

st_varformat() — Obtain/set format, etc., of Stata variable

[Description](#)[Syntax](#)[Conformability](#)[Diagnostics](#)[Also see](#)

Description

`st_varformat(var)` returns the display format associated with *var*, such as "%9.0gc".
`st_varformat(var, fmt)` changes *var*'s display format.

`st_varlabel(var)` returns the variable label associated with *var*, such as "Sex of Patient", or it returns "" if *var* has no variable label. `st_varformat(var, label)` changes *var*'s variable label.

`st_varvalue label(var)` returns the value-label name associated with *var*, such as "origin", or it returns "" if *var* has no value label. `st_varvalue label(var, labelname)` changes the value-label name associated with *var*.

Syntax

string scalar `st_varformat(scalar var)`

void `st_varformat(scalar var, string scalar fmt)`

string scalar `st_varlabel(scalar var)`

void `st_varlabel(scalar var, string scalar label)`

string scalar `st_varvalue label(scalar var)`

void `st_varvalue label(scalar var, string scalar labelname)`

where *var* contains a Stata variable name or a Stata variable index.

Conformability

`st_varformat(var)`, `st_varlabel(var)`, `st_varvalue label(var)`:

var: 1 × 1

result: 1 × 1

`st_varformat(var, fmt)`, `st_varlabel(var, label)`, `st_varvalue label(var, labelname)`:

var: 1 × 1

value: 1 × 1

result: *void*

Diagnostics

In all functions, if *var* is specified as a name, abbreviations are not allowed.

All functions abort with error if *var* is not a valid Stata variable.

`st_varformat(var, fmt)` aborts with error if *fmt* does not contain a valid display format for *var*.

`st_varlabel(var, label)` will truncate *label* if it is too long.

`st_varvaluelabel(var, labelname)` aborts with error if *var* is a Stata string variable or if *labelname* does not contain a valid name (assuming *labelname* is not ""). It is not required, however, that the label name exist.

Also see

[M-4] [stata](#) — Stata interface functions