

# Getting to Know Your Data Set in Stata 12

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This is a guideline for Stata 12. Updated versions of Stata may have differing commands.

## I. Data Set

For our data analysis, we will use a fake data set entitled **Test Survey**. The variables are the text and numerical values (these will have **num** in front of the variable name) for favorite season (**season** and **numseason**), number of cups of coffee consumed each day (**coffee** and **numcoffee**), favorite restaurant in a local town (**restaurant** and **numrestaurant**), favorite computer's name (**computer** and **numcomputer**), favorite meal in the dining hall (**peircemeals** and **numpeircemeals**), a question pertaining to the fate of the characters on the popular television show *Lost* (**lost** and **numlost**), how much they like Kenyon with respect to another school (**kenyon** and **numkenyon**), students favorite dessert (**dessert** and **numdessert**), whether they watch a particular television show (**AHS** and **numAHS**), what their favorite season of said television show is (**favoriteAHS** and **numfavoriteAHS**), and students' favorite building on campus (**building** and **numbuilding**). This survey has 50 observations. We are going to use these variables to examine some simple summary statistics and a simple regression. We will use the names of our variables. If you were to replicate this analysis, use your variable names rather than our variable names.

## II. Acquiring your Data Set from Qualtrics

Most of your data sets will come from the survey collection website Qualtrics. To get your desired data set, go to [kenyon.qualtrics.com](http://kenyon.qualtrics.com).

1. To find your desired data, search the name of the survey in the search bar in the top right corner (it will be next to "Create Project"). Once you have found your survey, click "Data & Analysis" then select "Export & Import" and choose "Export Data" in order to acquire the data set.

The screenshot shows the Qualtrics 'My Projects' interface. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with 'My Projects' on the left and 'Projects', 'Contacts', 'Library', and 'Help & Feedback' on the right. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar containing 'test survey' and a '+ Create Project' button. The main content area is titled 'Searching in "All Projects"' and shows a table of project results. The table has columns for 'Status', 'Questions', 'Est. Response Time', and 'Languages'. A tooltip above the 'Est. Response Time' column indicates 'Estimated time to answer all the questions in the survey'. The table shows one project named 'Test Survey' with a status of 'New', 11 questions, and an estimated response time of 1 minute. The 'Languages' column shows 0 languages.

Status	Questions	Est. Response Time	Languages
New	11	1 minutes	0

My Projects > Test Survey

Projects Contacts Library Help & Feedback

Survey Distributions Data & Analysis Reports

Data Text Cross Tabs

Add Filter

Recorded Responses 50  
Responses in Progress 0

With Selected Page 1 of 3

Export & Import Tools

	Recorded Date	Q7 - In your own words, please describe how much better Kenyon is than Denison.	Q1 - What is your favorite season?	Q2 - How many cups of coffee do you drink in a single day?	Q4 - Which is the best department?	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nov 1, 2016 8:25 AM	"Eui Sem est eros et vivamus? Bibendum nunc, ultrices dui wisi ultricies fusce viverra."	Summer	5 or more	Sylvia No	<input type="button" value="v"/>

Export Data...  
Import Data...  
Manage Previous Downloads...

2. Upon choosing "Export Data", you will then want to select "Download Data Table". Several options will appear as to which format you can download your data as. This is up to you, but we chose "CSV" so that we could keep the choice text. We then opened this data in Excel, and copy and pasted it into Stata's Data Editor.

### Export Data

**Download Data Table**



Download columns and filtered data from the data tool. This download cannot be imported into Qualtrics.

**Export Data with Legacy Format**



Export data for using the legacy Research Suite formats. This export does not include filters, tags, or custom columns. This export can be imported into Qualtrics.

Close

### Download Data Table

CSV TSV XML SPSS

**CSV**

**Comma separated values**

This is a .csv file that can be imported into other programs. Each value in the response is separated by a comma and each response is separated by a newline character. If your responses contain special characters and you will open this export in Microsoft Excel we recommend using the TSV export. Qualtrics CSV exports use UTF-8 encoding, which Excel will not open correctly by default.

