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Subject: merging household data with female data  
Posted by [rakesh](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2017 10:17:21 GMT  
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hi,  
i want to merge IABR42FL and IAIR42FL datasets in nhfs2. i have already generated the unique hhids. couldn't merge the two sets due to mismatch of number of observations in stata. please provide the stata code.

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Subject: Re: merging household data with female data  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2017 13:17:33 GMT  
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Following is a response from Senior DHS Stata Specialist, Tom Pullum:

The IR file has one record for every woman in the survey of women. The BR file has one record for every child of those women. The records in the BR file include much of the information about the mother. You only need to do this merge if there are variables on the IR records that have not already been attached to the BR records.

Women who have not had any children will not appear as mothers in the BR file. Women who have had more than one child will appear more than once as mothers in the BR file. That's why the number of records in the two files is different. However, that does not keep you from doing a merge.

The following will work (you would need to change the paths):

```
use e:\DHS\DHS_data\IR_files\IAIR42FL.dta, clear
sort v001 v002 v003
save e:\DHS\DHS_data\scratch\IRtemp.dta, replace

use e:\DHS\DHS_data\BR_files\IABR42FL.dta, clear
sort v001 v002 v003
merge v001 v002 v003 using e:\DHS\DHS_data\scratch\IRtemp.dta

tab _merge
keep if _merge==3
drop _merge
```

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Subject: Re: merging household data with female data  
Posted by [rakesh](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2017 14:06:36 GMT

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thanks a lot  
an you please tell me about which dataset captures which information?

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Subject: Re: merging household data with female data  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 08 Nov 2017 14:12:32 GMT  
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Please visit the "Dataset Types" page: <https://www.dhsprogram.com/data/Dataset-Types.cfm>

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Subject: Re: merging household data with female data  
Posted by [boyle014](#) on Fri, 10 Nov 2017 13:45:00 GMT  
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Dear Rakesh,

You may find IPUMS-DHS ([www.idhsdata.org](http://www.idhsdata.org)) particularly useful for your needs. The birth files and women's files have already been merged (and all of the household variables have also been added), and it is easy to browse all the variables to see which are available.

You can login with your DHS program email and password. Select GET DATA on the home page, use SELECT SAMPLES to choose India. (Be sure you SUBMIT on the sample selection page). The TOPICS drop-down menu will then show you the variables that are available for this sample.

Good luck with your research!

Liz Boyle

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