

Data manipulation in Stata

Reshape command

The classic use of the reshape command is to split data into several variables according to some categorical variable* (or to do the reverse):

reshape wide **data**, i(**id**) j(**category**)

id	year	sex	inc
1	80	0	5,000
1	81	0	2,000
1	82	0	3,000
2	80	1	5,500
2	81	1	2,200
2	82	1	2,000
3	80	0	6,000
3	81	0	3,300
3	82	0	1,000

reshape wide **inc**, i(**id**) j(**year**)



reshape long **inc**, i(**id**) j(**year**)

id	sex	inc80	inc81	inc82
1	0	5,000	5,500	6,000
2	1	2,000	2,200	3,300
3	0	3,000	2,000	1,000

id	year	sex	inc	ue
1	80	0	5,000	0
1	81	0	5,500	1
1	82	0	6,000	0
2	80	1	2,000	1
2	81	1	2,200	0
2	82	1	3,300	0
3	80	0	3,000	0
3	81	0	2,000	0
3	82	0	1,000	1

reshape wide **inc ue**, i(**id**) j(**year**)



reshape long **inc ue**, i(**id**) j(**year**)

id	sex	inc80	inc81	inc82	ue80	ue81	ue82
1	0	5,000	5,500	6,000	0	1	0
2	1	2,000	2,200	3,300	1	0	0
3	0	3,000	2,000	1,000	0	0	1

In some cases you may have more than one variable of data that you want to split according to your categorical variable:

reshape wide **data1 data2**, i(**id**) j(**category**)

*This variable does not necessarily have to be a "categorical variable" in the traditional sense, but it is useful in this context to differentiate it somehow from the variable that contains the data.

reshape wide `data`, i(`id` `category2`) j(`category1`)
 reshape wide `datacat1a` `datacat1b` `datacat1c`, i(`id`) j(`category2`)

id	year	sex	inc	ue
1	80	0	5,000	0
1	81	0	5,500	1
1	82	0	6,000	0
2	80	1	2,000	1
2	81	1	2,200	0
2	82	1	3,300	0
3	80	0	3,000	0
3	81	0	2,000	0
3	82	0	1,000	1

Rather than having two variables of data that you want to split according to some category, you may instead want to sub-divide your data by two categories.

reshape wide `inc`, i(`id` `ue`) j(`year`)



reshape long `inc`, i(`id` `ue`) j(`year`)

id	sex	ue	inc80	inc81	inc82
1	0	0	5,000		6,000
1	0	1		5,500	
2	1	0		2,200	3,300
2	1	1	2,000		
3	0	0	3,000	2,000	
3	0	1			1,000

We can illustrate this with the same dataset by changing our interpretation of the 'ue' variable.

The process is a bit more complicated.
It has to be done in two steps.

reshape wide `inc80` `inc81` `inc82`, i(`id`) j(`ue`)



reshape long `inc80` `inc81` `inc82`, i(`id`) j(`ue`)

id	sex	inc800	inc810	inc820	inc801	inc811	inc821
1	0	5,000		6,000		5,500	
2	1		2,200	3,300	2,000		
3	0	3,000	2,000				1,000