

*IBM SPSS Statistics Input/Output Module*



**Note**

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in [“Notices” on page 91.](#)

**Product Information**

This edition applies to version 28, release 0, modification 0 of IBM® SPSS® Statistics and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions.

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# Chapter 1. Introduction

IBM SPSS Statistics data files are binary files that contain the case data on which IBM SPSS Statistics operates and a dictionary describing the contents of the file. Many developers have successfully created applications that directly read and write IBM SPSS Statistics data files. Some of these developers have asked for a module to help them manipulate the rather complex format of IBM SPSS Statistics data files. The I/O Module documented here is designed to satisfy this need.

You can use the I/O Module to:

- Read and write IBM SPSS Statistics data files
- Set general file attributes, create variables
- Set values for variables
- Read cases
- Copy a dictionary
- Append cases to IBM SPSS Statistics data files
- Directly access data

Developers can call I/O Module procedures in client programs written in C, Visual Basic, and other programming languages. It is necessary to include the header file *spssdio.h*. The specific calling convention is `__stdcall` for 64-bit Windows programs. The `__stdcall` conventions are compatible with FORTRAN, although calling I/O Module procedures is not specifically supported for FORTRAN programs.

This document outlines the steps for developing an application using the I/O Module procedures and provides a detailed description of each procedure.

---

## New I/O Module for version 14.0

The I/O Module was completely rewritten for version 14.

- The new architecture facilitates further development. However, much of the code is not used in the product itself and has not received as much testing as that in the predecessor module.
- An unintended but necessary limitation of the new module is that the `spssOpenAppend` function will not work correctly on compressed data files created by systems prior to version 14.
- To assist in the handling of non-Western character sets, we are now using IBM's International Components for Unicode (ICU). As a result, the I/O Module depends on ICU runtime libraries, which are included with the product media.
- The I/O Module uses the Microsoft Resident C Runtime. If the client application shares this runtime, it will also share the locale. As a result, any call to `spssSetLocale` will affect both the I/O Module and the client. Such a call is unnecessary if the client has already set the locale. When the module is loaded, it sets the locale to the system default.
- Prior to version 14.0.1, the name of the multiple response set specified for `spssAddMultRespDefC` or `spssAddMultRespDefN` was limited to 63 bytes, and the I/O Module automatically prepended a dollar sign. In the interest of consistency, the name is now limited to 64 bytes and must begin with a dollar sign. Also, the length of the set label was previously limited to 60 bytes. It may now be as long as a variable label, 255 bytes.





---

## Chapter 2. Using the I/O Module

This chapter lists the sequence of procedures calls required to complete specific tasks with the I/O Module. See , [Chapter 5, “I/O Module procedure reference,”](#) on [page 13](#) for detailed information about each procedure.

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### Interface and file encoding

A new feature in version 16 is the option to represent text in a UTF-8 Unicode encoding rather than in the encoding of the current locale. If this option is chosen, all text (names, labels, values, and so on) communicated between the I/O Module and the client application is represented as UTF-8, and the text in any output file will be represented as UTF-8. When in UTF-8 mode, the I/O Module can read files encoded in either mode and will perform the necessary transcoding to deliver UTF-8 text to the client. Conversely, when in code page mode, the I/O Module can read files encoded in either mode.

Data files created by version 15 and subsequent versions contain information about their encoding. When the I/O Module is operating in UTF-8 mode, it uses that information to perform the necessary transcoding. When the I/O Module is operating in code page mode, it will transcode from UTF-8 to the current local's encoding but will not transcode from one non-Unicode encoding to another. See [“spssOpenAppend”](#) on [page 56](#) for some precautions when appending data to an open file.

Call `spssSetInterfaceEncoding` and `spssGetInterfaceEncoding` to set and get the interface encoding. Call `spssGetFileEncoding` and `spssGetFileCodePage` to get the encoding or code page of a specific file. Call `spssIsCompatibleEncoding` to determine whether the file and interface encoding are compatible.

When in UTF-8 mode the following apply:

- When retrieving string values—such as names, labels, or case values—values are returned as arrays of multibyte characters encoded in UTF-8. For example, in C, string values are returned as an array of `char` types encoded in UTF-8.
- When writing string values to an IBM SPSS Statistics data file, be sure that values are encoded in UTF-8. For example, in C, string values should be specified as an array of `char` types encoded in UTF-8.
- When creating an IBM SPSS Statistics data file, the file contains information specifying that the data are encoded in UTF-8. When viewing such a file in IBM SPSS Statistics, you should be working in Unicode mode. You can specify Unicode mode from the General tab on the Options dialog (**Edit > Options**), or by using the command syntax `SET UNICODE=ON`. Switching to Unicode mode requires that there are no nonempty datasets open.

Example: Reading string values in UTF-8 mode

This example gets the variable names from an IBM SPSS Statistics data file and tests for the presence of a particular variable. It makes use of the Windows `MultiByteToWideChar` API to map the variable names (encoded in UTF-8) to UTF-16 (wide character) strings to allow comparison with a string literal.

```
#include "stdafx.h"
#include "spssdio.h"
#include <iostream>
#include "atlbase.h"
#include "atlstr.h"
using namespace std;
void func()
{
    int fH; /* file handle */
    int error; /* error code */
    int numV; /* number of variables */
    int *typesV; /* variable types */
    char **namesV; /* variable names */
    int res; /* Size, in characters, of buffer for variable name in UTF-16 */
    const wchar_t* name=L"résumé"; /* UTF-16 string literal of name to match */
    const size_t namesize=SPSS_MAX_VARNAME+1; /* UTF-16 variable name size */
    wchar_t wcstring[namesize]; /* variable name in UTF-16 */
    double handlesV[100]; /* array of variable handles */

    error = spssSetInterfaceEncoding(SPSS_ENCODING_UTF8);
    error = spssOpenRead("mydata.sav",&fH);
    error = spssGetVarNames(fH, &numV, &namesV, &typesV);
    int i;
```

```

for (i = 0; i < numV; ++i){
    error = spssGetVarHandle(fH, namesV[i], &handlesV[i]);
    if (error == SPSS_OK){
        res = MultiByteToWideChar(CP_UTF8, 0, namesV[i], -1, wcstring, 0);
        MultiByteToWideChar(CP_UTF8, 0, namesV[i], -1, wcstring, res);
        if (!wcscmp(wcstring, name))
            cout << "Found match" << endl;
    }
    else ...
}
spssFreeVarNames(namesV, typesV, numV);
error = spssCloseRead(fH);
}

