

## level — Set default confidence level

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## Description

`set level` specifies the default confidence level for confidence intervals for all commands that report confidence intervals. The initial value is 95, meaning 95% confidence intervals.

## Syntax

```
set level # [ , permanently ]
```

# is any number between 10.00 and 99.99 and may be specified with at most two digits after the decimal point.

## Option

`permanently` specifies that, in addition to making the change right now, the `level` setting be remembered and become the default setting when you invoke Stata.

## Remarks and examples

stata.com

To change the level of confidence intervals reported by a particular command, you need not reset the default confidence level. All commands that report confidence intervals have a `level(#)` option. When you do not specify the option, the confidence intervals are calculated for the default level set by `set level`, or for 95% if you have not reset `set level`.

### ► Example 1

We use the `ci means` command to obtain the confidence interval for the mean of `mpg`:

```
. use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r18/auto
(1978 automobile data)
. ci means mpg
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. err.	[95% conf. interval]	
mpg	74	21.2973	.6725511	19.9569	22.63769

To obtain 90% confidence intervals, we would type

```
. ci means mpg, level(90)
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. err.	[90% conf. interval]	
mpg	74	21.2973	.6725511	20.17683	22.41776

or

```
. set level 90
. ci means mpg
```

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. err.	[90% conf. interval]	
mpg	74	21.2973	.6725511	20.17683	22.41776

If we opt for the second alternative, the next time that we fit a model (say, with `regress`), 90% confidence intervals will be reported. If we wanted 95% confidence intervals, we could specify `level(95)` on the estimation command, or we could reset the default by typing `set level 95`.

The current setting of `level()` is stored as the c-class value `c(level)`; see [P] [creturn](#).

◀

## Also see

[R] [query](#) — Display system parameters

[P] [creturn](#) — Return c-class values

[U] [20 Estimation and postestimation commands](#)

[U] [20.8 Specifying the width of confidence intervals](#)

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