

As you can see, using Stata is not complicated. The commands are simple yet powerful, and plenty of help is available, all you have to do is type **help**. The Stata PDF files are well structured and they contain plenty of examples. It is also easy to organize your work using different folders for different projects. In today's world no software is complete with full integration with the internet. Stata again shines in this category. Searching for certain topics is as easy as using Google, and updating your version of Stata cannot be easier. Just type **update all** and Stata will do everything else. The most important thing about internet connectivity in my opinion is the ability to install commands written by the very active and very helpful Stata community. Most of the problems that you will run into when conducting data analysis have been faced by other people who have written a command to help you solve the problem. You can also access datasets over the internet. This is a very useful feature especially when you start learning about Stata. The best way to learn is to look at datasets and most new users do not have their own datasets yet. This is why the second section of this course will be dedicated to creating a dataset from scratch.