



Creating a Weight Variable Using Pre-Computed Weights

Tutorial

Time: 10 minutes
Skill level: Medium
Editions: Professional

Illustrative problem

In some instances a statistician or DP person may have computed weights for you to use in analysis. For instance, data from men might need to be up-weighted by 1.092043023 and data from women down-weighted by 0.922410013.

Activities

1. Open `Tutorial 8.Q`.
2. Select **Gender** from the blue drop-down. Note that 46% of our sample is males.
3. Press the arrow button to the right of the blue drop-down to get to this variable in the **Variable and Questions** tab.
4. Right-mouse click on the selected variable
5. Select **Copy and Paste Variable(s)** then **Exact Copy**.
6. Change the **Label** of the copied variable (`gndr_2`) variable to `Gender weight`.

In Q, all variables are included as parts of a question. When either weighting or filtering the data, Q uses variables. When you change the **Label** for a variable you are changing what is displayed in the drop-downs which show you what variables are available for weighting, filtering and for use in some aspects of construction of variables.

The **Question** column contains the names of the questions as they appear when selecting questions for analysis and for use in some aspects of constructing a new variable. When you have multiple variables making up a question, if you change the contents of **Question** for one variable it will also be changed for all the other variables in the question.

7. Click on the **Values** button.
8. Replace the value of 1 for males with `1.093137254901960` and the value of 2

for females with 0.921487603305785. The dialog box on your screen should look like Figure 1. Click **OK**.

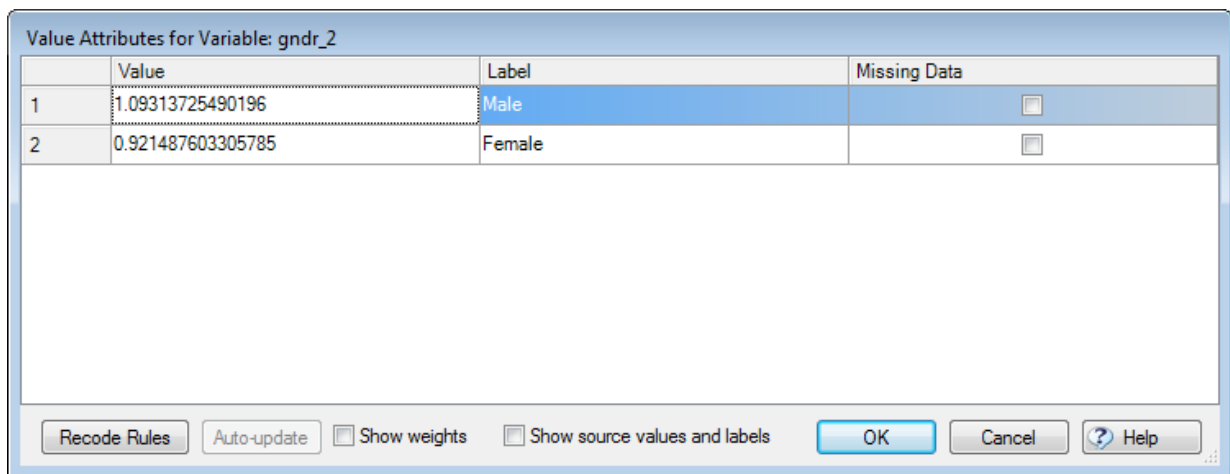



Figure 1. Changing values

9. Check the **W** in the **Tags** field of your `Gender weight` variable to make it available for weighting (so it looks like **W**).
10. Click on the **Tables** tab
11. Select **Gender weight** from the **Weight** drop-down menu at the bottom of your screen.
12. You will see that the table now shows that 50% of the sample are men. You will also see that the bottom of the screen now shows you the *effective sample size*, which indicates how big you should consider the sample to be when considering its robustness.
13. Turn off the weight by clicking the off-button () in the **Weight** drop-down menu or by selecting "None".
14. In the **Variables and Questions** tab, right-click on the `gndr_2` variable and select **Delete Copied or Constructed Variable(s)**.