musahars and Doms experience the same.

**Table 9.1: Dimensional and Composite Social Inclusion Index by Caste/Ethnic Group**

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Dimension		Economic Dimension		Political Dimension		Cultural Dimension		Social Cohesion Dimension		Gender Dimension		Social Inclusion	
		Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
1	KAYASTHA	0.6540	0.6404	0.8796	0.8215	0.9649	0.5488	0.7516							
2	HILL BRAHMAN	0.6799	0.6048	0.7020	0.9673	0.9594	0.5285	0.7403							
3	THAKALI	0.7198	0.6773	0.7217	0.6551	0.9090	0.6209	0.7173							
4	THAKURI	0.5804	0.4773	0.6827	0.9967	0.9309	0.5633	0.7052							
5	NEWARI	0.6811	0.6137	0.6697	0.6695	0.9013	0.5759	0.6852							
6	RAJPUT	0.5932	0.6140	0.8106	0.7653	0.8168	0.4843	0.6807							
7	BRAHMAN-TARAI	0.5828	0.6341	0.7645	0.7533	0.8717	0.4631	0.6782							
8	CHHETRI	0.5795	0.5200	0.5831	0.9849	0.8607	0.5382	0.6777							
9	SANYASI	0.5747	0.5075	0.5045	0.9897	0.9145	0.5726	0.6772							
10	MARWADI	0.6804	0.6673	0.6150	0.6418	0.8657	0.5318	0.6670							
11	GURUNG	0.6212	0.5476	0.5247	0.7183	0.8893	0.6147	0.6526							
12	BANIYA	0.5400	0.6014	0.5485	0.8037	0.9364	0.4548	0.6475							
13	TELI	0.4897	0.5814	0.5855	0.8303	0.9073	0.4849	0.6465							
14	SUDHI	0.5080	0.5738	0.6993	0.7669	0.7895	0.4561	0.6323							
15	HALUWAI	0.5154	0.5171	0.5963	0.7913	0.9057	0.3801	0.6177							
16	YADAV	0.4289	0.5846	0.6445	0.7691	0.8772	0.3792	0.6139							
17	SUNUWAR	0.5371	0.5067	0.3826	0.6901	0.9178	0.5940	0.6047							
18	GHARTI/BHUJEL	0.5779	0.5091	0.2741	0.7618	0.8936	0.5754	0.5987							
19	MECHE	0.4923	0.5463	0.4129	0.6475	0.9320	0.5537	0.5975							
20	DARAI	0.5685	0.5466	0.3339	0.6785	0.9090	0.5436	0.5967							
21	PUNJABI/SIKH	0.5431	0.5893	0.2065	0.6417	0.9386	0.6420	0.5935							
22	RAI	0.5728	0.5184	0.4285	0.6017	0.8344	0.5976	0.5922							
23	BANGALI	0.5069	0.5489	0.4557	0.6827	0.8783	0.4779	0.5917							
24	RAJBANSI	0.4671	0.5022	0.3566	0.7294	0.9178	0.5607	0.5890							
25	THARU	0.4738	0.5362	0.4396	0.7541	0.8596	0.4616	0.5875							

