

The following is a simplified example of merging two years of NHIS data to a multi-year IHIS file. For this example, the IHIS data file contains variables from 2004 and 2005. We want to merge additional variables from the NHIS 2004 and NHIS 2005 data files. Users can run each of the year-specific syntax files individually. Alternatively, users can copy and paste syntax from the separate merging syntax files to a single merging syntax file. Users are urged to **specify carefully all directory paths and file names**, paying special attention to the master data file to be specified in the second year. The master data file is now the merged file from the previous section.

SAS example:

```
*** 2004 ***
/*****/
/**** SECTION 1: DATA PATH AND FILE NAMES; CHANGE FILE NAMES AS NEEDED****/
/*****/

LIBNAME NHIS 'c:\ihis\data\nhis\2004\';
LIBNAME IHIS 'c:\ihis\data\analytic';

/* Create macro variable NHISYEAR and set to year currently being processed. No user
changes necessary. */
%let nhisyear=2004;

/* SECTION 1.1: Create macro variable FMTLIB to identify format library. Replace
<insert IHIS format library name here> with the name of your IHIS format library.
Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification. */

%let fmtlib=NHIS.fmyuserid_04;

/* SECTION 1.2: Create macro variable NHISDSNAME and to identify NHIS data set to be
used for merge. Replace <insert NHIS raw data file name here> with the name of your
NHIS file. Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification. */

%let nhisdsname=NHIS.personsx;

/* SECTION 1.3: Create macro variable IHISDSNAME and to identify IHIS data set being
processed (MASTER FILE). Replace <insert IHIS data file name here> with the name of
your IHIS file. Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification.*/

%let ihisdsname=IHIS.ihis0405;

/* SECTION 1.4: Create macro variable DSMERGE to identify final merged data.
Replace <insert merge file name here> with the name of your final merged IHIS data
file. Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification. */

%let dsmerge=IHIS.linkeddata;

/*****/
/**** SECTION 2: SPECIFY THE VARIABLES OF THE NHIS DATA TO BE KEPT IN****/
/*****/

/* Replace <insert names of NHIS variables you would like to merge here> with the
names of the NHIS variables you want to merge to IHIS. Separate the variables in
your list with a space. Remove the < and > */

%let indvars = ELIGPWIC PWIC;

[the rest of the SAS program is omitted]
```

```

*** 2005 ***
/*****
/**** SECTION 1: DATA PATH AND FILE NAMES; CHANGE FILE NAMES AS NEEDED****/
/*****

LIBNAME NHIS 'c:\ihis\data\nhis\2005\';
LIBNAME IHIS 'c:\ihis\data\analytic';

/* Create macro variable NHISYEAR and set to year currently being processed */
%let nhisyear=2005;

/* SECTION 1.1: Create macro variable FMTLIB to identify format library. Replace
<insert IHIS format library name here> with the name of your IHIS format library.
Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification. */

%let fmtlib=NHIS.fmyuserid_05;

/* SECTION 1.2: Create macro variable NHISDSNAME and to identify NHIS data set to be
used for merge. Replace <insert NHIS raw data file name here> with the name of your
NHIS file. Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification. */

%let nhisdsname=NHIS.personsx;

/* SECTION 1.3: Create macro variable IHISDSNAME and to identify IHIS data set being
processed (MASTER FILE). Replace <insert IHIS data file name here> with the name of
your IHIS file. Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification.*/

%let ihisdsname=IHIS.linkeddata;
This should be the same directory path and file name specified in 2004 section 1.4.

/* SECTION 1.4: Create macro variable DSMERGE to identify final merged data.
Replace <insert merge file name here> with the name of your final merged IHIS data
file. Remove < and > and leave no spaces in your specification. */

%let dsmerge=IHIS.linkeddata;

/*****
/**** SECTION 2: SPECIFY THE VARIABLES OF THE NHIS DATA TO BE KEPT IN****/
/*****

/* Replace <insert names of NHIS variables you would like to merge here> with the
names of the NHIS variables you want to merge to IHIS. Separate the variables in
your list with a space. Remove the < and > */

%let indvars = ELIGPWIC PWIC;

[the rest of the SAS program is omitted]

```