

# How can I read data from multiple Excel sheets in Stata?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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To read data from multiple Excel sheets in Stata, users can utilize the "import excel" command. This command allows for the importation of multiple sheets from a single Excel file or multiple Excel files into Stata. Additionally, the "use" command can be used to merge multiple sheets from the same Excel file into one dataset in Stata. Both of these commands offer efficient and straightforward methods for reading data from multiple Excel sheets in Stata.

## How can I read data from multiple Excel sheets in Stata? | Stata FAQ

**Beginning in Stata 12 you can read Excel (.xls and .xlsx) files**

**directly using the import excel command. The sheet() option allows us to specify from which sheet of the spreadsheet we want to read, and by appending the data together, we can read data from multiple sheets. To illustrate how this is accomplished we have an Excel file named hospital.xls.**

**The file, hospital.xls, has four Sheets each with the same format. In cell A1 is the hospital name. In cells B2:D5 are the data for each hospital. The variable names are listed in Row 2. Here is a sample of what one of the Sheets looks like:**

A	B	C	D
1	santa monica		
2	x	y	z

3	39	68	8
4	19	8	3
5	5	82	6

As you can see, the hospital is Santa Monica and the variable names are x, y and z. Now here is what we want to do with the Sheets in this Excel file. We want to capture the hospital name and add to each row of the data. Then we want to append the data from each of the hospitals together into a single Stata data file.

Additionally, we want to create a numeric variable that codes the hospital name. Here is the code to do this which you can paste into your do-file editor.

```
/* do-file code to read Excel spreadsheets */
```

```
/* loop thru each of the Sheets beginning with Sheet4 */  
forvalues i=4(-1)1 {
```

```
/* capture the hospital name from cell A1 */
```

```
import excel using hospital.xls, ///
```

```
sheet(Sheet`i') cellrange(A1:A1) clear
```

```
local hname = A /* local macro with hospital name */
```

```
/* get the data beginning in cell B2 */  
import excel using hospital.xls, ///  
sheet(Sheet`i') cellrange(B2) firstrow clear  
generate str12 hname = "`hname'" /* create variable with  
hospital name */
```

```
/* append and save data */
```

```
if `i'==4 {
```

```
save hospital, replace
```

```
}
```

```
else {
```

```
append using hospital.dta
```

```
save hospital, replace
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

```
encode hname, gen(hnum) /* create numeric hospital  
code */
```

```
order hname hnum /* reorder data placing hospital  
name first */
```

```
save hospital, replace /* final save of the data */
```

**The two import excel commands are worth commenting on in detail.**

The first one looks like this:

```
import excel using hospital.xls, ///  
sheet(Sheet`i') cellrange(A1:A1) clear
```

We use the full file name with the .xls extension following using. The option sheet, of course, indicates which Sheet (1 thru 4) that we want to read. The cellrange option, in this case, indicates that we want to read a single cell (cell A1). The clear option clears out any data already in memory.

Here is the second import excel command:

```
import excel using hospital.xls, ///  
sheet(Sheet`i') cellrange(B2) firstrow clear
```

The sheet and clear options are the same as before. This time the cellrange option has just a single values, B2, which indicates the upper left-hand starting location to begin reading the data. We have added the firstrow option to indicate that the first row contains the variable names. When you run the do-file you end up with a

**dataset**

**that looks like this:**

**. list, clean nolabel**

**hname hnum x y z**

**1. ucla 4 37 70 9**

**2. ucla 4 15 80 3**

**3. ucla 4 29 85 7**

**4. santa monica 3 39 68 8**

**5. santa monica 3 19 82 3**

**6. santa monica 3 25 82 6**

**7. harbor 2 38 67 9**

**8. harbor 2 20 80 4**

**9. harbor 2 25 82 7**

**10. county 1 40 69 10**

**11. county 1 20 80 6**

**12. county 1 23 79 6**

**And that's how to read data from multiple sheets from Excel into Stata.**