Title

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count — Count observations satisfying specified conditions

Syntax

```
count [if] [in]
```

by is allowed; see [D] **by**.

Menu

Data > Data utilities > Count observations satisfying condition

Description

count counts the number of observations that satisfy the specified conditions. If no conditions are specified, count displays the number of observations in the data.

Remarks and examples

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count may strike you as an almost useless command, but it can be one of Stata's handiest.

▷ Example 1

How many times have you obtained a statistical result and then asked yourself how it was possible? You think a moment and then mutter aloud, "Wait a minute. Is income ever *negative* in these data?" or "Is sex ever equal to *3*?" count can quickly answer those questions:

```
. use http://www.stata-press.com/data/r13/countxmpl
(1980 Census data by state)
. count
  641
. count if income<0
    0
. count if sex==3
    1
. by division: count if sex==3
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-> division = New England
    0
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-> division = Mountain
    0
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
-> division = Pacific
    1
```

We have 641 observations. `income` is never negative. `sex`, however, takes on the value 3 once. When we decompose the count `by division`, we see that it takes on that odd value in the Pacific division.

◁

Stored results

`count` stores the following in `r()`:

Scalars

`r(N)`	number of observations

References

Cox, N. J. 2007a. Speaking Stata: Counting groups, especially panels. *Stata Journal* 7: 571–581.

——. 2007b. Speaking Stata: Making it count. *Stata Journal* 7: 117–130.

——. 2007c. Stata tip 51: Events in intervals. *Stata Journal* 7: 440–443.

Also see

[R] **tabulate oneway** — One-way table of frequencies