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Dimension		Economic Dimension		Political Dimension		Cultural Dimension		Social Cohesion Dimension		Gender Dimension		Social Inclusion	
		Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
26	DURA	0.6061	0.5362	0.2594	0.5907	0.8618	0.6503	0.5841							
27	KALWAR	0.5384	0.5733	0.4095	0.7464	0.7018	0.5063	0.5793							
28	HYOLMO	0.5583	0.5820	0.0750	0.7607	0.9781	0.5038	0.5763							
29	CHHANTYAL	0.6166	0.4902	0.2947	0.7105	0.7895	0.5363	0.5730							
30	SHERPA	0.5465	0.5511	0.1945	0.6901	0.9145	0.5312	0.5713							
31	BYANGSI	0.5511	0.5052	0.2283	0.7436	0.7774	0.6192	0.5708							
32	DHANUK	0.4021	0.4452	0.6140	0.7810	0.8268	0.3439	0.5688							
33	KOIRI	0.4537	0.5209	0.4411	0.8246	0.7105	0.4255	0.5627							
34	TAMANG	0.5241	0.5027	0.2869	0.7175	0.7895	0.5385	0.5598							
35	MAGAR	0.5492	0.5039	0.2607	0.7032	0.8268	0.5151	0.5598							
36	DHIMAL	0.5252	0.5227	0.1426	0.6440	0.9419	0.5466	0.5538							
37	BARAE	0.4413	0.5495	0.2237	0.8159	0.8640	0.3974	0.5487							
38	HAJAM/THAKUR	0.4278	0.4731	0.4431	0.8040	0.7550	0.3786	0.5469							
39	LEPCHA	0.5400	0.5425	0.0559	0.5779	0.8794	0.6709	0.5444							
40	KANU	0.4367	0.5165	0.3167	0.7925	0.8125	0.3806	0.5426							
41	LIMBU	0.5586	0.4421	0.4727	0.6811	0.5537	0.5247	0.5388							
42	PAHARI	0.4953	0.5200	0.2219	0.6270	0.7818	0.5661	0.5354							
43	YAKKHA	0.5177	0.4150	0.1331	0.6254	0.8355	0.6654	0.5320							
44	DANUWAR	0.4812	0.4582	0.1561	0.7588	0.8432	0.4821	0.5299							
45	JIREL	0.5315	0.5079	0.2246	0.5740	0.7829	0.5582	0.5298							
46	KOCHE	0.4695	0.4720	0.1779	0.6951	0.8717	0.4870	0.5289							
47	GANGAI	0.4085	0.5196	0.0964	0.7714	0.8991	0.4739	0.5281							
48	MUSLIM	0.3557	0.4871	0.3691	0.8181	0.6941	0.4333	0.5262							
49	SONAR	0.4502	0.4953	0.1305	0.8489	0.8640	0.3546	0.5239							
50	MAJI	0.3999	0.4469	0.2844	0.8005	0.7804	0.4315	0.5239							
51	BHOTE	0.4732	0.4947	0.1464	0.6248	0.7533	0.5952	0.5146							

Cont.....

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Dimension		Economic Dimension		Political Dimension		Cultural Dimension		Social Cohesion Dimension		Gender Dimension		Social Inclusion	
		Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
52	KUMHAR	0.4043	0.4413	0.3670	0.8147	0.6754	0.3816	0.5141							
53	HAYU	0.5017	0.4088	0.1418	0.6728	0.9561	0.3960	0.5129							
54	BOTE	0.5108	0.4452	0.1145	0.6970	0.7664	0.5161	0.5083							
55	BRAHMU/BARAMU	0.4935	0.4674	0.1792	0.6719	0.6831	0.5466	0.5069							
56	RAJBHAR	0.4140	0.4585	0.1319	0.8137	0.8827	0.3389	0.5066							
57	KUMAL	0.5013	0.4615	0.2618	0.6677	0.6447	0.4945	0.5053							
58	WALUNG	0.4543	0.4530	0.0882	0.6973	0.6228	0.6955	0.5018							
59	BHEDIYAR/GADERI	0.3857	0.5024	0.1903	0.7874	0.7741	0.3606	0.5001							
60	TAJPURIYA	0.4105	0.4817	0.0609	0.7206	0.8607	0.4660	0.5001							
61	MAJHI	0.4824	0.4499	0.1406	0.6684	0.7675	0.4905	0.4999							
62	KURMI	0.4134	0.4952	0.1928	0.7983	0.7664	0.3330	0.4999							
63	BADI	0.4871	0.3658	0.0625	0.9822	0.3991	0.6809	0.4963							
64	KEWAT	0.4087	0.4606	0.0651	0.8026	0.9254	0.3101	0.4954							
65	THAMI	0.4480	0.3897	0.0489	0.7499	0.7599	0.5746	0.4951							
66	DAMAI/DHOLI	0.4861	0.4097	0.1818	0.9923	0.3827	0.5067	0.4932							
67	KAMAR	0.4991	0.4656	0.0885	0.7584	0.8311	0.3087	0.4919							
68	KISAN	0.4881	0.3282	0.3425	0.6422	0.7610	0.3743	0.4894							
69	DHOBI	0.3677	0.4593	0.1876	0.7955	0.7588	0.3651	0.4890							
70	KAHAR	0.3876	0.4608	0.0925	0.7822	0.8322	0.3749	0.4884							
71	NURANG	0.4347	0.4143	0.0404	0.7374	0.8808	0.4139	0.4869							
72	BADHAE	0.4334	0.4927	0.0671	0.8171	0.7314	0.3412	0.4805							
73	LODHA	0.3380	0.5467	0.0431	0.7517	0.7906	0.3902	0.4767							
74	GAINA	0.5222	0.4014	0.1128	0.9156	0.3772	0.5118	0.4735							
75	SARKI	0.4867	0.3804	0.1801	0.9786	0.2621	0.5465	0.4724							
76	CHEPANG (PRAJA)	0.3907	0.4129	0.0315	0.5231	0.9638	0.5120	0.4723							
77	LOHAR	0.4312	0.3995	0.1268	0.8161	0.6140	0.4035	0.4652							