[Learn More](#)

Use commas for delimiters

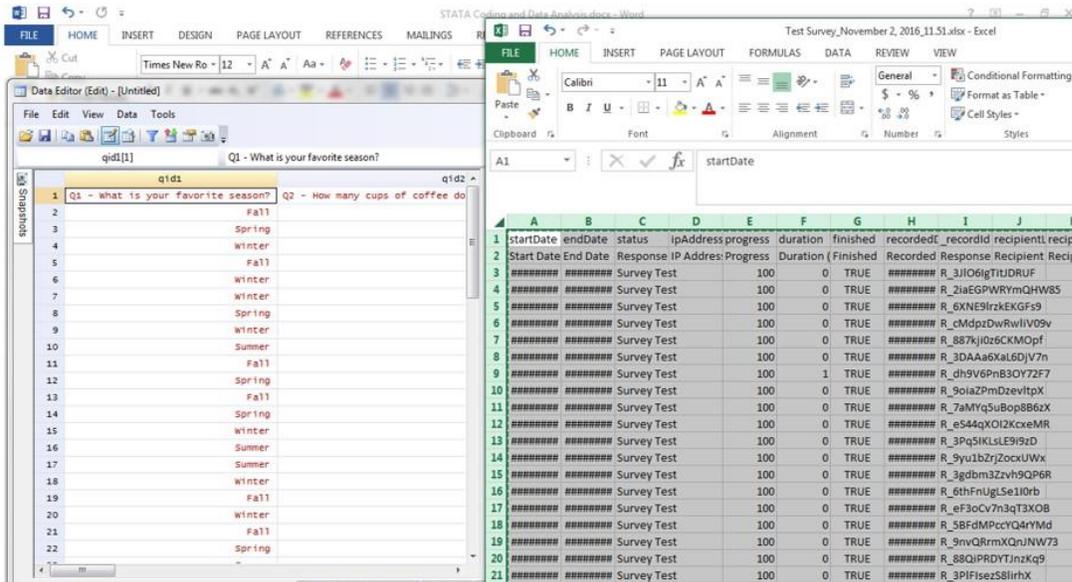
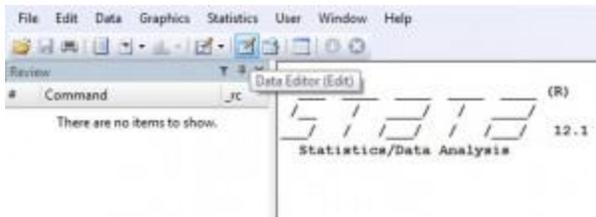
Compress data as .zip file

Download all fields

Use numeric values

Use choice text

Close



3. To get the numeric data, we again download the data from Qualtrics, but this time choose "SPSS". Then you will go to the SPSS statistical package and copy the desired numerical values from its "Data View" tab and paste them into Stata's Data Editor.



The image shows two windows from IBM SPSS Statistics. The top window is the Data Editor, displaying a dataset with 33 rows and 15 columns. The columns are labeled DistributionChannel, Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, Q5, Q6, Q7, Q8, Q9, Q10, Q11, var1, var2, var3, var4, and var5. The data consists of numerical values for each cell. The bottom window is the Variable View, showing the same 15 variables with their labels and properties. The variables are: numseason, numcoffee, numrestaurant, numcomputer, numpeacem, numlost, numkenyon, numdessert, numAHS, numfavorite, and numbuilding. The Properties pane on the right shows details for the selected variables, including their type (byte), format (%8.0g), and value labels.

