

# A Very Short Introduction to Stata

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The basic philosophy of Stata—"Stata in one sentence"—is:

`do_something to_a_variable_or_variables, options`

The general idea of most Stata commands is `command variable(s), options`. Often it is not necessary to use any options since the authors of Stata have done such a good job of thinking about the defaults. Commands that you actually type are represented in monospace font. `x` and `y` refer to variables in your data.

Task	Command
Descriptive statistics	<code>summarize x y</code>
Frequencies	<code>tabulate x</code>
Correlation	<code>corr x y</code>
Regression	<code>regress y x</code>
Histogram	<code>histogram x</code>
Scatterplot	<code>twoway scatter y x</code>