Description

vl drop \textit{vlusername} deletes user-defined variable lists.

vl drop \textit{vlsysname} zeros system-defined variable lists. They still exist but are empty.

vl drop (\textit{varlist}) removes variables from all variable lists.

vl clear deletes all variable lists and removes all traces of the vl system.

For an introduction to the vl commands, see [D] vl.

Quick start

Delete the user-defined variable list \textit{myfav}

\begin{verbatim}
vl drop myfav
\end{verbatim}

Zero the system-defined variable list \textit{vluncertain}

\begin{verbatim}
vl drop vluncertain
\end{verbatim}

Drop the variables \textit{x1} and \textit{x2} from all variable lists

\begin{verbatim}
vl drop (x1 x2)
\end{verbatim}

As above, but only drop them from user-defined variable lists

\begin{verbatim}
vl drop (x1 x2), user
\end{verbatim}

Delete all variable lists and all traces of the vl system

\begin{verbatim}
vl clear
\end{verbatim}

Delete all user-defined variable lists

\begin{verbatim}
vl clear, user
\end{verbatim}

Delete all system-defined variable lists and the stored variable statistics

\begin{verbatim}
vl clear, system
\end{verbatim}
Syntax

Drop variable lists

vl drop vlnamelist [, system user]

Drop variables from variable lists

vl drop (varlist) [, system user]

Clear all variable lists

vl clear [, system user]

vlnamelist is a list of variable-list names. (_all) or (*) can be used to specify all numeric variables in the dataset.

Options

system when specified with vl drop (varlist), drops the variables in varlist only from system-defined variable lists. By default, variables are dropped from all variable lists, both system-defined and user-defined.

When specified with vl clear, only the system-defined variable lists are deleted. By default, both the system-defined and user-defined variable lists are deleted, and all traces of the vl system are gone.

user when specified with vl drop (varlist), drops the variables in varlist only from user-defined variable lists.

When specified with vl clear, only the user-defined variable lists are deleted.

Remarks and examples

When given one or more names of user-defined variable lists, vl drop deletes them. That is, typing

   . vl drop myname

deletes the user-defined variable list myname. It is as if myname was never created. A new variable list called myname can now be created using vl create.

When given one or more names of system-defined variable lists, vl drop zeros them. That is, typing

   . vl drop vluncertain

zeros the system-defined variable list vluncertain. It still exists but is empty. A single system-defined variable list cannot be deleted.

All system-defined variable lists can be deleted using

   . vl clear, system
All system-defined variable lists are now gone. Also deleted are the stored variable statistics, namely, the number of levels, minimum and maximum values, and the number of nonmissing observations. It is as if \texttt{vl set} was never run.

Typing

\texttt{. vl clear}

deletes all variable lists and all traces of the \texttt{vl} system.

Typing

\texttt{. vl drop (varlist)}

removes the variables in \texttt{varlist} from all variable lists.

Say we only want to remove variable \texttt{x8} from the user-defined variable list \texttt{mylist}. To do this, we type

\texttt{. vl modify mylist = mylist - (x8)}

Note the parentheses around \texttt{x8}; see [D] \texttt{vl create}.

Say you want to remove variable \texttt{x8} from the system-defined variable list \texttt{vlcategorical}. System-defined variable lists are disjoint, so a variable is only in one of them. Thus, we can remove it by typing

\texttt{. vl drop (x8), system}

Rather than drop it, we could have moved it to the system-defined variable list \texttt{vlother}.

\texttt{. vl move (x8) vlother}

See [D] \texttt{vl set}.

\textbf{Also see}

[D] \texttt{vl} — Manage variable lists

[D] \texttt{vl create} — Create and modify user-defined variable lists

[D] \texttt{vl list} — List contents of variable lists

[D] \texttt{vl rebuild} — Rebuild variable lists

[D] \texttt{vl set} — Set system-defined variable lists