
Subject: merging male and female hiv data to couples data (DRC)

Posted by [jessi.petz](#) on Wed, 20 Jul 2016 10:46:41 GMT

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I've followed previous steps provided on merging HIV data to couples data, and managed to merge the women's data fine. But when I go back to do the steps again to merge the men's data it says ~variable _merge already defined~ and does not merge the data.

These are the steps I was following:

**** * Step 1: open AR file**

use "HIV.DTA", clear

*** Step 2: rename identifying variables**

rename hivclust v001

rename hivnumb v002

rename hivline v003

*** Step 3: sort by identifying variables**

sort v001 v002 v003

*** Step 4: save results**

save "hiv_mergeprep.DTA", replace

*** Step 5: open IR file**

use "CDCCR61FL.DTA", clear

*** Step 6: sort by identifying variables**

sort v001 v002 v003

*** Step 7: merge!**

merge 1:1 v001 v002 v003 using "hiv_mergeprep.DTA"

*** Step 8: Keep only women**

drop if _merge==2

Then rename the added hiv variables to something unique for women, e.g.

rename hiv03 w_hiv03

rename hiv01 w_hiv01

rename hiv02 w_hiv02

and repeat steps 1-8 above using mv003 instead of v003 throughout to merge the men's hiv test result and then finally rename the hiv variables to be for men, e.g.

rename hiv* m_hiv*

Is there a different way to get the male data to merge?

Thanks
