

## Block 2: Analysing one variable

## Nominal and ordinal variables

## 2.1.2.12 Specimen answer for homework exercise 2

[24 Nov 2010]

Previous session: 2.1.2.11 Homework exercise 1 - Checking your file

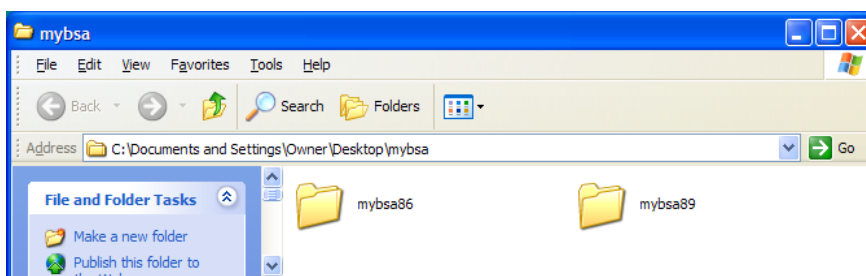
Exemplar: [British Social Attitudes](#) (1989 survey)

## Research questions:

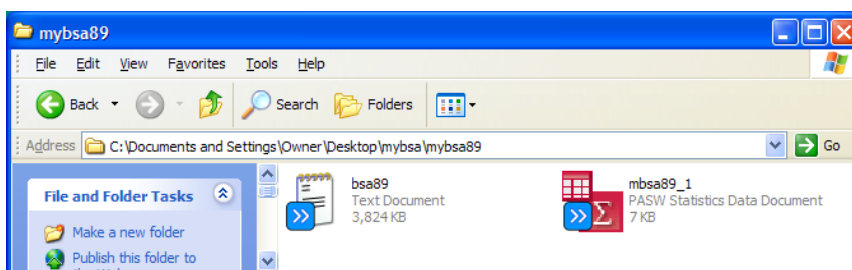
What is the distribution of marital status of the respondent? (Q.900a)

What is the distribution of satisfaction-dissatisfaction with the way the National Health Service runs? (Q.58)

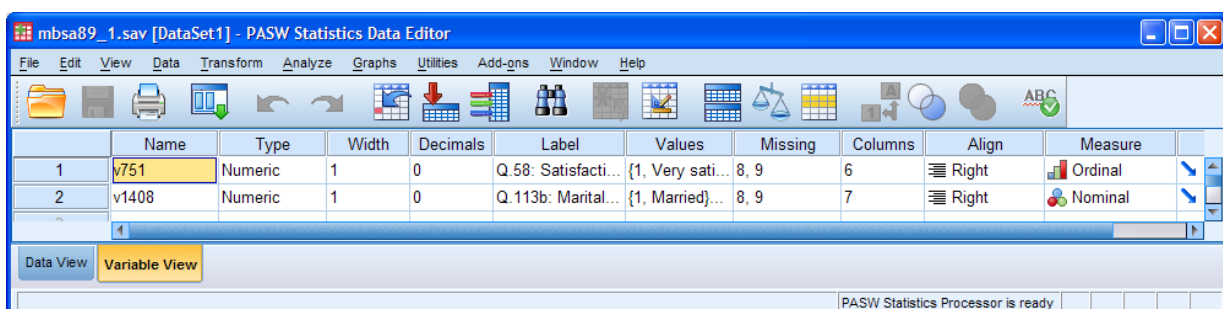
**Homework exercise 2:** Produce a frequency count for marital status of the respondent and a frequency count with barchart for satisfaction-dissatisfaction with the way the NHS runs (see exercise 2.1.2.7 on the 1986 survey).

Go to folder **mybsa**

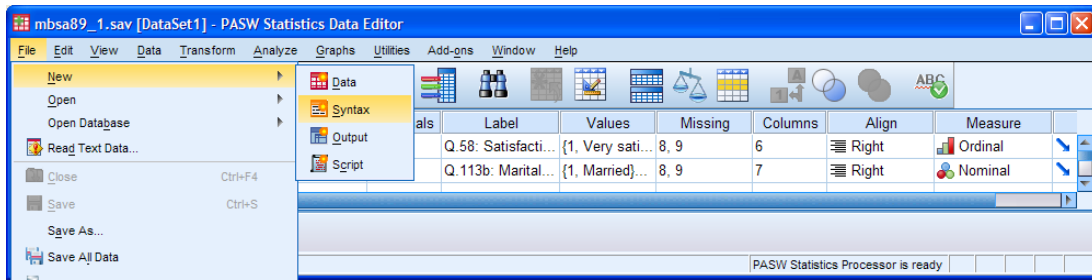
[If you don't have folders **mybsa** or **mybsa89**, go back to the [Block 2 menu](#), do the housekeeping in 2.1.2.8 and then exercise 2.1.2.9]



