
Subject: Re: Multilevel Regression Analysis
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 15 Feb 2023 13:19:44 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

Sorry I misunderstood the question earlier. I thought you were studying the anthropometry of children. Now I see you are focusing on women of reproductive age. The variables are v437-v447 in the IR file. That's the ONLY file you need to use. No merges with other files are needed, unless you want to add in some household characteristics such as sanitation that are in the PR file as covariates. You can do an IR/PR merge by matching v001 v002 v003 in the IR file with hv001 hv002 hvidx in the PR file. The woman's anthropometry data appear in the PR file as well as the IR file, but with different variable names.

The MR file is not really relevant. It includes men, and I don't think men's heights and weights have been measured in DHS surveys, although I may be mistaken. Children under 5 are measured in most, but not all DHS surveys, and for them you use the PR or KR file. It is possible to relate the anthropometry of children to that of their mothers. The KR file includes hw70-hw72 for children and also v445 for the mother (and other related variables) on the same record.

As for your problem with multilevel models, it may be that you don't really gain anything with a multilevel model, compared with a single-level model. I suggest that you compare the two, for a setup which does work for both, and see whether the results that can be compared are different.