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Subject: Accessing DHS Data with Stata/IC  
Posted by [kalegria](#) on Wed, 05 Feb 2014 18:29:24 GMT  
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To allow for the large dataset, I am able to "set memory 450m", but I cannot "set maxvar 10000, perm" with Stata/IC.

Is there anyway around this?

Thank you.

Kei

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Subject: Re: Accessing DHS Data with Stata/IC  
Posted by [user-rhs](#) on Thu, 06 Feb 2014 22:52:41 GMT  
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Kei, Stata IC only allows for 2,048 variables max. To work around this issue, you can do one of a number of different things:

1.) Pull only the variables you need - If you already know the variable names you need, then specify it when you call the dataset in your do file, i.e.

```
use v012 v201 v025 using "c:\user-rhs\datasets\countryx.dta",clear
```

2.) If you don't feel like sifting through the FRQ file for the variables you need, or if you are not sure which ones you need, you can pull batches of the variables at a time using the wildcard (\*) and remove the variables where all obs'ns have a missing value, save as separate datasets, then merge all of them together by caseid. Often, this will result in a dataset that is <2000 vbls, i.e.

\*pull vbls that begin with V and S

```
use caseid v* s* using "c:\user-rhs\datasets\countryx.dta",clear
```

```
findname,all(missing(@)) /*running this command will spit out a list of vbls where all obsns have missing value,  
you can then drop these variables safely from your dataset */
```

```
/* copy and paste the variables that were listed as a result of the -findname- command above, use  
/// at the end of each line to tell stata that the list of vbls to remove goes beyond that line. Make  
sure there is a space b/w vbl name and ///, i.e. do v120 ///, don't do v120/// */
```

```
/*EXAMPLE*/ drop v017    v305_18  v3a00l  v453    v469i  v470xy  v759c  v762bp  
v770f  s215c_19 ///  
v040   v307_18  v3a00m  v454    v469j  v470xz  v759d  v762bq  v770g  s215m_20  
///
```

```
v122    v305_19 v3a00n v455    v469k v630j v759e v762br v770h s215y_20 ///
```

```
v128    v307_19 v3a00o v456    v469m v630k v759f v762bs v770i s215c_20 ///
```

```
v156    v305_20 v3a00p v457    v469n v630l v759g v762bt v771  s406a_2
```

sort caseid

```
*save the modified data
save countryx_vsonly.dta
```

```
*pull vbls that begin with M
use caseid m* b* using "c:\user-rhs\datasets\countryx.dta",clear
```

```
findname,all(missing(@))
```

```
drop b12_01 m40e_1 m40g_2 m37g_3 m2k_4 m55i_4 m49a_5 m37e_6 m55d_6
mm15_12 ///
```

```
b8_16 m40f_1 m40i_2 m37i_3 m2l_4 m55j_4 m49b_5 m37f_6 m55e_6
mm5_13 ///
```

```
b9_16 m40g_1 m40j_2 m37j_3 m2m_4 m55k_4 m49c_5 m37g_6 m55f_6
mm10_13 ///
```

```
b16_16 m40i_1 m40k_2 m37k_3 m2n_4 m55l_4 m49d_5 m37h_6 m55g_6
mm11_13 ///
```

```
b8_17 m40j_1 m40m_2 m37m_3 m3a_4 m55m_4 m49e_5 m37i_6 m55h_6
mm12_13
```

sort caseid

```
*save modified data
save countryx_mbsonly.dta, replace
```

```
merge 1:1 caseid using countryx_vsonly.dta
```

```
*if the merge was satisfactory, you can drop the _merge vbl
drop _merge
save countryx_mod.dta,replace
```

Let me know whether this works for you.

HTH,  
RHS

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Subject: Re: Accessing DHS Data with Stata/IC

Posted by [kalegria](#) on Sun, 09 Feb 2014 14:03:59 GMT

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It worked! Thank you so much!!

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Subject: Re: Accessing DHS Data with Stata/IC

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Sat, 22 Feb 2014 19:00:34 GMT

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Dear RHS.

Thank you very much for your input.

Liz

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