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Subject: Re: Dropping mothers' records without dropping the child's

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Thu, 11 Feb 2016 14:12:40 GMT

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Here is another response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

Yes, if you use "drop" then you will lose the record entirely. In your example, it sounds like women should be the unit of analysis and you should be using the IR file. The number of children born in the past five years is v208. Perhaps you want a command such as this: summarize v438 if v208>1. Note that v438 includes special codes in the range 9994 to 9999, so it would be better to say summarize v438 if v438<9994 & v208>1. Another possibility would be tab v208 if v438<9994, summarize(v438), which would include women with no births or one birth, but you could just focus on women with more than one birth.

If you use the KR or BR files to study women, then each woman (only mothers) will appear once for every child born in the past five years. I doubt that you want that kind of multiple counting of women. Or perhaps you want to relate a characteristic of the child to a characteristic of the mother. For example, you could be studying the relationship between the mother's BMI and whether the child is stunted, underweight, overweight, or wasted. If so, you could remove the women who had one child by including "...if hwidx>1" in the estimation command, before the comma.

In these examples I am omitting the weights; in real life you would want to include them. Note that in the KR and BR files, bidx, hidx, midx, and hwidx are the same.

If there is some other reason why you are using the KR or BR file to analyze women, I'd be interested to hear what it is. Don't hesitate to ask again if I am not answering your question.

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