```

For Visual Basic developers, the following is a Visual Basic version of the above example. It uses the `spssGetVarInfo` function to get the name and type of each variable, one variable at a time. Also, it uses the `Encoding` class to handle conversions between UTF-8 and UTF-16.

```

Dim fH As Long 'file handle
Dim err As Integer 'error code
Dim varType As Integer 'variable type
Dim i As Integer
Dim numVars As Integer 'number of variables
Dim varName As String 'variable name
Dim varNameU As String 'variable name in Unicode (UTF-16)
Dim name As String = "résumé" 'UTF-16 string literal of name to match
Dim uniBytes() As Byte 'byte representation of variable name in UTF-16

varName = "".PadRight(SPSS_MAX_VARNAME + 1)
err = spssSetInterfaceEncoding(SPSS_ENCODING_UTF8)
err = spssOpenRead("mydata.sav", fH)
err = spssGetNumberOfVariables(fH, numVars)
i = 0
Do While i < numVars
    err = spssGetVarInfo(fH, i, varName, varType)
    If (err = SPSS_OK) Then
        uniBytes = Encoding.Convert(Encoding.UTF8, Encoding.Unicode,
                                    Encoding.Default.GetBytes(varName))
        varNameU = Encoding.Unicode.GetString(uniBytes).Trim()
        If (String.Compare(name, varNameU) = 0) Then
            Console.WriteLine("Found match")
        End If
    End If
    i = i + 1
Loop
err = spssCloseRead(fH)

```

### Example: Writing string values in UTF-8 mode

This example writes a new IBM SPSS Statistics data file in UTF-8 mode. It makes use of the Windows `WideCharToMultiByte` API to map a string literal in UTF-16 (wide character) to the UTF-8 encoding required by IBM SPSS Statistics. For simplicity, it writes a file with a single variable and a single case value.

```

#include "stdafx.h"
#include "spssdio.h"
#include "atlbase.h"
#include "atlstr.h"
using namespace std;
void func()
{
    int fH; /* file handle */
    int error; /* error code */
    const wchar_t* val=L"männlich"; /* UTF-16 string to encode in UTF-8*/
    char varvalue[10]; /* character array for case value */
    double vH; /* variable handle */
    int res; /* Size, in bytes, of buffer for case value*/

    error = spssSetInterfaceEncoding(SPSS_ENCODING_UTF8);
    error = spssOpenWrite("mydata.sav", &fH);
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "Geschlecht", SPSS_STRING(10));
    error = spssCommitHeader(fH);
    res = WideCharToMultiByte(CP_UTF8, 0, val, -1, varvalue, 0, NULL, NULL);
    WideCharToMultiByte(CP_UTF8, 0, val, -1, varvalue, res, NULL, NULL);
    error = spssGetVarHandle(fH, "Geschlecht", &vH);
    error = spssSetValueChar(fH, vH, varvalue);
    error = spssCommitCaseRecord(fH);
    error = spssCloseWrite(fH);
}

```

For Visual Basic developers, the following is a Visual Basic version of the above example. It uses the `Encoding` class to handle conversions between UTF-16 and UTF-8.

```

Dim fH As Long 'file handle
Dim vH As Double 'variable handle
Dim err As Integer 'error code
Dim val As String = "männlich" 'String to encode in UTF-8
Dim utf8String As String 'String to pass to SPSS Statistics
Dim utf8Bytes() As Byte 'UTF-8 byte representation of string

spssSetInterfaceEncoding(SPSS_ENCODING_UTF8)
err = spssOpenWrite("mydata.sav", fH)
err = spssSetVarName(fH, "Geschlecht", 10)
err = spssCommitHeader(fH)
err = spssGetVarHandle(fH, "Geschlecht", vH)

```

```

utf8Bytes = Encoding.Convert(Encoding.Unicode, Encoding.UTF8, _
    Encoding.Unicode.GetBytes(val))
utf8String = Encoding.Default.GetString(utf8Bytes)
err = spssSetValueChar(fh, vH, utf8String)
err = spssCommitCaseRecord(fh)
err = spssCloseWrite(fh)

```

## Writing IBM SPSS Statistics data files

---

The sequence of procedure calls to create IBM SPSS Statistics variables is as follows:

1. To open a physical file for output and to initialize internal data structures, call `spssOpenWrite`.
2. To set general file attributes, such as file label and compression, call `spssSetIdString` and `spssSetCompression`. These attributes may also be set anytime before the dictionary is committed (see step 7).
3. To create one or more variables, call `spssSetVarName`.
4. To set attributes of variables, such as output formats, variable and value labels, missing values, etc., call appropriate procedures, such as `spssSetVarPrintFormat`, `spssSetVarLabel`, `spssSetVarNValueLabel`, etc. Variable creation and attribute setting may be interleaved as long as no reference is made to a variable that has not yet been created.
5. (Optional) If you want to set variable sets, Trends date variables, or multiple-response set information, call `spssSetVariableSets`, `spssSetDateVariables`, or `spssSetMultRespDefs`.
6. To set the case weight variable, call `spssSetCaseWeightVar`.
7. To commit the dictionary, call `spssCommitHeader`. Dictionary information may no longer be modified.
8. To prepare to set case data values, call `spssGetVarHandle` once for each variable and save the returned variable handles. A variable handle contains an index that allows data to be updated efficiently during case processing. While setting data values, variables must be referenced via their handles and not their names.
9. To set values of all variables for a case, call `spssSetValueChar` for string variables and `spssSetValueNumeric` for numeric ones. To write out the case, call `spssCommitCaseRecord`. Repeat from the beginning of this step until all cases are written.
10. To terminate file processing, call `spssCloseWrite`.

Utility procedures such as `spssSysmisVal` and any of the `spssConvert` procedures may be called at any time. They are useful primarily while setting case data values.

It is possible to construct complete cases in the form the cases would be written to an uncompressed data file and then present them to the I/O Module for output (which will take care of compression, if necessary). Note that it is very easy to write out garbage this way. To use this approach, replace step 8 and step 9 with the following steps:

1. To obtain the size of an uncompressed case record in bytes, call `spssGetCaseSize`. Make sure that the size is what you think it should be. Allocate a buffer of that size.
2. Fill up the buffer with the correctly encoded numeric and string values, taking care of blank padding and doubleword alignment. To write the case, call `spssWholeCaseOut`. Repeat from the beginning of this step until all cases are written.

## Copying a dictionary

---

Developers can open a new file for output and initialize its dictionary from that of an existing file. The function, `spssOpenWriteCopy`, that implements this feature is a slight extension of `spssOpenWrite`. It is useful when the dictionary or data of an existing file is to be modified or all of its data is to be replaced. The typical sequence of operations is:

1. Call `spssOpenWriteCopy` (`newFileName`, `oldFileName`, ...) to open a new file initialized with a copy of the old file's dictionary.
2. Call `spssOpenRead` (`oldFileName`, ...) to access the old file's data.

## Appending cases to an existing IBM SPSS Statistics data file

---

To append cases, the existing data file must be compatible with the host system; that is, the system that originally created the file must use the same bit ordering and the same representation for the system-missing value as the host system. For example, a file created on a computer that uses high-order-first bit ordering (for example, Motorola) cannot be extended on a computer that uses low-order-first bit ordering (for example, Intel).

When appending cases, no changes are made to the dictionary other than the number of cases. The originating system and the creation date are not modified.

The sequence of procedure calls to append cases to an existing IBM SPSS Statistics data file is as follows:

1. To open a physical file and to initialize internal data structures, call `spssOpenAppend`.
2. To get general file attributes, such as file label, compression, and case weight, call `spssGetIdString`, `spssGetCompression`, and `spssGetCaseWeightVar`. To get the list of variable names and types, call `spssGetVarNames`, or call `spssGetNumberOfVariables` and `spssGetVarInfo` if you are using Visual Basic. To get attributes of variables, such as output formats, variable and value labels, missing values, etc., call `spssGetVarPrintFormat`, `spssGetVarLabel`, `spssGetVarNValueLabel(s)`, etc.
3. To set values of all variables for a case, call `spssSetValueChar` for string variables and `spssSetValueNumeric` for numeric variables. To append the case, call `spssCommitCaseRecord`. Repeat from the beginning of this step until all cases are written.
4. To terminate file processing, call `spssCloseAppend`.

