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Subject: I need help on using select to reduce DHS variables

Posted by [Bathandwas](#) on Sat, 15 Feb 2014 13:24:00 GMT

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I am currently working on DHS data for Namibia and my data set cant open on STATA IC because there are too many variables on the DHS than that stata module can take. I have read somewhere that a software called select can help by reducing the number of variables to the amount that can be accomodated on stata. I have already downloaded select, can someone help me on how this whole process works.

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Subject: Re: I need help on using select to reduce DHS variables

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Wed, 19 Feb 2014 13:48:38 GMT

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Dear User,

Please see the link <http://www.stata.com/support/faqs/data-management/selecting-subset-of-observations/>.

It is from Stata's website.

Thank you!

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Subject: Re: I need help on using select to reduce DHS variables

Posted by [user-rhs](#) on Wed, 19 Feb 2014 17:36:48 GMT

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Dear Bathandwas,

Refer to my post from February 6 on calling specific variables into Stata IC as a work around to the variable limit issue:

[http://userforum.measuredhs.com/index.php?t=msg&th=778&a mp;a mp;a mp;goto=1294&S=794b1ba73d597c13150b19487e4c63df#msg\\_1294](http://userforum.measuredhs.com/index.php?t=msg&th=778&a mp;a mp;a mp;goto=1294&S=794b1ba73d597c13150b19487e4c63df#msg_1294)

Please let me know whether this was useful.

hth,  
RHS

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Subject: Re: I need help on using select to reduce DHS variables

Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Sat, 22 Feb 2014 18:58:05 GMT

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Dear User,

Thank you again for your post. You mentioned you downloaded the SELECT utility already. In case you need to download again, the link is provided below.

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It is important to note that SELECT only works with data definitions (.SPS or .DCT) created by CSPro export applications. Select does not work with the system data files (.SAV or .DTA). Attached is the Readme file for the utility. The Readme file is also included in the download. It has a complete set of instructions for using this utility.

It would be useful to know where in the process you are having a problem. Is it during the installation of the utility, or after it has been installed?

I downloaded and installed on my system. I have Windows XP Professional as my operating system. I unzipped the files to a Select2 directory on the root of my C: drive. (Select2 is the default name which gets assigned). If you have downloaded data files from our website, you can find a .DCT and .DO file in the flat files distributed with your data. In my case I used NMIRFL.zip, unzipped that and found the needed files.

From there I followed the instructions in the Readme.doc file (only 1 page) and was successful. I am attaching a picture (.jpg) file so you can see what the screen should look like. (yours will have your own selection of variables, mine was only a test)

Download for Select Utility <http://measuredhs.com/data/Data-Tools-and-Manuals.cfm>

You may also find the 3rd video on Opening Data Sets in STATA, SPSS, SAS useful.  
<http://measuredhs.com/data/Using-Datasets-for-Analysis.cfm>

If this does not answer your question, please feel free to post again.

Thank you!

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### File Attachments

- 1) [screen\\_showing\\_subset\\_vars.JPG](#), downloaded 1125 times
  - 2) [readme.doc](#), downloaded 1368 times
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