4. These numerical values will be named "var1", "var2", etc. To help make more sense of the data, use "rename var12 numseason".

```

. rename var12 numseason
. rename var13 numrestaurant
. rename var14 numcomputer
. rename var15 numpeircemeals
. rename var16 numlost
. rename var17 numkenyon
. rename var18 numdessert
. rename var19 numAHS

```

5. Finally, reorder your data set so that choice text is next to the numerical values associated with each variable. To do this, use “order season numseason coffee numcoffee...building numbuilding”.

	season	numseason	coffee	numcoffee
1	Fall	3	\$ or more	4
2	Spring	4	\$ or more	4
3	winter	1	\$ or more	4
4	Fall	3	2-3	2
5	winter	1	0-1	1
6	winter	1	3-4	3
7	Spring	4	0-1	1
8	winter	1	2-3	2
9	Summer	2	\$ or more	4
10	Fall	3	2-3	2
11	Spring	4	2-3	2
12	Fall	3	2-3	2
13	Spring	4	2-3	2
14	winter	1	\$ or more	4
15	Summer	2	2-3	2
16	Summer	2	0-1	1
17	winter	1	0-1	1
18	Fall	3	3-4	3
19	winter	1	0-1	1
20	Fall	3	3-4	3
21	Spring	4	0-1	1
22	Summer	2	3-4	3
23	Spring	4	\$ or more	4
24	Summer	2	3-4	3
25	Fall	3	3-4	3
26	Fall	3	2-3	2
27	Spring	4	0-1	1
28	Summer	2	\$ or more	4
29	Fall	3	3-4	3
30	Fall	3	0-1	1
31	Fall	3	0-1	1
32	Spring	4	0-1	1
33	Summer	2	0-1	1
34	Fall	3	\$ or more	4
35	Summer	2	3-4	3
36	Spring	4	3-4	3
37	Fall	3	0-1	1
38	winter	1	3-4	3
39	winter	1	2-3	2
40	winter	1	3-4	3
41	Spring	4	2-3	2

### III. Stata Output

Getting to know your data set:

1. For a quick overview of your data set, use the command “codebook” to get the total number of observations for each variable and the frequency for each possible response.

```
. codebook
```

---

```
season QID1
```

---

```
type: string (str34), but longest is str6
unique values: 4          missing "": 0/50
tabulation: Freq. Value
             17 "Fall"
             13 "Spring"
              9 "Summer"
             11 "Winter"
```

---

```
numseason (unlabeled)
```

---

```
type: numeric (byte)
range: [1,4]          units: 1
unique values: 4      missing .: 0/50
tabulation: Freq. Value
             11 1
              9 2
             17 3
             13 4
```

---

```
coffee QID2
```

---

```
type: string (str58), but longest is str9
unique values: 4          missing "": 0/50
tabulation: Freq. Value
             15 "0-1"
             11 "2-3"
```

```
—more—
```

2. Use the "tab1 season coffee...building" command to get the frequency and percent of each response for each variable. You could also use the "tabulate season" command to just get the frequency and percent for one variable and its responses.

```
. tab1 season coffee restaurant computer peircemeals lost kenyon dessert AHS favoriteAHS building
```

```
-> tabulation of season
```

QID1	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Fall	17	34.00	34.00
Spring	13	26.00	60.00
Summer	9	18.00	78.00
Winter	11	22.00	100.00
Total	50	100.00	

```
-> tabulation of coffee
```

QID2	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
0-1	15	30.00	30.00
2-3	11	22.00	52.00
3-4	14	28.00	80.00
5 or more	10	20.00	100.00
Total	50	100.00	

```
-> tabulation of restaurant
```

QID3	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Buffalo Wild Wings	9	18.00	18.00
Chipotle	9	18.00	36.00
Fiesta	7	14.00	50.00
Panera	8	16.00	66.00
Ruby Tuesday's	6	12.00	78.00
Southside Diner	11	22.00	100.00
Total	50	100.00	

```
-> tabulation of computer
```

QID4	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Bunny	16	32.00	32.00
Peg	10	20.00	52.00
Bushie	14	28.00	80.00

```
. tabulate season
```

QID1	Freq.	Percent	Cum.
Fall	17	34.00	34.00
Spring	13	26.00	60.00
Summer	9	18.00	78.00
Winter	11	22.00	100.00
Total	50	100.00	

3. To compare different variables to one another, use the command "tabulate season coffee, column". This command will give you the frequency and percentage of a data point fulfilling two different criteria (i.e. how many responses answered "Fall" and "0-1" cups of coffee and so forth).

```
. tabulate season coffee, column
```

