**Getting Our Feet Wet with SPSS**

**SESSION TWO**

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REMINDER – USE FLASH DRIVES!

WHAT IS SPSS SYNTAX?

A written version, in a special language, of commands that do the same thing that pointing and clicking do.

Advantages: you can save it and use it over and over, or modify it, or copy it to do same thing many times, or to perform more complex tasks that can only be done with SPSS syntax.

WORKING WITH SPSS SYNTAX – use the same data as session one.

Recoding gender – same as last time, until the last step...

Click Transform

Recode Into Different Variables

Move **gender** into box.

Type name of new variable into box: **numgen**.

Type label for new variable into box: **Numeric Gender 0, 1**.

Click Old and New Values…

Type **m** in the old value box and **1** in the new value box.

Click Add.

Type **f** in the old value box and **0** in the new value box.

Click Add, and then click Continue.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Click Change, and then click **Paste**.

Saving SPSS syntax.

Click File

Save As…

Type in file name, keeping “**.sps**”. Choose location for file. Click on Save.

Running SPSS syntax.

Must run syntax for it to take effect – look at the data before and after you run the syntax.

To run the entire syntax file,

Click Run, then click All.

To run part of the syntax file,

Block syntax you want to run, then click green arrowhead OR click Run, then Selection.

* 1. Editing SPSS syntax.
     1. Producing a frequency distribution for gender with bar chart.

