

**stata** — Stata interface functions

[Contents](#)  
[Also see](#)

[Description](#)

[Remarks and examples](#)

[Reference](#)

## Contents

[M-5] Manual entry	Function	Purpose
<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; padding: 2px 10px;">Access to data</div>		
<a href="#">st_nvar()</a>	st_nvar() st_nobs()	number of variables number of observations
<a href="#">st_data()</a>	st_data() st_sdata()	load numeric data from Stata into matrix load string data from Stata into matrix
<a href="#">st_store()</a>	st_store() st_sstore()	store numeric data in Stata dataset store string data in Stata dataset
<a href="#">st_view()</a>	st_view() st_sview()	make view onto Stata dataset same; string variables
<a href="#">st_subview()</a>	st_subview()	make view from view
<a href="#">st_viewvars()</a>	st_viewvars() st_viewobs()	identify variables and observations corresponding to view
<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; padding: 2px 10px;">Variable names &amp; indices</div>		
<a href="#">st_varindex()</a>	st_varindex()	variable indices from variable names
<a href="#">st_varname()</a>	st_varname()	variable names from variable indices

## Variable characteristics

<b>st_varrename()</b>	<code>st_varrename()</code>	rename Stata variable
<b>st_vartype()</b>	<code>st_vartype()</code>	storage type of Stata variable
	<code>st_isnumvar()</code>	whether variable is numeric
	<code>st_isstrvar()</code>	whether variable is string
<b>st_varformat()</b>	<code>st_varformat()</code>	obtain/set format of Stata variable
	<code>st_varlabel()</code>	obtain/set variable label
	<code>st_varvalue label()</code>	obtain/set value label
<b>st_vlexists()</b>	<code>st_vlexists()</code>	whether value label exists
	<code>st_vldrop()</code>	drop value
	<code>st_vlmap()</code>	map values
	<code>st_vlsearch()</code>	map text
	<code>st_vlload()</code>	load value label
	<code>st_vlmodify()</code>	create or modify value label

## Temporary variables &amp; time-series operators

<b>st_tempname()</b>	<code>st_tempname()</code>	temporary variable name
	<code>st_tempfilename()</code>	temporary filename
<b>st_tsrevar()</b>	<code>st_tsrevar()</code>	create time-series op.varname
	<code>_st_tsrevar()</code>	same

## Adding &amp; removing variables &amp; observations

<b>st_addobs()</b>	<code>st_addobs()</code>	add observations to Stata dataset
<b>st_addvar()</b>	<code>st_addvar()</code>	add variable to Stata dataset
<b>st_dropvar()</b>	<code>st_dropvar()</code>	drop variables
	<code>st_dropobsin()</code>	drop specified observations
	<code>st_dropobsif()</code>	drop selected observations
	<code>st_keepvar()</code>	keep variables
	<code>st_keepobsin()</code>	keep specified observations
	<code>st_keepobsif()</code>	keep selected observations
<b>st_updata()</b>	<code>st_updata()</code>	query/set data-have-changed flag

## Executing Stata commands

<b>stata()</b>	<code>stata()</code>	execute Stata command
<b>st_macroexpand()</b>	<code>st_macroexpand()</code>	expand Stata macros

---

Accessing e(), r(), s(), macros, matrices, etc.

---

<b>st_global()</b>	st_global() st_global_hcat()	obtain/set Stata global obtain hidden/historical status
<b>st_local()</b>	st_local()	obtain/set local Stata macro
<b>st_numscalar()</b>	st_numscalar() st_numscalar_hcat() st_strscalar()	obtain/set Stata numeric scalar obtain hidden/historical status obtain/set Stata string scalar
<b>st_matrix()</b>	st_matrix() st_matrix_hcat() st_matrixrowstripe() st_matrixcolstripe() st_replacematrix()	obtain/set Stata matrix obtain hidden/historical status obtain/set row labels obtain/set column labels replace existing Stata matrix
<b>st_dir()</b>	st_dir()	obtain list of Stata objects
<b>st_rclear()</b>	st_rclear() st_eclear() st_sclear()	clear r() clear e() clear s()

---

Parsing & verification

---

<b>st_isname()</b>	st_isname() st_islmmname()	whether valid Stata name whether valid local macro name
<b>st_isfmt()</b>	st_isfmt() st_isnumfmt() st_isstrfmt()	whether valid <i>%fmt</i> whether valid numeric <i>%fmt</i> whether valid string <i>%fmt</i>
<b>abbrev()</b>	abbrev()	abbreviate strings
<b>strtoname()</b>	strtoname()	translate strings to Stata names

---

## Description

The above functions interface with Stata.

## Remarks and examples

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

The following manual entries have to do with getting data from or putting data into Stata:

[M-5] <b>st_data()</b>	Load copy of current Stata dataset
[M-5] <b>st_view()</b>	Make matrix that is a view onto current Stata dataset
[M-5] <b>st_store()</b>	Modify values stored in current Stata dataset
[M-5] <b>st_nvar()</b>	Numbers of variables and observations

In some cases, you may find yourself needing to translate variable names into variable indices and vice versa:

[M-5] <code>st_varname()</code>	Obtain variable names from variable indices
[M-5] <code>st_varindex()</code>	Obtain variable indices from variable names
[M-5] <code>st_tsrevar()</code>	Create time-series <code>op.varname</code> variables

The other functions mostly have to do with getting and putting Stata's scalars, matrices, and returned results:

[M-5] <code>st_local()</code>	Obtain strings from and put strings into Stata
[M-5] <code>st_global()</code>	Obtain strings from and put strings into global macros
[M-5] <code>st_numscalar()</code>	Obtain values from and put values into Stata scalars
[M-5] <code>st_matrix()</code>	Obtain and put Stata matrices

The `stata()` function, documented in

[M-5] <code>stata()</code>	Execute Stata command
----------------------------	-----------------------

allows you to cause Stata to execute a command that you construct in a string.

## Reference

Gould, W. W. 2008. *Mata Matters: Macros*. *Stata Journal* 8: 401–412.

## Also see

[M-4] [intro](#) — Categorical guide to Mata functions