

cat_axis_label_options — Options for specifying look of categorical axis labels

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Description

The *cat_axis_label_options* determine the look of the labels that appear on a categorical *x* axis produced by `graph bar`, `graph hbar`, `graph dot`, and `graph box`; see [G-2] [graph bar](#), [G-2] [graph dot](#), and [G-2] [graph box](#). These options are specified inside `label()` of `over()`:

```
. graph ..., over(varname, ... label(cat_axis_label_options) ...)
```

The most useful *cat_axis_label_options* are `angle()`, `alternate`, `labcolor()`, and `labsize()`.

Quick start

Increase size of categorical axis labels by 20% for plots drawn over categorical variable `catvar`

```
graph_command ..., over(catvar, label(labsize(*1.2)))
```

Place the categorical axis labels at a 45-degree angle

```
graph_command ..., over(catvar, label(angle(45)))
```

Alternate the placement of labels to increase space between adjacent labels

```
graph_command ..., over(catvar, label(alternate))
```

Make the categorical axis labels green

```
graph_command ..., over(catvar, label(labcolor(green)))
```

Suppress the display of labels on the categorical axis

```
graph_command ..., over(catvar, label(nolabels))
```

Note: Categorical axis-label options can be used only with `graph bar`, `graph box`, `graph dot`, or `graph hbar`.

You need not specify `tstyle()` just because there is something you want to change about the look of labels and ticks. You specify `tstyle()` when another style exists that is exactly what you desire or when another style would allow you to specify fewer changes to obtain what you want.

`labgap(size)`, `labstyle(textstyle)`, `labsize(textsizestyle)`, and `labcolor(colorstyle)` specify details about how the labels are presented. Of particular interest are `labsize(textsizestyle)`, which specifies the size of the labels, and `labcolor(colorstyle)`, which specifies the color of the labels; see [G-4] [textsizestyle](#) and [G-4] [colorstyle](#) for a list of text sizes and color choices. Also see [G-4] [size](#) and [G-4] [textstyle](#).

`tlength(size)` specifies the overall length of the ticks; see [G-4] [size](#).

`tposition(outside | crossing | inside)` specifies whether the ticks are to extend `outside` (from the axis out, the usual default), `crossing` (crossing the axis line, extending in and out), or `inside` (from the axis into the plot region).

`tlstyle(linestyle)`, `tlwidth(linewidthstyle)`, and `tlcolor(colorstyle)` specify other details about the look of the ticks. Ticks are just lines. See [G-4] [Concept: lines](#) for more information.

Remarks and examples

[stata.com](http://www.stata.com)

You draw a bar, dot, or box plot of `empcost` by `division`:

```
. graph ... empcost, over(division)
```

Seeing the result, you wish to make the text labeling the divisions 20% larger. You type:

```
. graph ... empcost, over(division, label(labsize(*1.2)))
```

Also see

[G-2] [graph bar](#) — Bar charts

[G-2] [graph box](#) — Box plots

[G-2] [graph dot](#) — Dot charts (summary statistics)