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 https://www.stata-press.com/data/r16/renamexmpl
. describe
Contains data from https://www.stata-press.com/data/r16/renamexmpl.dta
    obs:    277
    vars:     6 9 Jan 2018 11:57

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

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

```
. rename exp experience
. rename inc income
```

```
Contains data from https://www.stata-press.com/data/r16/renamexmpl.dta
obs: 277
vars: 6
9 Jan 2018 11:57
```

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>variable</th>
<th>storage</th>
<th>type</th>
<th>display</th>
<th>value</th>
<th>label</th>
<th>variable label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>famid</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>edu</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>experience</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>promo</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sex</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td>sex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

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