S.N.	Caste/Ethnicity	Social Dimension		Economic Dimension		Political Dimension		Cultural Dimension		Social Cohesion Dimension		Gender Dimension		Social Inclusion	
		Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
78	RAJI	0.4164	0.3065	0.2839	0.6507	0.7346	0.3981	0.4650							
79	BANTAR	0.3680	0.3762	0.0336	0.7951	0.8377	0.3687	0.4633							
80	SANTHAL/SATAR	0.3798	0.4250	0.0489	0.6703	0.7917	0.4427	0.4597							
81	CHIDIMAR	0.3134	0.3201	0.1956	0.7911	0.7851	0.3451	0.4584							
82	MALLAH	0.3368	0.3974	0.0945	0.8119	0.6875	0.3577	0.4476							
83	NUNIYA	0.3194	0.3275	0.0563	0.8059	0.7237	0.4121	0.4408							
84	MUNDA	0.3870	0.3842	0.0487	0.6396	0.7599	0.4092	0.4381							
85	RAUTE	0.3801	0.4635	0.0082	0.5835	0.6119	0.5388	0.4310							
86	DHUNIA	0.3288	0.4030	0.0952	0.7534	0.5099	0.4608	0.4252							
87	DHAGAR/JHAGAR	0.3958	0.3813	0.0651	0.6213	0.6667	0.4056	0.4226							
88	KAMI	0.4805	0.3848	0.1878	0.6389	0.3289	0.4609	0.4136							
89	BING/BINDA	0.3087	0.3100	0.1246	0.7800	0.6294	0.3287	0.4136							
90	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	0.3337	0.2932	0.1941	0.7966	0.5143	0.3318	0.4106							
91	HALKHOR	0.3782	0.3747	0.0623	0.8146	0.3344	0.4734	0.4063							
92	DUSADH/PASWAN/PASI	0.3435	0.2759	0.2480	0.8048	0.3838	0.3578	0.4023							
93	TATMA	0.3645	0.3622	0.1130	0.8282	0.3607	0.3019	0.3884							
94	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	0.3852	0.2914	0.0118	0.6699	0.4510	0.4625	0.3786							
95	KHATWE	0.3345	0.3105	0.1023	0.8046	0.3907	0.2822	0.3708							
96	DOM	0.2597	0.3733	0.1343	0.7027	0.2719	0.4408	0.3638							
97	MUSAHAR	0.2772	0.1840	0.0830	0.7780	0.2807	0.3612	0.3274							
	Total	0.5359	0.5155	0.2974	0.8327	0.7991	0.5085	0.5815							

## 9.8 Nepal Multidimensional Social Inclusion Index (NSII) by Broader Social Group

The picture presented by the dimensional inclusion index for the broader social groups shows a slightly different pattern of distribution (Table 9.2). In terms of the Social Dimension index, Hill Brahmins and Newars are at the top, while Tarai Dalits and Muslims are at the bottom. For the Economic Dimension, Tarai Brahman/Chhetris and Newars experience the highest levels of inclusion while Tarai and Hill Dalits experience the lowest. Madhesi and Hill Brahmins/Chhetri feature at the top of the Political Inclusion Index, while Tarai and Hill Dalits feature at the bottom. For the Cultural Dimension, Hill Chhetris and Hill Brahmins have the highest index values while Mountain/Hill Janajatis and Newar have the lowest. Gender Inclusion Index values are generally lower than the values of other indices except political inclusion index. Newari women and Mountain/Hill Janajati women enjoy the highest levels of gender inclusion. The lowest levels of gender inclusion are experienced by Tarai Dalit women, and women from other Tarai castes. This is the first time that a social cohesion index has been prepared in Nepal. The index shows high levels of social cohesion (or non-discrimination) for Hill Brahman and Newari groups but low levels for Tarai and Hill Dalits. In terms of overall levels of social inclusion, Hill Brahmins and Madhesi Brahman/Chhetri top the list, while Madhesi and Hill Dalits come in last place.

