
Subject: Re: Merging and appending data files

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 16 Jan 2024 17:12:18 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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

The following lines show how to append the IR files from these three surveys. Note that v024 (region), which is an important variable, is coded differently in the three surveys. It is just one example of a variable that is defined differently in the three surveys. Such variables must be saved with survey-specific variable labels and then be recoded to a single variable that applies across the surveys.

* Specify a workspace

```
cd e:\DHS\DHS_data\scratch
```

```
use "...\\PKIR52FL.DTA", clear
```

```
keep v*
```

```
rename v024 v024_1
```

```
gen survey=1
```

```
save PKIR.dta, replace
```

```
use "...\\PKIR61FL.DTA", clear
```

```
keep v*
```

```
rename v024 v024_2
```

```
gen survey=2
```

```
quietly append using PKIR.dta
```

```
save PKIR.dta, replace
```

```
use "...\\PKIR71FL.DTA", clear
```

```
keep v*
```

```
rename v024 v024_3
```

```
gen survey=3
```

```
quietly append using PKIR.dta
```

```
save PKIR.dta, replace
```

```
tab1 v024_*
```

* You must construct a new variable for v024 (region) because the codes were different

* in the three surveys. Many other variables are also different in the three surveys