
Subject: Data in CSV/XLSX Format

Posted by [minerva](#) on Thu, 05 Jul 2018 05:27:03 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I have downloaded India survey data and working on analyzing it. Can anyone recommend me resources about how to deal with .dat files? I tried to see the content using python and found the content in the format as attached with this. Please anyone can help me with using .dat files? Is it a good idea to covert it and see it in xlsx/csv? Please let me know how do you deal with it?

Thanks,
Minerva

File Attachments

1) [Screenshot from 2018-07-05 10-55-36.png](#), downloaded 750 times

Subject: Re: Data in CSV/XLSX Format

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Wed, 18 Jul 2018 16:39:31 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

DHS data is designed for use with Statistical packages such as Stata, SPSS, R, or SAS. I would recommend using one of these software, and downloading the dataset appropriate for that package, rather than the file you have downloaded. It is not practical to use Excel to analyze DHS datasets.

If you haven't worked with DHS data before, I suggest that you try with a small survey first, and not the India survey datasets, as the India datasets are massive files. I also suggest that you look at our Youtube video tutorial series available at https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLagqLv-gqpTMx2Q10C_prJRnCtM55C0o8 including the video Introduction to DHS datasets.