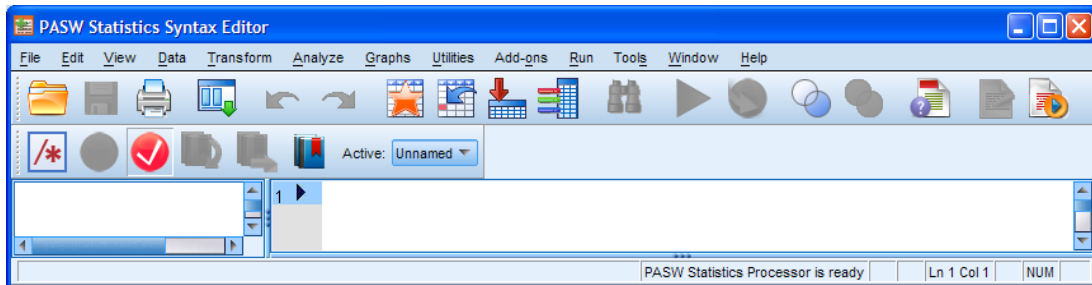
Double-click on **mybsa89\_1**. [If you don't have file **mybsa89\_1**, go back to the [Block 2 menu](#) and do exercises 2.1.2.10 and 2.1.2.11]



Click on **File** > **New** > **Syntax**

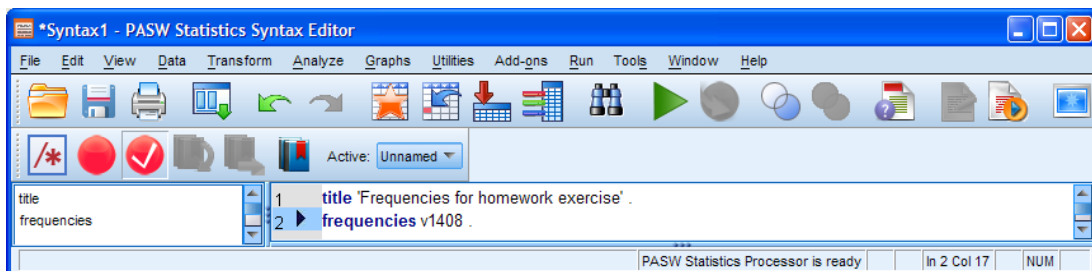


... to open a new syntax editor:

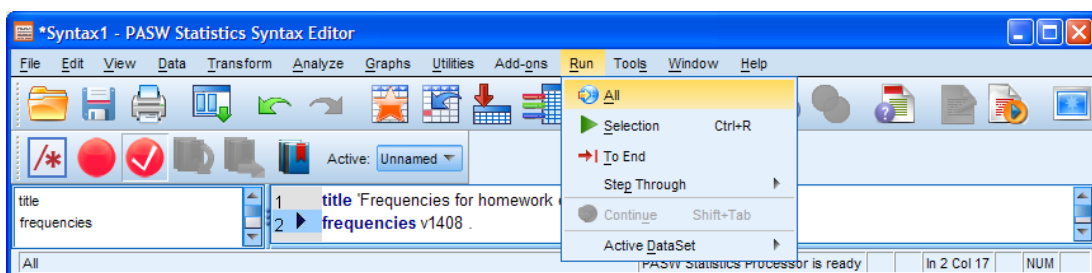


Give your job a title, followed by your first **FREQUENCIES** command:

**title 'Frequencies for homework exercise' .**  
**frequencies v1408 .**



click on **Run** > **All**



... to get the following tables:

### Statistics

v1408

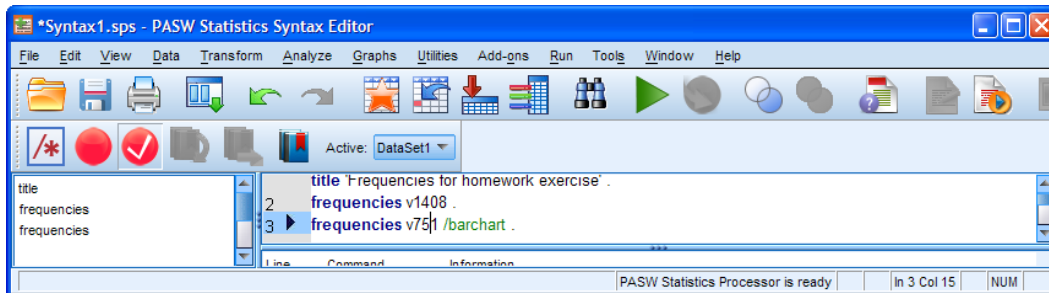
N	Valid	3024
	Missing	1

**v1408**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Married	1948	64.4	64.4	64.4
	Living as married	114	3.8	3.8	68.2
	Separated or divorced	183	6.0	6.1	74.2
	Widowed	276	9.1	9.1	83.4
	Not married	503	16.6	16.6	100.0
	Total	3024	100.0	100.0	
Missing	9	1	.0		
Total		3025	100.0		

