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Subject: How to download only few variables from the DHS dataset

Posted by [Uththara](#) on Mon, 30 May 2016 00:39:07 GMT

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Hi,

I only need to data on few variables from Household data in different African countries. Since my Stata does not allow me to take whole data set due to the fixed number of variables.

For example I need variables like, HV243A,HV240, HV239...etc.

My question is is there any possibility of downloading only the needed variables?

Thank you.

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Subject: Re: How to download only few variables from the DHS dataset

Posted by [Reduced-For\(u\)m](#) on Mon, 30 May 2016 21:11:37 GMT

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I believe you can just download the regular dataset, but only load certain variables from it. See: <http://www.stata.com/help.cgi?use>

```
use [varlist] [if] [in] using filename [, clear nolabel]
```

So if you typed, for example:

```
"use make rep78 foreign using myauto"
```

...it would only load 3 variables ("make" "rep78" and "foreign") from the dataset "myauto".

I think that should work, but let me know if it doesn't.

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Subject: Re: How to download only few variables from the DHS dataset

Posted by [Uththara](#) on Tue, 31 May 2016 03:54:27 GMT

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Hi,

Unfortunately it is not working. because the file itself cannot be opened.

Is there another way?

Thank you.

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Subject: Re: How to download only few variables from the DHS dataset

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Posted by [boyle014](#) on Tue, 31 May 2016 20:33:41 GMT

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IPUMS-DHS allows you to do this easily. It is available at [idhsdata.org](http://idhsdata.org). Your regular DHS User ID and password will work there. IPUMS-DHS is a project of the Minnesota Population Center, with support from ICF International. It currently includes African surveys and India.

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