Sample Files

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Most of the examples that are presented here use the data file *demo.sav*. This data file is a fictitious survey of several thousand people, containing basic demographic and consumer information. See the topic Sample Files for more information.

If you are using the Student version, your version of *demo.sav* is a representative sample of the original data file, reduced to meet the 1,500-case limit. Results that you obtain using that data file will differ from the results shown here.

The sample files installed with the product can be found in the *Samples* subdirectory of the installation directory. There is a separate folder within the Samples subdirectory for each of the following languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, and Traditional Chinese.

Not all sample files are available in all languages. If a sample file is not available in a language, that language folder contains an English version of the sample file.

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Opening a Data File

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To open a data file:

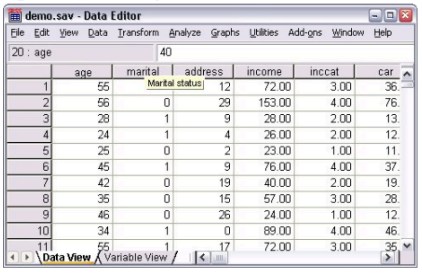
1. From the menus choose:
   File > Open > Data...

   A dialog box for opening files is displayed.

   By default, IBM® SPSS® Statistics data files (*.sav* extension) are displayed.

   This example uses the file *demo.sav*. If you want to open the data file used in this example, see Sample Files for more information on data file locations.

   Figure 1. demo.sav file in Data Editor



   The data file is displayed in the Data Editor. In Data View, if you put the mouse cursor on a variable name (the column headings). a more descriptive variable label is displayed (if a label has been defined for that variable).

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By default, the actual data values are displayed. To display labels:

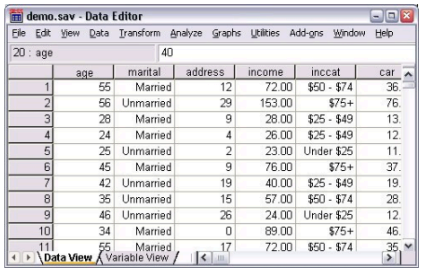
2. From the menus choose:

View > Value Labels

Figure 2. Value Labels button

Alternatively, you can use the Value Labels button on the toolbar.

Figure 3. Value labels displayed in the Data Editor



Descriptive value labels are now displayed to make it easier to interpret the responses.

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Running an Analysis

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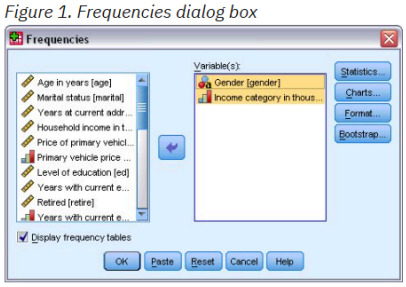
If you have any add-on options, the Analyze menu contains a list of reporting and statistical analysis categories.

We will start by creating a simple frequency table (table of counts). This example requires the Statistics Base option.

1. From the menus choose:
   Analyze > Descriptive Statistics > Frequencies...

   The Frequencies dialog box is displayed.

Figure 1. Frequencies dialog box



An icon next to each variable provides information about data type and level of measurement.

	Numeric	String	Date	Tin

An icon next to each variable provides information about data type and level of measurement.

	Numeric	String	Date	Time
Scale (Continuous)		n/a		
Ordinal				
Nominal				

If the variable label and/or name appears truncated in the list, the complete label/name is displayed when the cursor is positioned over it. The variable name *inccat* is displayed in square brackets after the descriptive variable label. *Income category in thousands* is the variable label. If there were no variable label, only the variable name would appear in the list box.

You can resize dialog boxes just like windows, by clicking and dragging the outside borders or corners. For example, if you make the dialog box wider, the variable lists will also be wider.

In the dialog box, you choose the variables that you want to analyze from the source list on the left and drag and drop them into the Variable(s) list on the right. The **OK** button, which runs the analysis, is disabled until at least one variable is placed in the Variable(s) list.

In many dialogs, you can obtain additional information by right-clicking any variable name in the list and selecting **Variable Information** from the pop-up menu.

2. Click *Gender [gender]* in the source variable list and drag the variable into the target Variable(s) list.
3. Click *Income category in thousands [inccat]* in the source list and drag it to the target list.

