

# Stata Recitation - Week 8 - Chi-squared tests and correlation

McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University

## Key Ideas:

- Calculate statistics based on two variables: `tab2` (`chi2` option), `corr`, `pwcorr`
- Understand how missing data is treated for commands on multiple variables

## Discrete/Categorical variables : Two-way tabulation and Pearson's chi-2 test

### Two way tabulation

Produce counts of number of observations in each cell of a two-way table.

### Examples

```
clear
sysuse nlsw88.dta
tab2 race married
```

- First variable goes in rows, second variable goes in columns.
- This is important when you have a variable with many categories:

```
tab2 age married
tab2 married age
```

- Many different options with `tab`:

```
help tab2
```

- We've seen the `missing` option with one-way tabulations:

```
tab2 union married
tab2 union married , m
```

- Look at total number of observations for these two tables.
- Compare with `Obs` number from `summarize`:

```
sum married union
```

## Important

- We are moving into commands that take data from multiple variables
- If an observation has missing data for any of the variables, that observation is dropped from the calculation.
- With some commands, like `tab2`, we can avoid that behavior. But that will not be possible for other commands.

## More options for `tab2`

- `column` : Gives percentage breakdown of row category within each column.

```
tab2 race union, column
tab2 race if union==0
tab2 race if union==1
```

- `row` : Gives percentage breakdown of column category within each row.

```
tab2 race union, row
tab2 union if race==1
tab2 union if race==2
tab2 union if race==3
```

- `cell` : Gives percentage of observations in each cell.

```
tab2 race union, cell
```

- `expected` : Gives the expected number of observations in each cell based on marginal distributions of each variable

```
tab2 race union, row column
```

- expected number of observations in the white, nonunion cell:

```
display 0.7204*0.7545*1878
tab2 race union, expected
```

## Report Chi2 test statistic:

- Test for independence of two categorical variables:
- This will be covered in class, but you should know how to calculate and find test statistic.

```
tab2 race union, chi2
```

- test statistic: Pearson  $\chi^2(2) = 13.0814$
- P-value:  $\Pr = 0.001$
- Components of  $\chi^2$  test statistic can be reported using option: `cchi2`
- Students should read through these options after learning about the Chi-2 test in class.

## Correlation

Quantifies the way two variables move together. Can be calculated for any numeric variables, but, like other summary statistics, interpretation is not always clear for categorical variables.

### Example: Wage and Tenure

- Wage tends to increase with tenure

```
twoway (scatter wage tenure) (lfit wage tenure)
```

- Correlation is positive:

```
correlate wage tenure
```

- Average levels of education are lower for older people in this sample:

```
correlate age grade
```

- Correlate takes a varlist

```
help correlate  
corr age grade wage tenure union
```

- When using `correlate` with multiple variables, what happens to observations with missing data?
- Compare sample size of previous command with observation counts from:  
`sum age grade wage tenure union`
- If we don't want to use a single sample for entire correlation matrix, we can use `pwcorr`

```
help pwcorr  
pwcorr age grade wage tenure union
```

- But, we want to see the number of observations for each comparison: Look at option list

```
pwcorr age grade wage tenure union, obs
```