rename — Rename variable

Syntax

rename old_varname new_varname

Menu

Data > Data utilities > Rename groups of variables

Description

rename changes the name of existing variable old_varname to new_varname; the contents of the variable are unchanged. Also see [D] rename group for renaming groups of variables.

Remarks and examples

Example 1

rename allows you to change variable names. Say that we have labor market data for siblings.

. use http://www.stata-press.com/data/r13/renamexmpl
. describe
Contains data from http://www.stata-press.com/data/r13/renamexmpl.dta
obs: 277
vars: 6
size: 6,648

variable name storage display value
-- -------- ------- --------
famid float %9.0g
edu float %9.0g
exp float %9.0g
promo float %9.0g
sex float %9.0g sex
inc float %9.0g

Sorted by: famid
We decide to rename the `exp` and `inc` variables.

```stata
rename exp experience
rename inc income
```

```
Contains data from http://www.stata-press.com/data/r13/renamexmpl.dta
```

```
obsv: 277
vars: 6
size: 6,648
9 Jan 2013 11:57
```

```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>storage</th>
<th>type</th>
<th>format</th>
<th>label</th>
<th>variable label</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>famid</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td>label</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>edu</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>experience</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>promo</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sex</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td>sex</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income</td>
<td>float</td>
<td>%9.0g</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

Sorted by: famid

Note: dataset has changed since last saved

The `exp` variable is now called `experience`, and the `inc` variable is now called `income`.

References


Also see

[D] `rename group` — Rename groups of variables

[D] `generate` — Create or change contents of variable

[D] `varmanage` — Manage variable labels, formats, and other properties