
Subject: Re: Merge WI to KR in Mali
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 18 Jul 2019 13:42:06 GMT
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Merges involving these two surveys in Mali are difficult because they included a "sub-household" code. Fortunately, the subsequent surveys in Mali did not have this complication. (A couple of non-Mali surveys have the same problem.)

However, for what you want to do, you can bypass the HR file completely. You can merge the WI and KR files directly. It helps that the wealth index is the same for all sub-households within a household so you don't have to distinguish the sub-households. For some other merges with these surveys, you do need to do that.

The following lines show how to do this with the 1995-96 survey. You will have to change the paths. The basic strategy is to use the household id code. First you need to unpack the columns of whhid in the WI file and caseid in the KR file. I find that columns 1-12 of caseid are a match with columns 1-12 of whhid. This "unpacking" strategy will virtually always work for a merge that is giving you a problem.

* Procedure to transfer the wealth index from WI to KR without using HR

```
use "C:\Users\26216\ICF\Analysis - Shared Resources\Data\DHSdata\MLWI32FL.DTA", clear
describe whhid
list if _n<=20, table clean
```

* I want to identify the separate columns of whhid

```
local li=1
while `li'<=12 {
  gen str1 col`li'=substr(whhid,`li',1)
  local li=`li'+1
}
```

```
list whhid col* if _n<20, table clean
```

```
use "C:\Users\26216\ICF\Analysis - Shared Resources\Data\DHSdata\MLKR31FL.DTA", clear
describe caseid
list caseid if _n<=20
```

* I want to identify the separate columns of caseid

```
local li=1
while `li'<=15 {
  gen str1 col`li'=substr(caseid,`li',1)
```

```
local li=`li'+1  
}
```

```
list caseid col* if _n<20, table clean
```

* It appears that columns 1-12 of caseid in the KR file match with columns 1-12 of whhid in the WI file

* Now do the merge

```
use "C:\Users\26216\ICF\Analysis - Shared Resources\Data\DHSdata\MLWI32FL.DTA", clear  
gen mergeid=whhid  
sort mergeid  
save e:\DHS\DHS_data\scratch\MLWItemp.dta, replace
```

```
use "C:\Users\26216\ICF\Analysis - Shared Resources\Data\DHSdata\MLKR31FL.DTA", clear  
gen mergeid=substr(caseid,1,12)  
sort mergeid
```

```
merge mergeid using e:\DHS\DHS_data\scratch\MLWItemp.dta  
tab _merge  
keep if _merge==3  
drop _merge
```

```
summarize wlthind*
```