Subject: Record Limits  
Posted by jd.weaver on Fri, 24 Apr 2015 18:05:26 GMT

All,

I am trying to access DHS family planning data for the Track20 (track20.org) countries, including sub-national regions. However, I seem to be running into record limits. What are the API record limits?

The full API call url is here:

Subject: Re: Record Limits  
Posted by ychoi on Fri, 17 Jul 2015 20:18:43 GMT

In case you haven't found the answer yet:

- Default record limit is 100: "perpage: Indicates maximum number of rows returned. Maximum is 1000 for non-authenticated users, and 5000 for authenticated users. Default is 100."  
(http://api.dhsprogram.com/#/api-advancedqueries.cfm)
- So. you'd add "perpage=1000" in your code to increase the number of record.
- If you want to become an authenticated/registered user (to increase the number of record even more), just email API. They were fast in response! More here: http://api.dhsprogram.com/#/introdevelop.html
What is the best way to get all of the records needed, if you are exceeding the record limit per page? For example, if I want data for several indicators, for breakdown=all, for all countries, is there something more efficient than having multiple API calls, such as:


etc.?

A few suggestions:
1) You can set perpage=3000 without using an API key.
2) If you request an API key you can set perpage=5000
3) Write your code to access the API in a loop that will loop through the pages until you have returned all of the data you need.

Thank you, Trevor.

The STATA loop I wrote is shared below for others. The list of indicators requested has been truncated.
/*API allows 3000 records at a time for a user, but you can select subsequent pages of records
The code below loops through requests for additional pages of records, without knowing
how many pages there will be. It then appends all of the pages, each saved as a dataset
into 1 file */

local i=1
while `i'<1000 {

    clear
    gen str9 surveyid=""
    gen str30 group=""
    gen str30 grouplabel=""
    gen str30 indicatorID=""
    gen str10 value=""
    gen str30 country=""

    #delimit;
    insheetjson surveyid country indicatorID group grouplabel value
    using " http://api.dhsprogram.com/rest/dhs/data?breakdown=all&su
    _MOD,FP_CUSA_W_MOD,FP_CUSU_W_MOD&perpage=3000&page=` i",
    table(Data) col(SurveyId CountryName IndicatorId CharacteristicCategory CharacteristicLabel Value);

    #delimit cr

    save "page`i'.dta", replace
    if _N<3000 {
        exit
    } else {
        local i=`i'+1
    }
}

while `i'>1 {
    local i=`i'-1
    append using "page`i'.dta"
}