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Subject: Record Limits

Posted by [jd.weaver](#) on Fri, 24 Apr 2015 18:05:26 GMT

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All,

I am trying to access DHS family planning data for the Track20 ([track20.org](http://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:

```
http://api.dhsprogram.com/rest/dhs/data?breakdown=subnationa
l&indicatorIds=34202002,34202003,34202004,34202005,34202
006,34202007,34202008,34202009,34202010,34202011,34202012,34
202013,34202014,34202019,34202020,34202021,34202022,34202023
,34202024,34202029,34202030,34202035,34202037&countryIds
=BD,BJ,BF,CD,CI,ET,GN,IA,ID,KE,ML,MR,NI,NG,PK,PH,SN,TZ,TG,UG
&surveyIds=BD2000DHS,BD2004DHS,BD2007DHS,BD2011DHS,BJ199
6DHS,BJ2001DHS,BJ2006DHS,BJ2012DHS,BF1993DHS,BF1999DHS,BF200
3DHS,BF2010DHS,CD2007DHS,CD2013DHS,CI1994DHS,CI1998DHS,CI201
2DHS,ET2011DHS,GN2005DHS,GN2012DHS,IA1993DHS,IA1999DHS,IA200
6DHS,ID1997DHS,ID2003DHS,ID2007DHS,ID2012DHS,KE1993DHS,KE199
8DHS,KE2003DHS,KE2008DHS,ML1996DHS,ML2001DHS,ML2006DHS,ML201
2DHS,MR2000DHS,NI1992DHS,NI1998DHS,NI2006DHS,NI2012DHS,NG199
0DHS,NG2003DHS,NG2008DHS,NG2013DHS,PK1991DHS,PK2006DHS,PK201
2DHS,PH1998DHS,PH2003DHS,PH2008DHS,PH2013DHS,SN1993DHS,SN199
7DHS,SN2005DHS,SN2010DHS,TZ1996DHS,TZ1999DHS,TZ2004DHS,TZ201
0DHS,TG1988DHS,TG1998DHS,UG1995DHS,UG2000DHS,UG2006DHS,UG2011DHS&f=html
```

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Subject: Re: Record Limits

Posted by [ychoi](#) on Fri, 17 Jul 2015 20:18:43 GMT

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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>
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Subject: Re: Record Limits

Posted by [nchakraborty](#) on Mon, 18 Apr 2016 19:39:36 GMT

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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:

```
" http://api.dhsprogram.com/rest/dhs/data?breakdown=all&indicatorIDs=FP_SRCM_W_PUB,FP_SRCM_W_PRV,FP_SRCM_W_SHP,FP_SRCM_W_CHH,FP_SRCM_W_FRR,FP_SRCM_W_OSR,FP_SRCM_W_OTH,FP_SRCM_W_DKM,FP_SRCM_W_MIS,FP_CUSM_W_MOD,FP_CUSA_W_MOD,FP_CUSU_W_MOD&amp;perpage=1000"
```

```
" http://api.dhsprogram.com/rest/dhs/data?breakdown=all&indicatorIDs=FP_SRCM_W_PUB,FP_SRCM_W_PRV,FP_SRCM_W_SHP,FP_SRCM_W_CHH,FP_SRCM_W_FRR,FP_SRCM_W_OSR,FP_SRCM_W_OTH,FP_SRCM_W_DKM,FP_SRCM_W_MIS,FP_CUSM_W_MOD,FP_CUSA_W_MOD,FP_CUSU_W_MOD&amp;perpage=1000&page=2"
```

```
" http://api.dhsprogram.com/rest/dhs/data?breakdown=all&indicatorIDs=FP_SRCM_W_PUB,FP_SRCM_W_PRV,FP_SRCM_W_SHP,FP_SRCM_W_CHH,FP_SRCM_W_FRR,FP_SRCM_W_OSR,FP_SRCM_W_OTH,FP_SRCM_W_DKM,FP_SRCM_W_MIS,FP_CUSM_W_MOD,FP_CUSA_W_MOD,FP_CUSU_W_MOD&amp;perpage=1000&page=3"
```

etc.?

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Subject: Re: Record Limits

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Mon, 18 Apr 2016 20:00:03 GMT

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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.
- 

Subject: Re: Record Limits

Posted by [nchakraborty](#) on Tue, 19 Apr 2016 19:17:31 GMT

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Thank you, Trevor.

The STATA loop I wrote is shared below for others. The list of indicators requested has been truncated.

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/\*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&surveyYear=2010,2011,2012,2013,2014&indicatorIDs=FP_CUSM_W_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"
}
```