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Subject: Re: Merging DHS data in Stata

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 21 Oct 2015 17:55:59 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

I can do everything I want with the old version of merge, which did not include 1:1 or 1:m or m:1 or m:m. I prefer simplicity, so I stay with the old version, but it's not better or worse. You can use whatever version of the merge command that you want to.

You should only occasionally need to use joinby. It's a very powerful command but tends to produce files that are much much larger than the input files. It will give you all possible combinations of cases that match on whatever id code you are using. If you have 10 cases in file 1 with id=12345 and 8 cases in file 2 with id=12345, you will get 10\*8 joined (or paired) cases with id=12345.

I think what you want to do would be as follows:

```
use PRXXXXFL.dta, clear
rename hv001 v001
rename hv002 v002
rename hvidx v003
sort v001 v002 v003
save temp.dta, replace
```

```
use IRXXXXFL.dta, clear
sort v001 v002 v003
```

```
merge v001 v002 v003 using temp.dta
tab _merge
keep if _merge==3
drop _merge
```