**Table 9.2: Dimensional and Composite Social Inclusion Index by Broader Social Group**

Caste/Ethnicity	Social Dimension	Economic Dimension	Political Dimension	Cultural Dimension	Social Cohesion Dimension	Gender Dimension	Social Inclusion
	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index	Index
<b>Above National Average</b>							
Hill Brahman	0.6799	0.6048	0.7020	0.9673	0.9594	0.5285	0.7403
Tarai Brahman/Chhetri	0.6008	0.6313	0.7969	0.7695	0.8790	0.4842	0.6936
Newari	0.6811	0.6137	0.6697	0.6695	0.9013	0.5759	0.6852
Hill Chhetri	0.5845	0.5156	0.5709	0.9860	0.8689	0.5415	0.6779
Others	0.6143	0.6297	0.5049	0.6639	0.8789	0.5076	0.6332
<b>Below National Average</b>							
Mountain/Hill Janajati	0.5497	0.5109	0.2363	0.6933	0.8096	0.5516	0.5586
Tarai Janajati	0.4592	0.5183	0.2634	0.7475	0.8550	0.4566	0.5500
Tarai Other Caste	0.4350	0.5297	0.2684	0.8008	0.8218	0.4046	0.5434
Muslim	0.3557	0.4871	0.3691	0.8181	0.6941	0.4333	0.5262
Hill Dalit	0.4854	0.3900	0.1409	0.9386	0.3286	0.4847	0.4614
Tarai Dalit	0.3330	0.2972	0.1373	0.7976	0.4720	0.3505	0.3979
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.5359</b>	<b>0.5155</b>	<b>0.2974</b>	<b>0.8327</b>	<b>0.7991</b>	<b>0.5085</b>	<b>0.5815</b>

Levels of inclusion vary from indicator to indicator and from one social group to another. However, Hill Brahmins, Madhesi Brahman/Chhetri, Newar and Hill Chhetris are most likely to score high levels of social inclusion while Madhesi and Hill Dalits are the least likely to experience high levels of social inclusion.

## 9.9 Conclusion

The distribution of index values across both the broader social groups and the individual caste/ethnic groups demonstrates that different caste/ethnic groups experience different levels of inclusion for different indicators. The NSII is a composite index constructed using 39 different indicators that explain social inclusion in the context of Nepal. These indicators are identified under six major dimensions: social, economic, political, cultural, gender and non-discrimination (social cohesion). The distribution of the six dimensional indices and one social inclusion index across the 97 ethnic groups of Nepal is unequal. This inequality, however, does not follow particular caste or ethnic lines. This means no individual caste/ethnic group is leading or lagging behind in all of the indicators. No one caste/ethnic group, for example, is in top place or bottom place in all six dimensions. However, the distribution of index values among the broader social groups shows that Hill Brahmins, Newar, Tarai Brahmin/Chhetris and Hill Chhetris experience higher levels of inclusion (including overall social inclusion) than the other groups. In contrast, Madhesi Dalits and Hill Dalits have low index scores in nearly all of the dimensions, including in the overall social inclusion index.

Social inclusion is the ongoing process of attaining full and active membership of a society and citizenship of a country. It can be assessed over a particular time-span by identifying and then measuring specific social indicators relevant to the society. Dimensions and indicators of social inclusion may change over time. The NSII presented here provides a benchmark and baseline for the formulation and monitoring of inclusive policies and programs in years to come.

# Annex-1:

## Definitions of the indicators used in the various dimensions of inclusion

### 1. Social Dimension

**Adult Literacy:** Adult literacy is defined as the self-reported ability to both read and write. The adult literacy rate includes all people of 15 years of age and above.

**Net enrollment rate:** The net enrollment rate at basic, secondary and tertiary level is defined as the ratio of the total number of people aged 5-21 enrolled at basic, secondary and tertiary level education, to the total number of people in the 5-21 age group multiplied by 100.

**Basic schooling completion rate:** The basic schooling completion rate is defined as the ratio of the total number of children (age 13-14) who have completed a full course of basic schooling, to the total number of children in the same age group multiplied by 100.

**Health service affordability:** This is defined as the percentage of households that were able to afford medication for every child in the household in the 12 months preceding the survey.

**Child mortality rate:** Evidence of child death is measured as a percentage of households able to produce evidence that a child between the ages of 0 and 5 has died.

