
Subject: Re: Merging Nepal DHS data sets across years
Posted by [Reduced-For\(u\)m](#) on Fri, 03 Oct 2014 02:33:52 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

At what level are you trying to "merge" all of these? I mean - what do you want the final unit of observation to be? In some of those recodes it is a person, and in some it is a household. Do you want one observation for each human being that was contacted in any way, and then have their household's information attached to them? Or do you want one observation per household, but need information on all the men, women and children in that household?

Depending on what you want your data to look like, you might be doing some merging and some appending. You should also just be wary of problems with sample selection, weighting, estimation, and inference (p-values) when you combine all of those recodes. I do not believe there is any set procedure for getting consistent estimates when joining together all the different survey types into one dataset, and there is certainly scope for a lot of accidental double-counting or running un-interpretable regressions or comparisons.
