Class : 7

SAS Tutorial

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Retain Statement

Retain Variable(s) initial value;

Example:-
Retain age 0;

➢ The Retain Statement **reinitializing** the values of new variables at **top** of the data step.
➢ Previous Values of retain variables are available are processing iteration of data step.
➢ It is a *compile time* statement.
➢ The retain statement have **not effect** on variable that are read with **set**, **merge** or **update statement**, Variables read from SAS dataset are automatically retain. If don't specified an initial variable of new created variable by retain statement be set to **missing**.
➢ A retain statement along with sum function in an assignment statement can be used to create accumulating total, because sun function ignores missing values.

SUM Statement

Calculated_variable+expression;

Example:-
Total_Salary+Salary;

➤ When we create accumulating variable, a better alternative is to use **SUM** statement.
➤ Create the variable on the left side of **"+"** sign.
➤ Initialize the variable to zero before the first iteration of data step.
➤ Automatically retains the variable.
➤ Adds the values of expression to the variable and execution.
➤ Ignores missing values.

Arithmetic	Missing + Value = Missing	**(.+5=.)**	Don't ignore missing value
SUM	Missing + Value = Value	**(SUM(.,5)=5)**	Ignore missing value

Thank You ...

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