Key
frequency
column percentage

QID1	QID2				Total
	0-1	2-3	3-4	5 or more	
Fall	5 33.33	4 36.36	5 35.71	3 30.00	17 34.00
Spring	5 33.33	4 36.36	2 14.29	2 20.00	13 26.00
Summer	2 13.33	1 9.09	4 28.57	2 20.00	9 18.00
Winter	3 20.00	2 18.18	3 21.43	3 30.00	11 22.00
Total	15 100.00	11 100.00	14 100.00	10 100.00	50 100.00

4. To acquire summary statistics regarding the variables, you will have to use the numerical values. The command needed would be “summarize numseason numcoffee numrestaurant numcomputer numpeircemeals numlost numkenyon numdessert numAHS numfavoriteAHS numbuilding”. This will give you summary statistics such as mean, number of observations, standard deviation, minimums, and maximums.

```
. summarize numseason numcoffee numrestaurant numcomputer numpeircemeals numlost numkenyon numdessert numAHS numfavoriteAHS numbuilding
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
numseason	50	2.64	1.102132	1	4
numcoffee	50	2.38	1.122861	1	4
numrestaurant	50	3.48	1.668924	1	6
numcomputer	50	2.28	1.107304	1	4
numpeircemeals	50	3.46	1.528104	1	6
numlost	50	2	.6998542	1	3
numkenyon	50	2.14	.7561989	1	3
numdessert	50	3.18	1.662184	1	6
numAHS	50	1.5	.5050763	1	2
numfavoriteAHS	25	3.6	1.755942	1	6
numbuilding	50	4.22	1.87671	1	7

5. Use the “tabulate numseason, summarize(numcoffee)” to get summary statistics for a variable with respect to another variable.

```
. tabulate numseason , summarize(numcoffee)
```

numseason	Summary of numcoffee		
	Mean	Std. Dev.	Freq.
1	2.5454545	1.2135598	11
2	2.6666667	1.118034	9
3	2.3529412	1.1147408	17
4	2.0769231	1.1151636	13
Total	2.38	1.1228608	50

6. In order to compare three variables to each other, use the commands “contract numseason numcoffee numrestaurant, percent(percent)” and then “tabdisp numseason numcoffee numrestaurant, c(percent)”. The first command will contract the other variables so that only the ones of interest will be displayed. The second command will then create a display table that shows the number of responses that were in each combination of the three different variable's responses.

```
. contract numseason numcoffee numrestaurant , percent(percent)
.
.
. tabdisp numseason numcoffee numrestaurant , c(percent)
```

numseason	numrestaurant and numcoffee											
	1			2			3			4		
	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3
1				2.00			6.00			2.00		
2		2.00		2.00	2.00					2.00	2.00	2.00
3		2.00	2.00	4.00		2.00	2.00	2.00		2.00	2.00	2.00
4	2.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	2.00		2.00				2.00	2.00

numseason	numrestaurant and numcoffee							
	5				6			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1		4.00	2.00	2.00				2.00
2	2.00		2.00					2.00
3	2.00	2.00	2.00		2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
4	2.00			2.00				

7. Finally, to run a regression to examine the causal relationships between two or more variables, use the command “regress numcoffee numseason”, taking care to put the dependent variable first and the explanatory variable(s) after that. In other words, put the variable that you are trying to predict first and the variable(s) that help you predict this variable after.

```
. regress numcoffee numseason
```

Source	SS	df	MS	Number of obs =	50
Model	1.73430108	1	1.73430108	F( 1, 48) =	1.39
Residual	60.0456989	48	1.25095206	Prob > F =	0.2448
				R-squared =	0.0281
				Adj R-squared =	0.0078
Total	61.78	49	1.26081633	Root MSE =	1.1185

numcoffee	Coef.	Std. Err.	t	P> t	[95% Conf. Interval]
numseason	-.1706989	.1449736	-1.18	0.245	-.4621878 .12079
_cons	2.830645	.4141274	6.84	0.000	1.997986 3.663304