Utility procedures such as `spssSysmisVal` and any of the `spssConvert` procedures may be called at any time. They are useful primarily while setting case data values.

For step 3, it is also possible to call `spssWholeCaseOut` to construct complete cases in the form in which the cases would be written to an uncompressed data file and then present them to the I/O Module for output (which will take care of compression, if necessary). The same precaution should be taken as you write whole cases to a data file.

## Reading IBM SPSS Statistics data files

---

The sequence of procedure calls to read IBM SPSS Statistics data files is much less restricted than the sequence of calls to write IBM SPSS Statistics data files. Cases, of course, must be read in sequence. However, calls that report file or variable attributes may be made anytime after the file is opened. A typical sequence of steps is:

1. To open a physical file for input and to initialize internal data structures, call `spssOpenRead`.
2. To get general file attributes, such as file label, compression, and case weight, call `spssGetIdString`, `spssGetCompression`, and `spssGetCaseWeightVar`. To get the list of variable names and types, call `spssGetVarNames`, or call `spssGetNumberOfVariables` and `spssGetVarInfo` if you are using Visual Basic. To get attributes of variables, such as output formats, variable and value labels, missing values, etc., call `spssGetVarPrintFormat`, `spssGetVarLabel`, `spssGetVarNValueLabel(s)`, etc.
3. (Optional) If you want to set variable sets, Trends date variables, or multiple-response set information, call `spssSetVariableSets`, `spssSetDateVariables`, or `spssSetMultRespDefs`.
4. To find out the number of cases in the file, call `spssGetNumberOfCases`.
5. To prepare to read case values, call `spssGetVarHandle` once for each variable whose values are of interest and save the returned variable handles. A variable handle contains an index that allows data to be retrieved efficiently during case processing. While retrieving data values, variables must be referenced via their handles and not their names.
6. To read the next case into the library's internal buffers, call `spssReadCaseRecord`. To get values of variables for a case, call `spssGetValueChar` for string variables and `spssGetValueNumeric` for numeric ones. Repeat from the beginning of this step until all cases are read.

7. To terminate file processing, call `spssCloseRead`.

Utility procedures such as `spssSysmisVal` and any of the `spssConvert` procedures may be called at any time. They are useful primarily while interpreting case data values. The `spssFree . . .` procedures should also be used where appropriate to free dynamically allocated data returned by the library.

Here, too, it is possible to receive from the I/O Module complete cases in the form in which the cases would appear in an uncompressed data file. Extracting data values from the case record is entirely up to the caller in this case. For this approach, replace step 5 and step 6 with the following steps:

1. To obtain the size of an uncompressed case record in bytes, call `spssGetCaseSize`. Allocate a buffer of that size.
2. To read the next case into your buffer, call `spssWholeCaseIn`. Extract the values you need from the buffer. Repeat from the beginning of this step until all cases are read.

## Direct access input

---

The I/O Module supports direct access to the data in existing files. The basic mechanism is to call `spssSeekNextCase`, specifying a zero-origin case number before calling `spssWholeCaseIn` or `spssReadCaseRecord`. Note that direct reads from compressed IBM SPSS Statistics data files require reading all of the data up to the requested case—that is, performance may not be sparkling when retrieving a few cases. Once an index of the cases has been constructed, performance is adequate.



---

## Chapter 3. Working with IBM SPSS Statistics data files

### Variable names and string values

---

A user-definable IBM SPSS Statistics variable name must be valid in the current locale. Variable names must obey the following rules:

- The name must begin with a letter. The remaining characters may be any letter, any digit, a period, or the symbols @, #, \_, or \$.
- Variable names cannot end with a period. Names that end with an underscore should be avoided (to avoid name conflicts with variables automatically created by some procedures).
- The length of the name cannot exceed 64 bytes.
- Blanks and special characters (for example, !, ?, \*) cannot be used.
- Each variable name must be unique; duplication is not allowed. Variable names are not case sensitive. The names *NEWVAR*, *NewVar*, and *newvar* are all considered identical.
- Reserved keywords (ALL, NE, EQ, TO, LE, LT, BY, OR, GT, AND, NOT, GE, and WITH) cannot be used.

If the names in a data file created in another locale are invalid in the current locale (for example, double-byte characters), the I/O Module will create acceptable names. These names are returned upon inquiry and can be used as legitimate parameters in procedures requiring variable names. The names in the data file will not be changed.

In the I/O Module, procedures that return variable names return them in upper case as null-terminated strings without any trailing blanks. Procedures that take variable names as input will accept mixed case and any number of trailing blanks without a problem. These procedures change everything to upper case and trim trailing blanks before using the variable names.

Similarly, procedures that return values of string variables return them as null-terminated strings whose lengths are equal to the lengths of the variables. Procedures that take string variable values as input accept any number of trailing blanks and effectively trim the values to the variables' lengths before using them.

### Accessing variable and value labels

---

Beginning with version 7.5, the limit on the length of variable labels was increased from 120 to 256 bytes. There were two ways in which the `spssGetVarLabel` function could be modified to handle the longer labels. First, it could continue to return a maximum of 120 bytes for compatibility with existing applications. Second, it could return a maximum of `SPSS_MAX_VARLABEL` bytes for compatibility with new data files. The resolution was to continue to return a maximum of 120 bytes and to introduce a new function, `spssGetVarLabelLong`, which permits the client to specify the maximum number of bytes to return. In anticipation of possible future increases in the maximum width of value labels, two parallel functions, `spssGetVarNValueLabelLong` and `spssGetVarCValueLabelLong`, were added for retrieving the value labels of numeric and short string variables.

### System-missing value

---

The special floating point value used to encode the system-missing value may differ from platform to platform, and the value encoded in a data file may differ from the one used on the host platform (one on which the application and the I/O Module are running). Files written through the I/O Module use the host system-missing value, which may be obtained by calling `spssSysmisVal`. For files being read using the I/O Module, data values having the system-missing value encoded in the file are converted to the host

system-missing value; the system-missing value used in the data file is invisible to the user of the I/O Module.

## Measurement level, column width, and alignment

---

Starting with version 8.0, IBM SPSS Statistics supports three additional variable attributes: measurement level, column width, and alignment. These attributes are not necessarily present IBM SPSS Statistics data files. However, when one attribute is recorded for a variable, all three must be recorded for every variable. Default values are assigned as necessary.

For example, if a new data file is being created and the measurement level attribute is explicitly set for one variable, default values will be assigned to measurement levels of all remaining variables, and column widths and alignments will be assigned to all variables. If no measurement level, column width, or alignment is assigned, the file will be written without values for any attribute.

There are six new file I/O Module functions to access to these attributes: `spssGetVarMeasureLevel`, `spssSetVarMeasureLevel`, `spssGetVarColumnWidth`, `spssSetVarColumnWidth`, `spssGetVarAlignment`, and `spssSetVarAlignment`.