**Safe drinking water** use is measured as the percentage of households using drinking water that comes from a pipe or tap.

**Sanitation level** is measured as the percentage of households using their own modern toilet. A modern toilet is defined as a toilet that can be flushed and that is connected to a septic tank or public sewer.

### 2. Economic Dimension

**Landholding:** The average landholding size is defined as the ratio of the total agricultural land operated by households, to the total number of households.

**Non-agricultural activities:** The percentage of people of working age engaged in non-agricultural was measured over a one year reference period, taking usual economic activity into consideration.

**Food expenditure** as a proportion of total household expenditure expressed as a percentage is used as a proxy for determining poverty levels.

**Food sufficiency** levels are measured by calculating the percentage of households that consumes adequate amounts of food (two meals a day, throughout the year).

**Elementary occupations:** This describes the percentage of the economically active population engaged in elementary occupations. These are generally itinerant laborers (as defined in the 2011



Census). Elementary workers as defined by the ILO include messengers, package deliverers, luggage porters, odd-job persons, meter readers, vending machine stockers, water and firewood collectors, and other elementary workers not elsewhere classified. (For details see the ISCO Code, 2008, ILO.)

**Housing conditions:** “Good” houses are defined as having at least two of the following characteristics: a) a concrete or brick foundation, b) a concrete or tile roof, c) brick walls. The housing conditions indicator measures the percentage of households living in “good” houses.

**Dwelling space:** Living space per person was indirectly assessed by measuring the average number of bedrooms per household.

**Cooking fuel use:** The percentage of people living in households that use commercial fuel for cooking. Commercial fuel is defined as kerosene, LP gas, biogas, or electricity.

**Access to electricity:** The percentage of people living in households with access to electricity.

### 3. Political Dimension

**Representation in political parties:** The proportional representation of the various social/identity groups on the central committees of political parties refers to the percentage of people from a particular group who are on a central committee, divided by the percentage of people from the same group in the total population.

**Representation on the Council of Ministers:** Proportional representation of the various social/identity groups on the Council of Ministers refers to the percentage of ministers in the last twenty year period that belong to a particular group, divided by the percentage of people from the same group in the total population.

**Representation in the National Bureaucracy:** Proportional representation in the national bureaucracy refers to the percentage of people from a particular group working in the civil service, divided by the percentage of people from the same group in the total population.

**Voice and agency:** The percentage of households that have up-to-date knowledge of contemporary political terms such as republic, federalism, proportional representation, reservation and identity, that enables them to raise their voices to stand up for their rights as and when necessary.

### 4. Cultural Dimension

**Access to primary education in the mother tongue:** The percentage of children who have access to primary education in their mother tongue refers to number of children in schools where their mother tongue is used as the language of instruction, expressed as a percentage of the total number of children in the given reference group.

**Linguistic barriers:** The percentage of the population experiencing linguistic barriers refers to the perceptions of respondents whose ancestral language is not used at all in local government offices. **Religious recognition:** The percentage of respondents who perceive that their religion is on an equal footing with the other religions in the country. It also refers to public recognition, such as holidays for religious festivals, and government support for religious communities.

**Religious discrimination:** The percentage of the population that have been discriminated against on the basis of their religious background. This is measured in terms of the number of people

reporting discrimination based on religious affiliation (e.g. not being able to access government or community services).

**Customary governance:** The percentage of people who perceive that they have sufficient opportunity to practice customary governance. Customary governance describes the freedom of individuals and communities to practice customary social norms without state interference (e.g. resolving a community level dispute using the traditional practices of a particular community).

## 5. Gender Dimension

**Violence against women:** The percentage of women who feel that they have experienced physical/psychological violence from men in domestic/public life during the previous year is measured based on the responses of adult women in sample households.

**Decision to marry:** The proportion of married women who gave their consent before getting married refers to all married women in the sample households.

**Reproductive decision:** The percentage of married women able to influence reproductive decisions refers to the married women in a household who have control over the timing of the first birth, the number of children to have, and the interval between births.

**Gender parity in enrolment** of a particular group is the ratio of the number girls from that group who are enrolled in school up to secondary level, to the number of boys enrolled from the same group.

**Gender parity in enrolment in private schools** of a particular group is the ratio of the percentage of girls from a particular group in private schools, divided by the percentage of boys from the same group in private schools.

