



How To Merge LongSCAN Data Files- When there are multiple records per respondent

Based on SPSS version 13.0

Step 1: Sort all data files in ascending order.

→ Open the data file

→ From the “Data” menu select “Sort Cases”

→ In the “sort cases” dialog box, click on “Longscan Subject ID (ID)” and click on the arrow to move it into the “sort by” box.

→ Now, click on “Visit Number (visit)” and click the arrow to move it into the “sort by” box. For an example, see print screen below.

→ Click “OK.”

***repeat this step for each data file that you plan to use in the merge.**

ID	CENTE	VISIT	CABA1	CABA1B	CABA1	CABA1	CAE
1	MW0013	MW	3	0			
2	MW0013	MW	5	0			
3	MW0049	MW	2	1	NOT APPLICABLE	2	4
4	MW0049	MW	3	1	VERY HYPERACTIVE DOESNT LISTEN	2	4
5	MW0065	MW	2	0			
6	MW0065	MW					
7	MW0065	MW					
8	MW00136	MW					
9	MW00136	MW					
10	MW00136	MW					
11	MW00148	MW					
12	MW00148	MW					
13	MW00148	MW					
14	MW00150	MW					
15	MW00150	MW	3	0			
16	MW00150	MW	5	0			
17	MW00169	MW	2	1	BITING YOUNGER KIDS	2	2
18	MW00169	MW	3	0			
19	MW00169	MW	5	0			
20	MW00175	MW	2	0			
21	MW00175	MW	3	0			
22	MW00175	MW	5	0			
23	MW00183	MW	2	0			
24	MW00183	MW	3	1	CRIES WHEN OTHER KIDS LOOK AT HER	3	4

Step 2: Merge the data files.

→ Open the file to which you want to add data.

→ From the “Data” menu, select “Merge Files” and then “Add Variables”

→ In the “Add Variables: Read File” dialog box:

→ Locate the data file that you want to merge with the open data file.

→ Click “Open”

→ In the “Add Variables from path of file location.sav” box:

→ Check off the box next to “Match cases on key variables in sorted files”

→ In the “excluded variables” box, click on “ID” and then click the arrow to move it into the “key variables” box.

→Again, in the “**excluded variables**” box click on “**Visit**” and then **click** the arrow to move it into the “**key variables**” box. See print screen below.
 →**Click “OK”**

The screenshot shows the SPSS Data Editor window with a data table and an open dialog box for adding variables from an external file. The data table has the following columns: ID, CENTER, VISIT, BKG A1, BKG A2, BKG B, BKG 3, BKG 4, BKG 5, BKG 6, BKG A6, BKG 7, BKG 8, BKG 9, and BKG A1. The dialog box, titled 'Add Variables from C:\Temp\data\caba0404.sav', has two lists: 'Excluded Variables' containing 'CENTER (+)' and 'Key Variables' containing 'ID<' and 'VISIT'. The 'Match cases on key variables in sorted files' checkbox is checked, and the 'Both files provide cases' radio button is selected. The 'Indicate case source as variable' checkbox is unchecked, with 'source01' entered in the adjacent text box. The dialog box also shows the source file path as 'C:\Temp\data\caba0404.sav'.

→If you have already sorted your data files in ascending order by ID and Visit then click “OK” when the “Warning: Keyed match will fail if data are not sorted ascending order