## Support for documents

---

IBM SPSS Statistics has a `DOCUMENT` command that can be used to store blocks of text in a data file. Until version 8.0, the I/O Module had no support for documents—stored documents, if any, were discarded when opening an existing file, and there was no way to add documents to a new file. Starting with version 8.0, limited support for stored documents is provided that allows the user to retain existing documents.

When a file is opened for reading, its documents record is read and kept; if a file being written out has documents, they are stored in the dictionary. Since there is still no way to explicitly get or set documents, one may wonder how it is possible for an output file to acquire documents. The answer is, by using `spssOpenWriteCopy` to initialize a dictionary or by calling the `spssCopyDocuments` function to copy documents from one file to another. If an output file is created with `spssOpenWriteCopy`, the documents record of the file the dictionary is copied from is retained and written out when the dictionary is.



---

## Chapter 4. Coding your program

Any source file that references I/O Module procedures must include the header *spssdio.h*. The latter provides ANSI C prototypes for the I/O Module procedures and defines useful macros; it does not require any other headers to be included beyond what your program requires. To protect against name clashes, all I/O Module function names start with *spss* and all macro names are prefixed with *SPSS\_*. In addition to the macros explicitly mentioned in the I/O Module procedures, *spssdio.h* defines macros for the maximum sizes of various data file objects that may help to make your program a little more readable:

*SPSS\_MAX\_VARNAME*. Variable name

*SPSS\_MAX\_SHORTSTRING*. Short string variable

*SPSS\_MAX\_IDSTRING*. File label string

*SPSS\_MAX\_LONGSTRING*. Long string variable

*SPSS\_MAX\_VALLABEL*. Value label

*SPSS\_MAX\_VARLABEL*. Variable label

---

### Visual Basic clients

The file *spssdio.vb* contains declarations of most of the API functions in a format that can be used in Visual Basic. The file also contains definitions of symbolic constants for all of the function return codes and the IBM SPSS Statistics format codes. Three comments are relevant to this file:

- It is necessary to have a knowledge of Chapter 26, "Calling Procedures in DLLs," in the *Microsoft Visual Basic Programmer's Guide*. Note that where the API function parameter should be an `int`, a Visual Basic application should use a `Long`. Also, you should be careful to make string parameters suitably long before calling the API.
- Some functions, such as `spssGetVarNames`, are not compatible with being called from Visual Basic. The declarations of these functions are present only as comments.
- Only about 20% of the functions have actually been called from a working Visual Basic program. The inference is that some of the declarations are probably incorrect.

The function `spssGetVarNames` is a little difficult to call from languages other than C because it returns pointers to two vectors. BASIC and FORTRAN are not very well equipped to deal with pointers. Instead, use functions `spssGetNumberOfVariables` and `spssGetVarInfo`, which enable the client program to access the same information in a little different way. Another function, `spssHostSysmisVal`, is provided as an alternative to `spssSysmisVal` to avoid returning a double on the stack.

---

### C++11

IBM SPSS Statistics utilizes C++11 as its C++ standard. For more information on C++11, refer to the [C++11 Overview wiki](#).



---

## Chapter 5. I/O Module procedure reference

The procedures are listed in alphabetical order.

### spssAddFileAttribute

---

```
int spssAddFileAttribute(  
    const int hFile,  
    const char* attribName,  
    const int attribSub,  
    const char* attribText)
```

#### Description

This function adds a single datafile attribute. If the attribute already exists, it is replaced. The attribute name and its subscript are specified separately. The subscript is unit origin. If the attribute is not subscripted, the subscript must be specified as `-1`.

*hfile*. Handle to the data file.

*attribName*. Name of the attribute. Not case sensitive.

*attribSub*. Unit origin subscript or `-1`.

*attribText*. Text which used as the attribute's value.

#### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is read-only.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called.

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRDEF. Missing name, missing text, or invalid subscript.

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRNAME. Lexically invalid attribute name.

### spssAddMultRespDefC

---

```
int spssAddMultRespDefC(  
    int handle,  
    const char *mrSetName,  
    const char *mrSetLabel,  
    int isDichotomy,  
    const char *countedValue,  
    const char **varNames,  
    int numVars)
```

#### Description

This function adds a multiple-response set definition over short string variables to the dictionary.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*mrSetName*. Name of the multiple response set. A null-terminated string up to 64 bytes long that begins with a dollar sign and obeys the rules for a valid variable name. Case is immaterial.

*mrSetLabel*. Label for the multiple response set. A null-terminated string up to 256 bytes long. May be NULL or the empty string to indicate that no label is desired.

*isDichotomy*. Nonzero if the variables in the set are coded as dichotomies, zero otherwise.

*countedValue*. A null-terminated string containing the counted value. Necessary when *isDichotomy* is nonzero, in which case it must be 1–8 characters long, and ignored otherwise. May be NULL if *isDichotomy* is zero.

*varNames*. Array of null-terminated strings containing the names of the variables in the set. All variables in the list must be short strings. Case is immaterial.

*numVars*. Number of variables in the list (in *varNames*). Must be at least two.

Returns

If all goes well, adds the multiple response set to the dictionary and returns zero (SPSS\_OK) or negative (a warning). Otherwise, returns a positive error code and does not add anything to the multiple response sets already defined, if any.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is open for input or append.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called.

SPSS\_NO\_VARIABLES. Fewer than two variables in list.

SPSS\_EXC\_STRVALUE. *isDichotomy* is nonzero and *countedValue* is NULL, empty, or longer than eight characters.

SPSS\_INVALID\_MRSETNAME. The multiple-response set name is invalid.

SPSS\_DUP\_MRSETNAME. The multiple-response set name is a duplicate.

SPSS\_INVALID\_MRSETDEF. Existing multiple-response set definitions are invalid.

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. One or more variable names in list are invalid.

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. One or more variables in list were not found in dictionary.

SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. At least one variable in the list is numeric or long string.

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory to store the definition.

## spssAddMultRespDefExt

```
int spssAddMultRespDefExt(const int hFile, const spssMultRespDef* pSet)
```

### Description

This function adds one multiple response set to the dictionary. The set is described in a struct which is defined in *spssdio.h*.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file.

*pSet*. Pointer to the struct defining the set.

The struct itself is defined as:

```
typedef struct spssMultRespDef_T {
    char szMrSetName[SPSS_MAX_VARNAME+1]; /* Null-terminated MR set name */
    char szMrSetLabel[SPSS_MAX_VARLABEL+1]; /* Null-terminated set label */
    int qIsDichotomy; /* Whether a multiple dichotomy set */
    int qIsNumeric; /* Whether the counted value is numeric */
    int qUseCategoryLabels; /* Whether to use var category labels */
    int qUseFirstVarLabel; /* Whether using var label as set label */
    int Reserved[14]; /* Reserved for expansion */
    long nCountedValue; /* Counted value if numeric */
    char* pszCountedValue; /* Null-terminated counted value if string */
    char** ppszVarNames; /* Vector of null-terminated var names */
    int nVariables; /* Number of constituent variables */
} spssMultRespDef;
```

The items in the struct are as follows:

*szMrSetName*. Null-terminated name for the set. Up to 64 bytes. Must begin with "\$".