**Land ownership:** The percentage of women land owners refers to the percentage of women living in households in which land is registered in the name of at least one of the women in the household.

**Economic autonomy:** The percentage of women with economic autonomy refers to the percentage of adult women who report having separate funds at their disposal (this may take the form of a bank account or membership of a local savings group, or something more traditional such as a “daijo” or “pewa-pat”).

**Party-political representation:** The percentage of women from a certain group on the central working committee of a political party was obtained by dividing the total numbers of women of the same group on the central working committees of political parties, by the total number of people of the same group on the same committees.

**Representation in the national bureaucracy:** The percentage of women of a particular group working in the national bureaucracy was obtained by dividing the total number of women of the same group working in the bureaucracy, by the total number of people of the same group working in the bureaucracy.

**Representation of women in professional and technical jobs:** The percentage of women of a particular group working in professional and technical jobs was obtained by dividing the total

number of women from the same group working in professional/technical jobs, by the total number of people from the same group working in professional/technical jobs.

## 6. Social Cohesion Dimension

**Denial of entry into a private house:** The percentage of the population that has been refused entry into the house of someone from another social group (e.g. for a feast or celebration) due to their caste/ethnic background. This was measured using the perceptions of respondents in the sample group.

**Denial of entry into religious places:** The percentage of people who have experienced problems in accessing temples or other religious places established for the use of the religious community to which they belong. This was measured using the perceptions of respondents in the sample group.

**Permission to participate in community life:** The percentage of people who feel that they have equity of access to shared facilities such as water sources, market places, tea shops, milk collection centres, and schools. This was measured using the perceptions of respondents in the sample group.

**Social respect/identity:** This refers to the percentage of respondents who feel that they are well-treated and respected in the communities in which they live regardless as to their culture, religion, caste etc. This was measured using the perceptions of respondents in the sample group.

# Annex-2:

## Computation of Indices

### Social Dimension Index

1. Safe water index= (Percentage of people using safe water-0)/ (100-0).
2. Sanitation index= (Percentage of people using modern toilets-0)/ (100-0).
3. Health service accessibility index=1-(percentage of people who could not afford medication for every child in the previous 12 months-0)/ (100-0).
4. Child mortality index=1-(Percentage of people with evidence of child death-0)/ (100-0).
5. Literacy index = (Adult literacy rate -0)/ (100-0).
6. Enrolment index = (Net enrolment rate at basic, secondary, and tertiary level-0)/ (100-0).
7. Education attainment index= (Percentage of children who have completed a basic level of schooling-0)/ (100-0).

**Health index= (Safe Water Index+ Sanitation Index+ Health Service Accessibility Index+ Child Mortality index)/4.**

**Education index= (Literacy Index +Enrolment Index + Education Attainment Index)/3**

**Social Dimension Index (SDI) = (Health Index + Education Index)/2.**

### Economic Dimension Index

8. Land holding index = (Mean area– Minimum area)/ (Maximum area-Minimum area).
9. Non-agricultural employment index = (% of persons in non agricultural activity – 0%) / (100-0).
10. Non-Poverty index1 = 1- (Percentage of food expenditure - Minimum % observed)/ (Maximum % observed - Minimum % observed).
11. Non-Poverty index2 = 1- (Percentage of population in elementary occupations - Minimum % observed)/ (Maximum % observed - Minimum % observed).
12. Food sufficiency index= (% of persons with adequate food -0)/ (100-0).
13. Housing quality index = (Percentage of households living in house having at least two of three housing quality indicators-0)/ (100-0); (concrete/tile roof, brick/cement wall, brick/concrete foundation)
14. Living space index= (mean number of bedrooms - minimum)/ (maximum-minimum).
15. Commercial fuel index= (% of people using commercial fuel-0)/ (100-0).
16. Lighting index= (% of people living in houses with electricity-0)/ (100-0).

**Economic Access Index= (Average area of land holding index+ Non agricultural employment index)/2**

**Non-Poverty Index= (Poverty index1 + Poverty index2 +Food sufficiency index) /3**

**Standard of living index= (Quality of house index + Living space index + Commercial Fuel index + Lighting index)/4**

**Economic Dimension Index EDI= (Economic Access Index + Poverty Index + Standard of living Index)/3.**

### **Political Dimension Index**

17. Political representation index1= (Proportional share in political parties -0)/ (100-0).
18. Political representation index2= (Proportional share on Council of Ministers-0)/ (100-0).
19. Bureaucratic representation index = (Proportional share in national bureaucracy-0)/ (100-0).
20. Voice/agency index = (Percent of population who have some knowledge on contemporary political terms-0)/ (100-0).

