
Subject: Re: Merging HW to IR for Mali DHS IV - Missing HWCASEID

Posted by [kingx025](#) on Mon, 09 Jul 2018 01:50:15 GMT

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You can save yourself some work (not doing the merging yourself) if you use IPUMS-DHS (available for free at www.idhsdata.org), which has done the merging for you. Selecting children as the unit of analysis (KR file as starting point), and limiting sample selection to the surveys for Mali 1987, 1995, 2001, 2006, and 2012, I see that there are child anthropometric variables for all the Mali samples.

Sometimes for early years, the height/weight data for children are stored in a separate file. IPUMS-DHS staff have merged these separate anthropometric files to the KR child files. We have also merged the mother's file and the mother's household file to each child record (in the KR files) and each birth record (from the BR files). Thus, you can get all the variables you need, from the household, from the mother, from the child file, and from the child biometric data, if you choose children as the unit of analysis in IPUMS-DHS and select the variables you need. Here's the list of variables relating to child anthropometry when children are selected as the unit of analysis (from the KR files): <https://www.idhsdata.org/idhs-action/variables/group?id=kidanthro>

Look for columns headed with Mali and the survey year. An X means the variable is available in that sample.

You can log in with your DHS user name and password, select the samples and variables you need and the file format you prefer to make a customized data file, and download it to your computer for analysis without doing any merging yourself.

Keep in mind that only children with surviving mothers who participated in the survey are covered if you use the KR file data (use children as the unit of analysis).

Miriam King