*szMrSetLabel*. Null-terminated label for the set. Up to 256 bytes.

*qIsDichotomy*. True (non-zero) if this is a multiple dichotomy; that is, an "MD" set.

*qIsNumeric*. True if the counted value is numeric. Applicable only to multiple dichotomies.

*qUseCategoryLabels*. True for multiple dichotomies for which the categories are to be labeled by the value labels corresponding to the counted value.

*qUseFirstVarLabel*. True for multiple dichotomies for which the label for the set is taken from the variable label of the first constituent variable.

*nCountedValue*. The counted value for numeric multiple dichotomies.

*pszCountedValue*. Pointer to the null-terminated counted value for character multiple dichotomies.

*ppszVarNames*. Pointer to a vector of null-terminated variable names.

*nVariables*. Number of variables in the set

When adding a set, the set name must be unique, and the variables must exist and be of the appropriate type—numeric or character depending on *qIsNumeric*.

Returns

The function returns SPSS\_OK or an error value.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is invalid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is not open for output.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. The dictionary has already been committed.

SPSS\_INVALID\_MRSETNAME. Invalid name for the set.

SPSS\_INVALID\_MRSETDEF. Invalid or inconsistent members of the definition struct.

SPSS\_DUP\_MRSETNAME. A set with the same name already exists.

## spssAddMultRespDefN

---

```
int spssAddMultRespDefN(  
    int handle,  
    const char *mrSetName,  
    const char *mrSetLabel,  
    int isDichotomy,  
    long countedValue,  
    const char **varNames,  
    int numVars)
```

### Description

This function adds a multiple-response set definition over numeric variables to the dictionary.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*mrSetName*. Name of the multiple response set. A null-terminated string up to 64 bytes that begins with a dollar sign and obeys the rules for a valid variable name. Case is immaterial.

*mrSetLabel*. Label for the multiple response set. A null-terminated string up to 256 bytes long. May be NULL or the empty string to indicate no label is desired.

*isDichotomy*. Nonzero if the variables in the set are coded as dichotomies, zero otherwise.

*countedValue*. The counted value. Necessary when *isDichotomy* is nonzero and ignored otherwise. Note that the value is specified as a long int, not a double.

*varNames*. Array of null-terminated strings containing the names of the variables in the set. All variables in the list must be numeric. Case is immaterial.

*numVars*. Number of variables in the list (in *varNames*). Must be at least two.

## Returns

If all goes well, adds the multiple response set to the dictionary and returns zero (SPSS\_OK) or negative (a warning). Otherwise, returns a positive error code and does not add anything to the multiple response sets already defined, if any.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is open for input or append.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called.

SPSS\_NO\_VARIABLES. Fewer than two variables in list.

SPSS\_INVALID\_MRSETNAME. The multiple-response set name is invalid.

SPSS\_DUP\_MRSETNAME. The multiple-response set name is a duplicate.

SPSS\_INVALID\_MRSETDEF. Existing multiple-response set definitions are invalid.

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. One or more variable names in list are invalid.

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. One or more variables in list were not found in dictionary.

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. At least one variable in the list is not numeric.

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory to store the definition.

## spssAddVarAttribute

---

```
int spssAddVarAttribute(  
    const int hFile  
    const char* varName,  
    const char* attribName,  
    const int attribSub,  
    const char* attribText)
```

### Description

This function is analogous to `spssAddFileAttribute`, but it operates on a single variable's set of attributes. If the named attribute does not already exist, it is added to the set of attributes. If it does exist, the existing definition is replaced. If the attribute is not subscripted, the unit origin subscript is specified as `-1`.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Name of the variable. Not case sensitive.

*attribName*. Name of the attribute. Not case sensitive.

*attribSub*. Unit origin attribute or `-1`.

*attribText*. Text which used as the attribute's value.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. Named variable is not in the file.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is read-only.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called.

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRDEF. Missing name, missing text, or invalid subscript.

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRNAME. Lexically invalid attribute name.

## spssCloseAppend

---

```
int spssCloseAppend(int handle)
```

### Description

This function closes the data file associated with *handle*, which must have been opened for appending cases using `spssOpenAppend`. The file handle *handle* becomes invalid and no further operations can be performed using it.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not appending, cases.

SPSS\_FILE\_WERROR. File write error.

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenAppend("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    error = spssCloseAppend(fH);
    ...
    /* Handle fH is now invalid */
}
```

See also [“spssOpenAppend” on page 56](#).

## spssCloseRead

---

```
int spssCloseRead(int handle)
```

### Description

This function closes the data file associated with *handle*, which must have been opened for reading using `spssOpenRead`. The file handle *handle* becomes invalid and no further operations can be performed using it.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. File is open for writing, not reading.

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    error = spssCloseRead(fH);
}
```

```
    ...  
    /* Handle fH is now invalid */  
}
```

See also [“spssOpenRead” on page 58](#).

## spssCloseWrite

---

```
int spssCloseWrite(int handle)
```

### Description

This function closes the data file associated with *handle*, which must have been opened for writing using `spssOpenWrite`. The file handle *handle* becomes invalid and no further operations can be performed using it.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing.

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. Dictionary of the output file has not yet been written with `spssCommitHeader`.

SPSS\_FILE\_WERROR. File write error.

### Example

See [“spssSetValueNumeric” on page 74](#) and [“spssOpenWrite” on page 59](#).

## spssCommitCaseRecord

---

```
int spssCommitCaseRecord(int handle)
```

### Description

This function writes a case to the data file specified by the *handle*. It must be called after setting the values of variables through `spssSetValueNumeric` and `spssSetValueChar`. Any variables left unset will get the system-missing value if they are numeric and all blanks if they are strings. Unless `spssCommitCaseRecord` is called, the case will not be written out.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing.

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. Dictionary of the output file has not yet been written with `spssCommitHeader`.

SPSS\_FILE\_WERROR. File write error.

### Example

See [“spssSetValueNumeric” on page 74](#) and [“spssSetValueChar” on page 73](#).



## spssCommitHeader

---

```
int spssCommitHeader(int handle)
```

### Description

This function writes the data dictionary to the data file associated with *handle*. Before any case data can be written, the dictionary must be committed; once the dictionary has been committed, no further changes can be made to it.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`.

SPSS\_DICT\_EMPTY. No variables defined in the dictionary.

SPSS\_FILE\_WERROR. File write error. In case of this error, the file associated with *handle* is closed and *handle* is no longer valid.

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory.

SPSS\_INTERNAL\_VLABS. Internal data structures of the I/O Module are invalid. This signals an error in the I/O Module.