Click Analyze

Descriptive Statistics

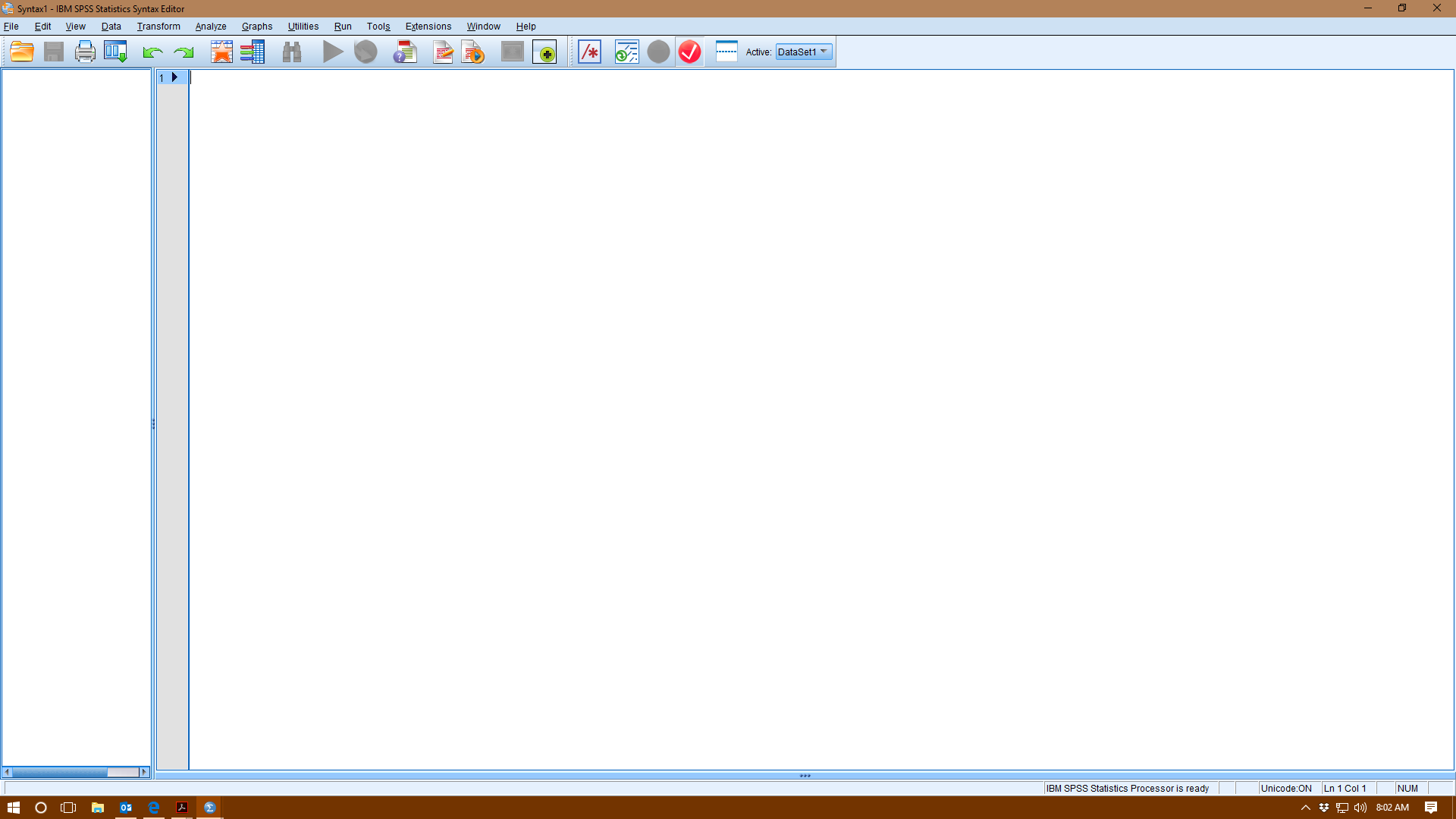
Frequencies

Charts

Bar Charts

Continue

Move **gender** into Variable box, click **Paste**.



* + 1. Run the syntax, and then replace the bar chart with a pie chart.

Use the syntax help icon to see options for editing.

1. ADDING SOME COMPLEXITY
   1. DO IF commands – use when you have complicated recoding to do.
      1. Go to Syntax Window and type the following lines:

**do if (jobcat=3 or salary gt 50000).**

**compute hiclass=1.**

**else.**

**compute hiclass=0.**

**end if.**

**execute.**

* + 1. Run these lines.

1. ENTERING YOUR OWN DATA:
   1. Use Variable View to name and define variables.
   2. Use Data View to enter data.
   3. Let’s try it …

You have five variables, id number, sex (m, f), race (w, b, o), years of education, job satisfaction (1 – not at all, 2 – somewhat, 3 – satisfied, 4 – very satisfied, 9 – no answer), for 10 people. Let’s name and define the variables, then enter the data.

We need to name the variables in meaningful ways. I will do the first one with you, and then you can do the remaining four. This is YOUR data file so make it understandable to YOU!

At any point, you can save as, and you will want to do so with large sets of data that you may enter, then save again and replace with the newer version.

In blank Data View, type in these values:

1 m w 13 3

2 f w 16 4

3 m b . 2

4 f w 14 3

5 m w 12 9

6 f o 12 2

7 m w 12 3

8 f w 16 4

9 m w 16 1

10 f b 16 4

* 1. Save! Save! Save! You do not want to lose any of your tedious typing work!
  2. Check your data entry visually and with frequency distributions and the codebook command.

1. ENTERING DATA IN ANOTHER FORM:
   1. Excel files.
      1. Click File

Open

Data – then choose Excel (\*.xls, \*.xlsx, \*.xlsm) in the Files of type box, go to

the instructor-share drive and go into crzimmer, then SPSS folder.

Click on sample data in excel.xls

Open

Check read variable names and click OK.

Check the data view to make sure the file was read properly!

ii) Data should be there!

* 1. Delimited text files.
     1. Click File

Open

Data – then choose Text (\*.txt) in the Files of type box, go to the

Instructor-share drive and go into crzimmer, then SPSS folder.

Click on sample data with tabs.txt

Open

Next

Click Yes for variable names at top of file

Click Next twice

Check Tab as Delimiters, then click Next

Next, then click Finish.

* + 1. Data should be there!