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Subject: Re: Merging births to women data - 1998 1999  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 14 Jun 2016 14:30:54 GMT  
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

Why are you trying to match births to women by merging files? The BR file has one record for each birth, and each record has all (or virtually all) of the mother's information already on it. There is no need to merge the BR and IR files.

In the IR file, the unique identifier for the woman will be combinations of v001 v002 v003. In the BR file, the unique identifier for the child will be v001 v002 v003 bidx. That should be all you need to specify--but, as I said, I don't understand why you want to do the merge in the first place.

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