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Create some variables */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "AGE", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    ...
    /* Label variables -- Not required but useful */
    error = spssSetVarLabel(fH, "AGE", "Age of the Employee");
    ...
    /* Done with dictionary definition; commit dictionary */
    error = spssCommitHeader(fH);
    /* Handle errors... */
    ...
}
```

## spssConvertDate

---

```
int spssConvertDate(
    int day,
    int month,
    int year,
    double *spssDate)
```

### Description

This function converts a Gregorian date expressed as day-month-year to the internal date format. The time portion of the date variable is set to 0:00. To set the time portion of the date variable to another value, use `spssConvertTime` and add the resulting value to *\*spssDate*. Dates before October 15, 1582, are considered invalid.

*day*. Day of month (1–31)

*month*. Month (1–12)

*year*. Year in full (94 means 94 A.D.)

*spssDate*. Pointer to date in internal format

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_DATE. Invalid date

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int    fH;           /* file handle      */
    int    error;        /* error code       */
    double vH;           /* variable handle  */
    double sDate;        /* date             */
    double sTime;        /* time             */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Create a numeric variable and set its print format
    ** to DATETIME28.4
    */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "TIMESTAMP", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    ...
    error =
    spssSetVarPrintFormat(fH, "TIMESTAMP", SPSS_FMT_DATE_TIME, 4, 28);
    ...
    /* Get variable handle for TIMESTAMP */
    error = spssGetVarHandle(fH, "TIMESTAMP", &vH);
    ...
    /* Set value of TIMESTAMP for first case to May 9, 1948,
    ** 10:30 AM. Do this by first using spssConvertDate to get
    ** a date value equal to May 9, 1948, 0:00 and adding to it
    ** a time value for 10:30:00.
    */
    error = spssConvertDate(9, 5, 1948, &sDate);
    ...
    /* Note that the seconds value is double, not int */
    error = spssConvertTime(0L, 10, 30, 0.0, &sTime);
    ...
    /* Set the value of the date variable */
    error = spssSetValueNumeric(fH, vH, sDate+sTime);
    ...
}
```

See also [“spssConvertTime” on page 21](#).

## spssConvertSPSSDate

```
int spssConvertSPSSDate(
    int *day,
    int *month,
    int *year,
    double spssDate)
```

Description

This function converts the date (as distinct from time) portion of a value in internal date format to Gregorian style.

*day*. Pointer to day of month value

*month*. Pointer to month value

*year*. Pointer to year value

*spssDate*. Date in internal format

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_DATE. The date value (*spssDate*) is negative

## Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int    fH;                /* file handle */
    int    error;             /* error code */
    int    day, month, year;  /* date components */
    int    hour, min;         /* time components */
    long   jday;              /* Julian day */
    double sec;               /* seconds component */
    double vH;                /* variable handle */
    double sDate;             /* date+time */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("myfile.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get handle for TIMESTMP, a date variable */
    error = spssGetVarHandle(fH, "TIMESTMP" &vH);
    ...
    /* Read first case and print value of TIMESTMP */
    error = spssReadCaseRecord(fH);
    ...
    error = spssGetValueNumeric(fH, vH, &sDate);
    ...
    error = spssConvertSPSSDate(&day, &month, &year, sDate);
    ...
    /* We ignore jday, day number since Oct. 14, 1582 */
    error = spssConvertSPSSTime(&jday, &hour, &min, &sec, sDate);
    ...
    printf("Month/Day/Year: %d/%d/%d, H:M:S: %d:%d:%g\n",
           month, day, year, hour, min, sec);
    ...
}
```

## spssConvertSPSSTime

```
int spssConvertSPSSTime(
    long *day,
    int *hour,
    int *minute,
    double *second,
    double spssTime)
```

### Description

This function breaks a value in internal date format into a day number (since October 14, 1582) plus the hour, minute, and second values. Note that the seconds value is stored in a double since it may have a fractional part.

*day*. Pointer to day count value (note that the value is long)

*hour*. Pointer to hour of day

*minute*. Pointer to minute of the hour

*second*. Pointer to second of the minute

*spssTime*. Date in internal format

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_TIME. The date value (*spssTime*) is negative

### Example

See [“spssConvertSPSSDate” on page 20](#).

## spssConvertTime

```
int spssConvertTime(
    long day,
    int hour,
    int minute,
    double second,
    double *spssTime)
```

### Description

This function converts a time given as day, hours, minutes, and seconds to the internal format. The day value is the number of days since October 14, 1582, and is typically zero, especially when this function is used in conjunction with `spssConvertDate`. Note that the seconds value is stored in a double since it may have a fractional part.

*day*. Day (non-negative; note that the value is long)

*hour*. Hour (0–23)

*minute*. Minute (0–59)

*second*. Seconds (non-negative and less than 60)

*spssTime*. Pointer to time in internal format

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_TIME. Invalid time

### Example

See [“spssConvertSPSSDate” on page 20](#) and [“spssConvertSPSSDate” on page 20](#).

## spssCopyDocuments

---

```
int spssCopyDocuments(int fromHandle, int toHandle)
```

### Description

This function copies stored documents, if any, from the file associated with *fromHandle* to that associated with *toHandle*. The latter must be open for output. If the target file already has documents, they are discarded. If the source file has no documents, the target will be set to have none, too.

*fromHandle*. Handle to the file documents are to be copied from.

*toHandle*. Handle to the file documents are to be copied to. Must be open for output.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. At least one handle is not valid

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called for the target file

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The target file is open for input or append

## spssFreeAttributes

---

```
int spssFreeAttributes(char** attribNames, char** attribText, const int nAttributes)
```

### Description

This function frees the memory dynamically allocated by either `spssGetFileAttributes` or `spssGetVarAttributes`.

*attribNames*. Pointer to the vector of attribute names

*attribText*. Pointer to the vector of text values

*nAttributes*. The number of elements in each vector

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_CANNOT\_FREE. Program exception attempting to free the memory

---

## spssFreeDateVariables

```
int spssFreeDateVariables(long* dateInfo)
```

Description

This function is called to return the memory allocated by `spssGetDateVariables`.

*dateInfo*. Vector of date variable indexes

Returns

Always returns SPSS\_OK indicating success.

See also [“spssGetDateVariables” on page 27](#).

---

## spssFreeMultRespDefs

```
int spssFreeMultRespDefs(char *mrespDefs)
```

Description

This function releases the memory which was acquired by `spssGetMultRespDefs`.

*mrespDefs*. ASCII string containing the definitions

Returns

The function always succeeds and always returns SPSS\_OK.

See also [“spssGetMultRespDefs” on page 33](#).

---

## spssFreeMultRespDefStruct

```
int spssFreeMultRespDefStruct(spssMultRespDef* pSet)
```

Description

This function releases the memory acquired by `spssGetMultRespDefByIndex`. It has a single parameter, a pointer to the allocated struct.

Returns

The function returns SPSS\_OK or an error code.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_CANNOT\_FREE. Cannot deallocate the memory, probably an invalid pointer

See also [“spssGetMultRespDefByIndex” on page 32](#).

---

## spssFreeVarCValueLabels

```
int spssFreeVarCValueLabels(char **values, char **labels, int numLabels)
```

Description

This function frees the two arrays and the value and label strings allocated on the heap by `spssGetVarCValueLabels`.

*values*. Array of pointers to values returned by `spssGetVarCValueLabels`

*labels*. Array of pointers to labels returned by `spssGetVarCValueLabels`

*numLabels*. Number of values or labels returned by `spssGetVarCValueLabels`

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_CANNOT\_FREE. Unable to free because arguments are illegal or inconsistent (for example, negative *numLabels*)

Example

See [“spssGetVarNValueLabels” on page 51](#) and [“spssFreeVarCValueLabels” on page 23](#).

## spssFreeVariableSets

---