Now write the second **FREQUENCIES** command:

**frequencies v751 /barchart .**



Click on the green ► to get:

**Statistics**

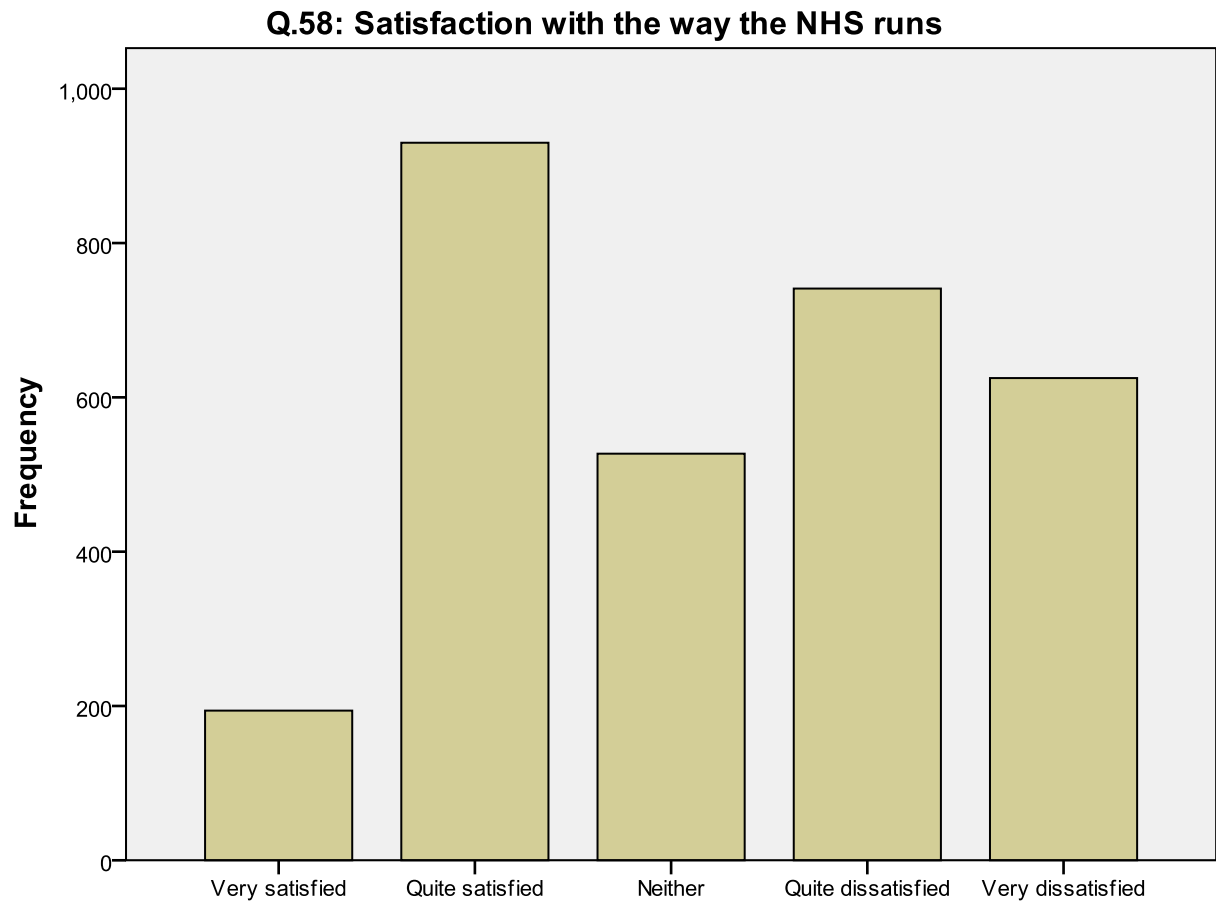
v751

N	Valid	3017
	Missing	8

**v751\***

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Very satisfied	194	6.4	6.4	6.4
	Quite satisfied	930	30.7	30.8	37.3
	Neither	527	17.4	17.5	54.7
	Quite dissatisfied	741	24.5	24.6	79.3
	Very dissatisfied	625	20.7	20.7	100.0
	Total	3017	99.7	100.0	
Missing	8	3	.1		
	9	4	.1		
	System	1	.0		
	Total	8	.3		
Total		3025	100.0		

[\*Table adjusted to single space to get it on the same page and save paper]



**Q.58: Satisfaction with the way the NHS runs**

### End of session

You have now completed section **2.1 Nominal and ordinal variables**

Hopefully you should now be well on the way to becoming an expert at data management!

**Next section:** **2.2 Interval scale variables**

[\[Back to Block 2 menu\]](#)