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Subject: Re: merging KR and PR - Multi-country and multi years

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Fri, 02 Jun 2023 14:19:09 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

Users are asked to say which survey they are using. It looks like you are having trouble with one of the older (phase 4) Mali surveys (I see "ML4" in your listing). There were several DHS surveys in Francophone Africa around DHS-4 that included sub-household identifiers. For them, you have to include the sub-household identifier or use hhid or caseid rather than just hv001 hv002 hvidx. Fortunately there were very few such surveys.

Also, if a survey does not include b16, we (DHS staff) cannot provide any guidance on PR/KR merges. We have been unable to come up with a foolproof strategy for merges without b16.

I strongly recommend that you do the merges first and then append, rather than appending first and merging second. This was discussed in earlier posts.

But mainly I suggest that you reconsider WHY you want to merge the KR and PR files. Which child-specific variables do you need that are in the PR file and not in the KR file? The KR file already includes virtually every item of information about the child that is in the PR file. It also includes virtually every item of information about the mother that is in the IR file. If you want to add household-specific variables such as sanitation and source of water, then you just merge with the HR file, using the cluster and household ID codes and forget the line number. Please let us know if there is some specific variable in the household data that you cannot get with this simpler approach.

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