```
int spssFreeVariableSets(char *varSets)
```

Description

This function is called to return the memory allocated by `spssGetVariableSets`.

*varSets*. The string defining the variable sets

Returns

Always returns SPSS\_OK indicating success.

See also [“spssGetVariableSets” on page 45](#).

## spssFreeVarNValueLabels

---

```
int spssFreeVarNValueLabels(double *values, char **labels, int numLabels)
```

Description

This function frees the two arrays and the label strings allocated on the heap by `spssGetVarNValueLabels`.

*values*. Array of values returned by `spssGetVarNValueLabels`

*labels*. Array of pointers to labels returned by `spssGetVarNValueLabels`

*numLabels*. Number of values or labels returned by `spssGetVarNValueLabels`

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_CANNOT\_FREE. Unable to free because arguments are illegal or inconsistent (for example, negative *numLabels*)

Example

See [“spssGetVarNValueLabels” on page 51](#) and [“spssFreeVarCValueLabels” on page 23](#).

## spssFreeVarNames

---

```
int spssFreeVarNames(char **varNames, int *varTypes, int numVars)
```

### Description

This function frees the two arrays and the name strings allocated on the heap by `spssGetVarNames`.

*varNames*. Array of pointers to names returned by `spssGetVarNames`

*varTypes*. Array of variable types returned by `spssGetVarNames`

*numVars*. Number of variables returned by `spssGetVarNames`

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_CANNOT\_FREE. Unable to free because arguments are illegal or inconsistent (for example, negative *numVars*)

### Example

See [“spssGetVarNames” on page 52](#).

## spssGetCaseSize

---

```
int spssGetCaseSize(int handle, long *caseSize)
```

### Description

This function reports the size of a raw case record for the file associated with *handle*. The case size is reported in bytes and is meant to be used in conjunction with the low-level case input/output procedures `spssWholeCaseIn` and `spssWholeCaseOut`.

*caseSize*. Pointer to size of case in bytes

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. The file is open for output, and the dictionary has not yet been written with `spssCommitHeader`

### Example

See [“spssWholeCaseIn” on page 88](#) and [“spssWholeCaseIn” on page 88](#).

## spssGetCaseWeightVar

---

```
int spssGetCaseWeightVar(int handle, const char *varName)
```

### Description

This function reports the name of the case weight variable. The name is copied to the buffer pointed to by *varName* as a null-terminated string. Since a variable name can be up to 64 bytes in length, the size of the buffer must be at least 65.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Pointer to the buffer to hold name of the case weight variable

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_NO\_CASEWGT. A case weight variable has not been defined for this file (warning).

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_INVALID\_CASEWGT. The given case weight variable is invalid. This error signals an internal problem in the implementation of the I/O Module and should never occur.

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;                /* file handle */
    int error;             /* error code */

    char caseWeight[9];    /* case weight variable */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get and print the case weight variable of this file */
    error = spssGetCaseWeightVar(fH, caseWeight);
    if (error == SPSS_NO_CASEWGT)
        printf("The file is unweighted.\n");
    else if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("The case weight variable is: %s\n", caseWeight);
    else /* Handle error */
        ...
}
```

## spssGetCompression

```
int spssGetCompression(int handle, int *compSwitch)
```

Description

This function reports the compression attribute of a data file.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*compSwitch*. Pointer to compression attribute. Upon return, *\*compSwitch* is 1 if the file is compressed with standard compression, 2 if compressed in ZSAV format, and 0 otherwise.

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;                /* file handle */
    int error;             /* error code */
    int compSwitch;        /* compression switch */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Print whether the data file is compressed. */
    error = spssGetCompression(fH, &compSwitch);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        printf("File is ");
        if (compSwitch)
            printf("compressed.\n");
        else
            printf("uncompressed.\n");
    }
}
```



```
}  
}
```

## spssGetDateVariables

```
int spssGetDateVariables(int handle, int *numofElements, long **dateInfo)
```

### Description

This function reports the Forecasting (Trends) date variable information, if any, in IBM SPSS Statistics data files. It places the information in a dynamically allocated long array, sets *\*numofElements* to the number of elements in the array, and sets *\*dateInfo* to point to the array. The caller is expected to free the array by calling `spssFreeDateVariables` when it is no longer needed. The variable information is copied directly from record 7, subtype 3. Its first six elements comprise the "fixed" information, followed by a sequence of one or more three-element groups.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*numofElements*. Number of elements in allocated array

*dateInfo*. Pointer to first element of the allocated array

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_DATEINFO. There is no Trends date variable information in the file (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>  
#include <stdlib.h>  
#include "spssdio.h"  
void func()  
{  
    int fH;          /* file handle          */  
    int numD;        /* number of elements      */  
    long *dateInfo;  /* pointer to date variable info. */  
    ...  
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);  
    ...  
    /* Get & print TRENDS date variables info. */  
    error = spssGetDateVariables(fH, &numD, &dateInfo);  
    if (error == SPSS_NO_DATEINFO)  
        printf("No TRENDS information.\n");  
    else if (error == SPSS_OK)  
    {  
        if (numD < 6 || numD%3 != 0)  
        {  
            /* Should never happen */  
            printf("Date info format error.\n");  
            free(dateInfo);  
            return;  
        }  
        /*Print the first six elements followed by groups of three */  
        ...  
        /* Remember to free array */  
        spssFreeDateVariables(dateInfo);  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

See also [“spssSetDateVariables” on page 68](#).

## spssGetDEWFirst

```
int spssGetDEWFirst(  
    const int handle,  
    void *pData,  
    const long maxData,  
    long *nData)
```

### Description

The client can retrieve DEW information (file information that is private to the Data Entry product) from a file in whatever increments are convenient. The first such increment is retrieved by calling `spssGetDEWFirst`, and subsequent segments are retrieved by calling `spssGetDEWNext` as many times as necessary. As with `spssGetDEWInfo`, `spssGetDEWFirst` will return `SPSS_NO_DEW` if the file was written with a byte order that is the reverse of that of the host.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*pData*. Returned as data from the file

*maxData*. Maximum bytes to return

*nData*. Returned as number of bytes returned

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_NO_DEW`. File contains no DEW information (warning)

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_FILE_BADTEMP`. Error accessing the temporary file

See [“spssGetDEWInfo” on page 28](#) and [“spssGetDEWNext” on page 29](#).

## spssGetDEWGUID

---

```
int spssGetDEWGUID(const int handle, char* asciiGUID)
```

Description

Data Entry for Windows maintains a GUID in character form as a uniqueness indicator. Two files have identical dictionaries and DEW information if they have the same GUID. Note that the `spssOpenWriteCopy` function will not copy the source file's GUID. `spssGetDEWGUID` allows the client to read a file's GUID, if any. The client supplies a 257-byte string in which the null-terminated GUID is returned.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*asciiGUID*. Returned as the file's GUID in character form or a null string if the file contains no GUID

Returns

The GUID is returned as a null-terminated string in parameter *asciiGUID*. If the file does not contain a GUID (and most do not), a null string is returned. When a null string is returned, the function result will still be `SPSS_OK`.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

See also [“spssSetDEWGUID” on page 69](#).

## spssGetDEWInfo

---

