Is there a way to put leading zeros in output?

Title   Putting leading zeros in output

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You can format variables to be reported with leading zeros by placing a zero after the percent sign using the **%f** format; see **[D] format**. For instance,

```
. format ssn %09.0f
```

will pad the left side of the nine-digit number with zeros.

The leading zeros are seen on-screen when you **list** the variable and when you **outfile** the data.

Many Stata users also wish to convert numeric data to strings and keep the leading zeros, which is good for U.S. Social Security numbers, times, dates, etc. This conversion can be done using the **string()** function with an option for the format.

Below we show an example; the variable 'x' is a numeric value, and not a string.

```
. list

     +-----+
     |  x  |
     |-----|
  1. |  55 |
  2. |  23 |
  3. |  81 |
  4. | 144 |
  5. | 174 |
     |-----|
  6. |  92 |
  7. |  84 |
  8. | 178 |
  9. |  11 |
```

```
. gen str3 y = string(x)

. list

        +-----------+
        |   x     y |
        |-----------|
     1. |  55    55 |
     2. |  23    23 |
     3. |  81    81 |
     4. | 144   144 |
     5. | 174   174 |
        |-----------|
     6. |  92    92 |
     7. |  84    84 |
     8. | 178   178 |
     9. |  11    11 |
    10. | 135   135 |
        +-----------+

. gen str3 z = string(x,"%03.0f")

. list

        +-----------------+
        |   x     y     z |
        |-----------------|
     1. |  55    55   055 |
     2. |  23    23   023 |
     3. |  81    81   081 |
     4. | 144   144   144 |
     5. | 174   174   174 |
        |-----------------|
     6. |  92    92   092 |
     7. |  84    84   084 |
     8. | 178   178   178 |
     9. |  11    11   011 |
    10. | 135   135   135 |
        +-----------------+
```

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