

collect preview — Preview the table in a collection

Description Syntax Options Remarks and examples
 Stored results Also see

Description

`collect preview` displays a preview of a table in a collection based on the specified layout, labels, and styles.

Syntax

```
collect preview [ , name(cname) noblank ]
```

where *cname* is the name of an existing collection.

Options

`name(cname)` specifies the collection for which a preview should be displayed. By default, the preview is for a table in the current collection.

`noblank` prevents `collect preview` from putting a blank line before its output. By default, `collect preview` will insert a blank line before its output.

Remarks and examples

Building and customizing a table is often an iterative process. `collect preview` allows you to see what your table looks like at each step of that process.

To demonstrate, we first collect results using the `collect` prefix and lay out a table using `collect layout`.

```
. use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r17/nhanes2
. quietly: collect _r_b: regress bpsystol bmi
. quietly: collect _r_b: regress bpsystol bmi age
. collect layout (colname) (cmdset#result)
Collection: default
  Rows: colname
  Columns: cmdset#result
Table 1: 3 x 2
```

	1	2
	Coefficient	Coefficient
Body mass index (BMI)	1.656894	1.304128
Age (years)		.5883367
Intercept	88.56855	69.58451

2 collect preview — Preview the table in a collection

When we use `collect layout`, we automatically get a preview of our table. However, after other commands that we use to make changes to this table, we need to request a preview to see the results. For instance, we might change labels.

```
. collect label values cmdset 1 "Model 1" 2 "Model 2"
```

To see the effect of that change, we type

```
. collect preview
```

	Model 1 Coefficient	Model 2 Coefficient
Body mass index (BMI)	1.656894	1.304128
Age (years)		.5883367
Intercept	88.56855	69.58451

There are many other style and label changes that we could make. For instance, here we hide `Coefficient` from column headers, add extra space between columns, and specify a numeric format. Following those changes, we again preview the table to see the results.

```
. collect style header result, level(hide)
. collect style column, extraspace(1)
. collect style cell, nformat(%6.2f)
. collect preview
```

	Model 1	Model 2
Body mass index (BMI)	1.66	1.30
Age (years)		0.59
Intercept	88.57	69.58

In fact, we might have typed `collect preview` after each of these commands to see the result.

Alternatively, we could point and click to make changes to the table and automatically see a preview of the table with modifications in the [Tables Builder](#).

For information on style and label commands we used here, see [\[TABLES\] collect label](#), [\[TABLES\] collect style header](#), [\[TABLES\] collect style column](#), and [\[TABLES\] collect style cell](#).

Stored results

`collect preview` stores the following in `s()`:

Macros

<code>s(collection)</code>	name of collection
<code>s(rows)</code>	rows specification
<code>s(columns)</code>	columns specification
<code>s(tables)</code>	tables specification
<code>s(k_tables)</code>	number of tables
<code>s(table#)</code>	layout for the #th table

Also see

[TABLES] [Tables Builder](#) — Tables Builder