Subject: Opening DHS data on STATA 13
Posted by verena on Wed, 12 Oct 2016 09:31:38 GMT
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Hi

I have been trying to open the DHS data for Benin for instance on STATA 13 but couldn't do so. I have tried to open the Individual Recode (IR) and Couples Recode (CR). No chance.

Stata provides me with the following information

no room to add more variables
Up to 2,048 variables are allowed with this version of Stata. Versions are available that allow up to 32,767 variables.

Then I tried to use the following commands as specified by the video:

set mem 450m
set memory ignored.
Memory no longer needs to be set in modern Statas; memory adjustments are performed on the fly automatically.

set maxvar 10000, perm
maxvar not settable in this version of Stata
maxvar specifies the maximum number of variables allowed in your data; see help memory. in this version of
Stata, maxvar is fixed at 2,048. Versions of Stata are available that allow up to 32,767 variables.

This is what I've got. I have also tried select.exe and manage to get the .DCT file but can't open the file.

Kindly help. Thanks
Verena

Subject: Re: Opening DHS data on STATA 13
Posted by Bridgette-DHS on Wed, 12 Oct 2016 11:51:30 GMT
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

Quote:You are probably using the IC or "inter-cooled" version of Stata. Most Stata users have the SE version. I strongly recommend that you get an upgrade to Stata 14 SE. An upgrade is cheaper than a new purchase. There is no simple workaround for this problem. They only way I know how to handle it is to download the .do, .dct, and .dat files that are used to construct the .dta

file, edit the .do and .dct files by deleting big blocks of variables, and then reconstructing the .dta file. I have done that before. Another possibility, that I have not tried, if you have SPSS and Stat Transfer, would be to open the SPSS .sav file, delete blocks of variables within SPSS, save, and then convert the reduced .sav file to a .dta file with Stat Transfer. I hope another forum user can suggest something easier.

Subject: Re: Opening DHS data on STATA 13
Posted by verena on Mon, 17 Oct 2016 09:05:01 GMT
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Thanks a lot
Verena

Subject: Re: Opening DHS data on STATA 13
Posted by boyle014 on Sun, 08 Oct 2017 22:45:20 GMT
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There is now a workaround to this problem. If you use IPUMS-DHS at www.idhsdata.org, you can create a single fully harmonized and integrated dataset from multiple surveys. It will have far fewer than 2048 variables, so it can be opened in Stata/IC. Students can get a 6-month Stata/IC license for $45 right now, so instructors may find IPUMS-DHS especially appealing.

IPUMS-DHS is a tool to make comparative and over-time analysis with DHS surveys simpler. It includes the original DHS data. Instead of downloading multiple files, harmonizing the variables, and then appending them though, IPUMS-DHS allows you to select just the variables, countries, and years that interest you. You can login to IPUMS-DHS with your regular DHS username and password.

As of this post, IPUMS-DHS includes most of the African surveys and the Indian surveys and data from the IR, KR, or BR files. By summer 2018, it will include the MR and PR files, as well as more countries.

Too late for this user, but hopefully future users will benefit.

Liz Boyle, University of Minnesota