rename — Rename variable

Description

rename changes the name of an existing variable old_varname to new_varname; the contents of the variable are unchanged. Also see [D] rename group for renaming groups of variables.

Quick start

Change the name of v1 to var1

rename v1 var1

Also change the name of v2 to var2

rename v2 var2

Menu

Data > Data utilities > Rename groups of variables

Syntax

rename old_varname new_varname

Remarks and examples

Example 1

rename allows you to change variable names. Say that we have labor market data for siblings.

. use http://www.stata-press.com/data/r15/renamexmpl
. describe

Contains data from http://www.stata-press.com/data/r15/renamexmpl.dta

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable name</th>
<th>storage</th>
<th>display</th>
<th>value</th>
<th>variable label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>famid</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>edu</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exp</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>promo</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sex</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td>sex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inc</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sorted by: famid
We decide to rename the `exp` and `inc` variables.

```
. rename exp experience
. rename inc income
. describe
Contains data from http://www.stata-press.com/data/r15/renamexmpl.dta
    obs:         277  .
    vars:         6  .
    size:     6,648

storage  display value
variable name type format label       variable label
  famid   float %9.0g
  edu     float %9.0g
  experience float %9.0g
  promo   float %9.0g
  sex     float %9.0g       sex
  income  float %9.0g
```

Sorted by: famid

Note: Dataset has changed since last saved.

The `exp` variable is now called `experience`, and the `inc` variable is now called `income`.

References


Also see

[D] `rename group` — Rename groups of variables

[D] `generate` — Create or change contents of variable

[D] `varmanage` — Manage variable labels, formats, and other properties