**Political representation index= (Political representation index1+ Political representation index2+Bureaucratic representation index)/3**

**Voice/agency index = Voice/agency index**

**Political Dimension Index (PDI) = (Political representation index + Voice/ agency index)/2**

### **Cultural Dimensions Index**

21. Customary governance index= (Percentage of people who perceive that they have sufficient opportunity to practice customary governance-0)/ (100-0).
22. Religious recognition index1= (Percentage of people who perceive that their religion is on an equal footing with other religions in the country-0)/ (100-0).
23. Religious recognition index2=1-(Percentage of the population who have experienced discrimination on the basis of their religious background -0)/ (100-0).
24. Language recognition index1= (Percentage of people who have opportunity to receive primary education in their mother tongues-0)/ (100-0).
25. Language Recognition Index2= (Percentage of the population whose ancestral language is spoken in local government offices -0)/ (100-0).

**Customary GovernanceIndex= Customary politics index**

**Religion Index= (Religious recognition index1+ Religious recognition index2)/2**

**Language Index= (Language recognition index1+ Language recognition index2)/2**

**Cultural Dimension Index (CDI) = (Customary governance index +Religion index+ Language index)/3**

### **Gender Dimension Index**

26. Gender non-violence index1= 1-(Percentage of women who feel that they have experienced physical/psychological violence from men in domestic/public life during the previous year -0)/ (100-0).
27. Gender non-violence index2= (Percentage of married women who were asked for their consent before getting married-0)/ (100-0).
28. Gender non-violence index3= (Percentage of married women who were consulted about reproductive decisions -0)/ (100-0).

29. Gender balance index1= (Gender parity in enrolment up to secondary level-0/ (100-0).
30. Gender balance index2= (Gender parity in enrolment in private schools-0)/ (100-0).
31. Gender resource balance index1= (Percentage of women owning land -0)/ (100-0).
32. Gender resource balance index2= (Percentage of women who report that they have “some” separate funds” at their disposal0)/(100-0).
33. Gender representation index1= (Percentage of women on the working committees of political parties -0)/ (50-0).
34. Gender representation index2= (Percentage of women working in the national bureaucracy-0)/ (50-0).
35. Gender representation index3= (Percentage of women in professional / technical jobs-0)/ (50-0).

**Gender Non-violence Index= (Gender non-violence index1+ Gender non-violence index2+ Gender non-violence index3)/3**

**Gender Balance Index= (Gender balance index1+ Gender balance index2)/2**

**Gender Resource Balance Index= (Resource balance index1+ Resource balance index2)/2**

**Gender Participation Index= (Gender representation index1+ Gender representation index2+ Gender representation index3)/3**

**Gender Dimension Index (GDI)= (Gender non-violence index + Gender balance index + Gender resource balance index+ Gender participation index)/4**

#### **Social Cohesion index**

38. Spatial segregation index1= (Percentage of the population who have experienced the comfortable and amicable sharing of food in the society in which they live regardless of their caste/ethnic background-0)/ (100-0)
37. Spatial segregation index2= (Percentage of people who enjoy easy access to the religious places or temples of their faith that have been established for the use of the community to which they belong-0)/(100-0)
38. Spatial segregation index3= (Percentage of people who are permitted equal use of all social facilities -0)/ (100-0)
39. Social respect and identity index = (Percentage of the population who have experienced positivity and respect in their communities-0)/ (100-0).

**Spatial Segregation Index= (Spatial segregation index1+ Spatial segregation index2+ Spatial segregation index3)/3**

**Social Respect and Dignity Index= Social respect and dignity index**

**Social Cohesion Dimension Index (SCDI)= (Spatial segregation index+ Social respect and dignity index)/2**

**SOCIAL INCLUSION INDEX= (SDI+EDI+PDI+CDI+GDI+SCDI)/6**

## Annex-3:

### Computation of political inclusion index for proportional share

Category	Population %	occupancy %	Proportional share	Index
Category 1	10	50	5	$(5-0)/(5-0)=1$
Category 2	5	10	2	$(2-0)/(5-0)=0.4$
Category 3	2	2	1	$(1-0)/(5-0)=0.2$
Category 4	3	0	0	0