Figure 2. Variables selected for analysis

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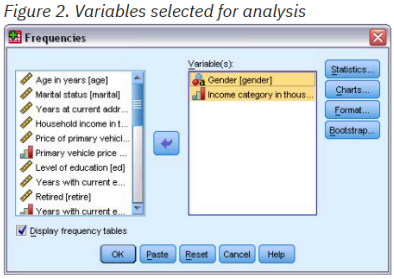
3. Click *Income category in thousands [inccat]* in the source list and drag it to the target list.

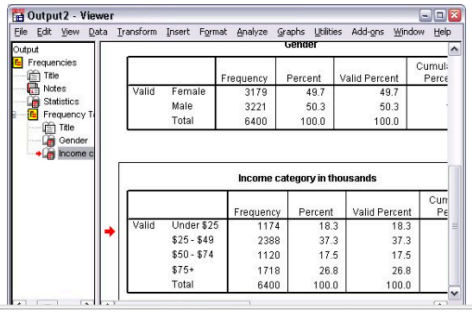
Figure 2. Variables selected for analysis



4. Click **OK** to run the procedure.

Results are displayed in the Viewer window.

Figure 3. Frequency table of income categories



Creating Charts

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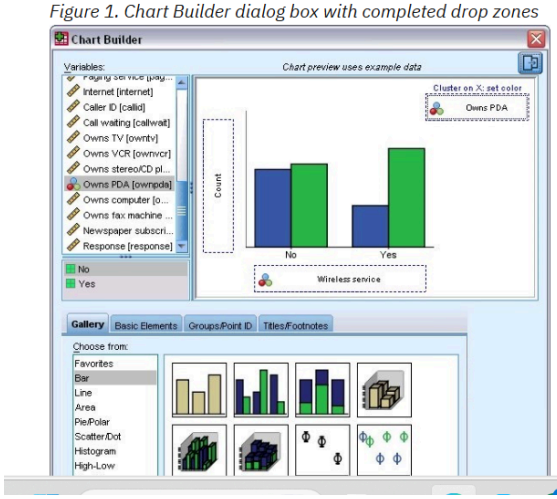
Although some statistical procedures can create charts, you can also use the Graphs menu to create charts.

For example, you can create a chart that shows the relationship between wireless telephone service and PDA (personal digital assistant) ownership.

1. From the menus choose:
   Graphs > Chart Builder...

Figure 1. Chart Builder dialog box with completed drop zones



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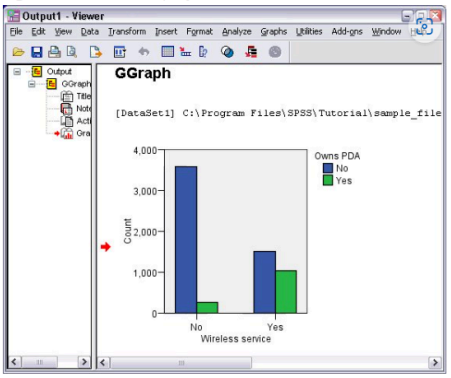
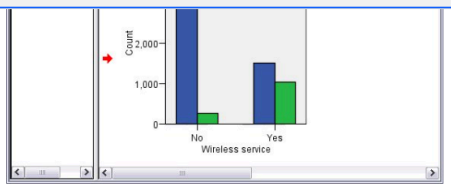
2. Click the **Gallery** tab (if it is not selected).
3. Click **Bar** (if it is not selected).
4. Drag the Clustered Bar icon onto the canvas, which is the large area above the Gallery.
5. Scroll down the Variables list, right-click *Wireless service [wireless]*, and then choose **Nominal** as its measurement level.
6. Drag the *Wireless service [wireless]* variable to the *x* axis.
7. Right-click *Owns PDA [ownpda]* and choose **Nominal** as its measurement level.
8. Drag the *Owns PDA [ownpda]* variable to the cluster drop zone in the upper right corner of the canvas.
9. Click **OK** to create the chart.

Figure 2. Bar chart displayed in Viewer window



The bar chart is displayed in the Viewer. The chart shows that people with wireless phone service are far more likely to have PDAs than people without wireless service.



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You can edit charts and tables by double-clicking them in the contents pane of the Viewer window, and you can copy and paste your results into other applications. Those topics will be covered later.

Parent topic:

→ Introduction