



How to merge two data files when both files have one record per participant, using Stata

Based on Stata v14

This support document is designed to assist data users with merging two data files using Stata. The data files must have only one record per participant in order to use these instructions.

Step one: Sort both data files by the key ID variables. In this example, the key ID variable is “caseid.” After sorting, save the data file.

*sort the first file and save.

```
use "C:\temp\filename1.dta" sort caseid
save "C:\temp\filename1-sorted.dta", replace
clear
```

*sort the second file and save.

```
use "C:\temp\filename2.dta" sort caseid
save "C:\temp\filename2-sorted.dta", replace
clear
```

Step two: Perform the merge of the two data files. Since these instructions were created for merging two data files which both have one record per participant, we will merge the file using the “merge 1:1” command. This command tells Stata that there for each record in file 1, there is only one match in file 2.

*merge the two files.

```
use "C:\temp\filename2-sorted.dta"
merge 1:1 caseid using "C:\temp\filename1.dta"
```

Step three: Save the resulting merged data file.

*save the new merged data file.

```
save "C:\temp\finalfilename.dta", replace
```

Please submit questions to NDACANsupport@cornell.edu.