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Subject: How to merge a person-level data with a child-level data

Posted by [ojh798](#) on Tue, 15 Sep 2020 06:28:16 GMT

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Dear DHS data expert,

I have one question regarding merging dataset A (a person-level data used as a base file) with dataset B (a child-level data used as a secondary file).

Dataset A (a base file or master file): It was reshaped from wide to long based on a list of variables from hvidx\_01 to hvidx\_21 from a household-level data. In this reshaped data, a new variable called "pnum" (unique person number from 1 to 21 within each household) was created. As linking variables, there are hhid (12-digit number=hv001+hv002) and hv003 (respondent's line number: 3-digit number).

Dataset B (a secondary file or using file): It is a child-level data. As linking variables, there are hwcaseid (15-digit number = hv001+hv002+hv003) and hwline (values = 1, 2, 3).

In order to merge a person-level data (person numbers within each household range from 1 to 21) with a child-level data (child numbers within each household range from 1 to 3), how can I do? The point I would like to consult with you is to ensure which person number in the base data file can correspond to which child number in the secondary data file. Could you help me to resolve with this data merging issue?

Thank you so much in advance.

Best,  
Jihyun

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Subject: Re: How to merge a person-level data with a child-level data

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 15 Sep 2020 11:53:54 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Is your "dataset A" the HR file? If so, it will be much easier if you use the PR file, which is already equivalent to a reshaped (long) HR file. You can then just merge the PR and BR files. In the BR file, the line number of the child is b16. This corresponds to hvidx in the PR file.

If you reshaped (long) the HR file, which as I said is not necessary, the person-level index you are asking about would be hvidx.

The BR file contains children of all ages as well as children who have died. Therefore when you do a PR/BR merge there will be many BR cases that are not in the PR file.

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Subject: Re: How to merge a person-level data with a child-level data

Posted by [ojh798](#) on Tue, 15 Sep 2020 19:13:47 GMT

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Dear Bridgette,

Thank you so much for your prompt reply. It's very helpful to me. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Jihyun

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