
Subject: Re: merging household and individual data
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 14 Jun 2016 14:11:05 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

All kinds of merges ARE possible with those files. Please confirm that what you want to construct is a file with the MR and IR data merged onto the PR file for 2013. Is that correct? If so, tell me and I will send the lines for the merges.

The parental survival and coresidence questions are only asked about children under 18, i.e. ages 0-17. These are given as the variables hv111-hv114 in the household file. It is true that for children under 18 you do not need to do any merging at all; you can just use the PR file.

People age 18 and above can be matched with their mother if their mother is alive and age 15-49 and in the household. This is because in a woman's birth history, b16 (for each child) is the line number of the child if the child lives in the same household as the mother. However, if the child and the mother are NOT in the same household, then it could be because the mother is older than 49, or has died, or is in a different household. It is impossible to say which.

There is no way to link with the father unless the father is the household head and the child is coded "child" for hv101. If the father is in the household but is not the household head, then you cannot identify him as the father, and you cannot tell whether the father has died or is in a different household. It is impossible to say which.

There have been some other surveys, for example some MICS surveys, in which the parental survival and coresidence questions go higher than age 17.