## Annex-4:

### Data sources by indicators used in the various dimensions.

Dimension	Domain	Indicators	Data source
Social	Education	Adult literacy rate	Census 2011
		Net enrolment rate	Census 2011
		Basic schooling completion rate	Census 2011
	Health	Health services affordability	NSIS 2012
		Child mortality status	NSIS 2012
		Access to safe water	Census 2011
		Access to sanitation	Census 2011
Economic	Economic access	Access to land	Census 2011
		Non agricultural employment	Census 2011
	Non-poverty	Elementary occupations occupation	Census 2011
		Food expenditure	NSIS 2012
		Food sufficiency	NSIS 2012
	Standard of living	Housing conditions	Census 2011
		Access to commercial fuel	Census 2011
		Access to electricity	Census 2011
		Dwelling space	NSIS 2012
Political	Representation	Representation in political parties	Election Commission of Nepal
		Representation in the national bureaucracy	Ministry of General Administration/GOV/N
		Representation on the Council of Ministers	Tank K.C., Good Will Publications
	Voice and agency	Voice and agency	NSIS 2012

Dimension	Domain	Indicators	Data source
Cultural	Language	Opportunities for primary education in the mother tongue	NSIS 2012
		Linguistic barriers to accessing government services	NSIS 2012
	Religion	Religion recognized by the state	NSIS 2012
		Religious discrimination at the community level	NSIS 2012
	Customary governance	Customary governance	NSIS 2012
	Gender	Non-violence	Gender violence
The decision to marry			NSIS 2012
Reproductive decisions			NSIS 2012
Social services		Gender parity in enrolment up to secondary level	Census 2011
		Gender parity in private schooling	NSIS 2012
Economic autonomy		Land ownership by women	Census 2011
		Economic Autonomy of women	NSIS 2012
Representation		Women in professional/technical jobs	Census 2011
		Women on central working committees of political parties	Election commission of Nepal
		Women in bureaucracy	Ministry of General Administration/GOV/N
Social Cohesion	Social sphere	Entry into private houses	NSIS 2012
		Entry into temples	NSIS 2012
		Permission to share social facilities	NSIS 2012
	Respect/identity	Respect/Identity	NSIS 2012



# Annex-5:

## Categorization of caste/ethnic groups

Broad Caste/ Ethnicity	Caste/Ethnic Groups				
Hill Brahman	HILL BRAHMAN				
Hill Chhetri	THAKURI	SANYASHI	CHETRI		
TaraiBrahman/ Chhetri	BRAHMAN- TARAI	KAYASTHA	RAJPUT		
Other Tarai Castes	BADHAE	BANIYA	BARAE	BHEDIYAR/ GADERI	BING/BINDA
	DHUNIA	HAJAM/ THAKUR	HALUWAI	KAHAR	KALWAR
	KAMAR	KANU	KEWAT	KOIRI	KUMHAR
	KURMI	LODHA	LOHAR	MALI	MALLAH
	NUNIYA	NURANG	RAJBHAR	SONAR	SUDHI
	TELI	YADAV			
Hill Dalit	BADI	DAMAI/DHOLI	GAINE	KAMI	SARKI
TaraiDalit	BANTAR	CHAMAR, HARIJAN, RAM	CHIDIMAR	DHOBI	DOM
	DUSADH/ PASWAN/PASI	HALKHOR	KHATWE	MUSAHAR	TATMA
Newari	NEWARI				
Mountain/Hill Janajati	BHOTE	BOTE	BRAHMU/ BARAMU	BYANGSI	CHEPANG (PRAJA)
	CHHANTYAL	DANUWAR	DARAI	DURA	GHARTI/ BHUJEL
	GURUNG	HAYU	JIREL	KUMAL	LEPCHA
	LIMBU	MAGAR	MAJHI	PAHARI	RAI
	RAJI	RAUTE	SHERPA	SUNUWAR	TAMANG
	THAKALI	THAMI	WALUNG	YAKKHA	HYOLMO
TaraiJanajati	DHAGAR/ JHAGAR	DHANUK	DHIMAL	GANGAI	KISAN
	KOCHE	MECHE	MUNDA	PATHARKATA/ KUSWADIYA	RAJBANSI
	SANTHAL/ SATAR	TAJPURIYA	THARU		
Muslim	MUSALMAN				
Others	BANGALI	MARWADI	PUNJABI/SIKH		

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