```
int spssGetDEWInfo(const int handle, long *pLength, long *pHashTotal)
```

Description

This function can be called before actually retrieving DEW information (file information that is private to the Data Entry product) from a file, to obtain some attributes of that information—specifically its length in bytes and its hash total. The hash total is, by convention, contained in the last four bytes to be written. Because it is not cognizant of the structure of the DEW information, the I/O Module is unable to correct

the byte order of numeric information generated on a foreign host. As a result, the DEW information is discarded if the file has a byte order that is the reverse of that of the host, and calls to `spssGetDEWInfo` will return `SPSS_NO_DEW`.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*pLength*. Returned as the length in bytes

*pHashTotal*. Returned as the hash total

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_NO_DEW`. File contains no DEW information (warning)

## spssGetDEWNext

---

```
int spssGetDEWNext(
    const int handle,
    void *pData,
    const long maxData,
    long *nData)
```

Description

The client can retrieve DEW information (file information that is private to the Data Entry product) from a file in whatever increments are convenient. The first such increment is retrieved by calling `spssGetDEWFirst`, and subsequent segments are retrieved by calling `spssGetDEWNext` as many times as necessary. As with `spssGetDEWInfo`, `spssGetDEWFirst` will return `SPSS_NO_DEW` if the file was written with a byte order that is the reverse of that of the host.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*pData*. Returned as data from the file

*maxData*. Maximum bytes to return

*nData*. Returned as number of bytes returned

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_DEW_NOFIRST`. `spssGetDEWFirst` was never called

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_FILE_BADTEMP`. Error accessing the temporary file

See [“spssGetDEWInfo” on page 28](#) and [“spssGetDEWFirst” on page 27](#).

## spssGetEstimatedNofCases

---

```
int spssGetEstimatedNofCases(const int handle, long *caseCount)
```

Description

Although not strictly required for direct access input, this function helps in reading IBM SPSS Statistics data files from versions earlier than 6.0. Some of these data files did not contain number of cases information, and `spssGetNumberOfCases` will return `-1` cases. This function will return a precise

number for uncompressed files and an estimate (based on overall file size) for compressed files. It cannot be used on files open for appending data.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*caseCount*. Returned as estimated *n* of cases

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. The file is open for writing, not reading

SPSS\_FILE\_ERROR. Error reading the file

See [“spssGetNumberOfCases” on page 34](#).

## spssGetFileAttributes

---

```
int spssGetFileAttributes(  
    const int hFile,  
    char*** attribNames,  
    char*** attribText,  
    int* nAttributes)
```

Description

This function returns all the datafile attributes. It allocates the memory necessary to hold the attribute names and values. For subscripted attributes, the names include the unit origin subscripts enclosed in square brackets, for example `Prerequisite[11]`. The acquired memory must be released by calling `spssFreeAttributes`.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file

*attribNames*. Returned as a pointer to a vector of attribute names

*attribText*. Returned as a pointer to a vector of attribute values

*nAttributes*. Returned as the number of element in each vector

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory for the vectors

## spssGetFileCodePage

---

```
int spssGetFileEncoding(const int hFile, int* nCodePage)
```

Description

This function provides the Windows code page number of the encoding applicable to a file. For instance, the Windows code page for ISO-8859-1 is 28591. Note that the Windows code page for UTF-8 is 65001.

*hFile*. Handle to the file

*nCodePage*. Returned as the code page of the file

Returns

The function returns SPSS\_OK or an error value:

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is invalid

SPSS\_INCOMPATIBLE\_DICT. There is no Windows code page equivalent for the file's encoding

## spssGetFileEncoding

---

```
int spssGetFileEncoding(const int hFile, char* pszEncoding)
```

### Description

This function obtains the encoding applicable to a file. The encoding is returned as an IANA encoding name, such as ISO-8859-1. The maximum length of the returned string is SPSS\_MAX\_ENCODING plus a null terminator.

*hFile*. Handle to the file

*pszEncoding*. Returned as the encoding of the file

### Returns

The function returns SPSS\_OK or an error value:

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is invalid

## spssGetIdString

---

```
int spssGetIdString(int handle, char *id)
```

### Description

This function copies the file label of the IBM SPSS Statistics data file associated with *handle* into the buffer pointed to by *id*. The label is at most 64 characters long and null-terminated. Thus, the size of the buffer should be at least 65. If an input data file is associated with the handle, the label will be exactly 64 characters long, padded with blanks as necessary.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*id*. File label buffer

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;                /* file handle */
    int error;             /* error code */
    char id[65];           /* file label */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    error = spssGetIdString(fH, id);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("File label: %s\n", id);
    ...
}
```

## spssGetInterfaceEncoding

---

```
int spssGetInterfaceEncoding()
```

### Description

This function returns the current interface encoding.

### Returns

The function returns SPSS\_ENCODING\_CODEPAGE or SPSS\_ENCODING\_UTF8.

## spssGetMultRespCount

---

```
int spssGetMultRespCount(const int hFile, int* nSets)
```

### Description

This function obtains a count of the number of multiple response sets stored in the dictionary.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file

*nSets*. Returned as the number of sets

### Returns

The function returns SPSS\_OK or an error value:

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is invalid

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. The file is not open for input

## spssGetMultRespDefByIndex

---

```
int spssGetMultRespDefByIndex(const int hFile, const int iSet, spssMultRespDef** ppSet)
```

### Description

This function obtains a description of a single multiple response set. The set is specified via a zero origin index, and the description is returned in a struct for which the memory is allocated by the function.

*hFile*. Handle to the data set

*iSet*. Zero origin index of the set

*ppSet*. Returned as a pointer to the set's description

For information on the set description struct, see [“spssAddMultRespDefExt” on page 14](#). The memory for the struct must be freed by calling [“spssFreeMultRespDefStruct” on page 23](#).

### Returns

The function returns SPSS\_OK or an error code.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is invalid

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. The file is not open for input

SPSS\_INVALID\_MRSETINDEX. The index is out of range

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory to allocate the struct

## spssGetMultRespDefs

```
int spssGetMultRespDefs(const int handle, char **mrespDefs)
```

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*mrespDefs*. Returned as a pointer to a string

### Description

This function retrieves the multiple-response set definitions from IBM SPSS Statistics data files. The definitions are stored as a null-terminated code page or UTF-8 string based on whether the `spssGetInterfaceEncoding()` type is `SPSS_ENCODING_CODEPAGE` or `SPSS_ENCODING_UTF8`. The memory allocated by this function to contain the string must be freed by calling `spssFreeMultRespDefs`. If the file contains no multiple response definitions, *mrespDefs* is set to `NULL`, and the function returns the warning code `SPSS_NO_MULTRESP`.

For multiple category sets, the string contains the following: `$setname=C{label length} {label} {variable list}`

For multiple dichotomy sets, the string contains the following: `$setname=D{value length} {counted value} {label length} {label} {variable list}`

- All multiple multiple category and multiple dichotomy sets in the data file are returned as single string, with a newline character (`\n`) between each set.
- All multiple-response set names begin with a dollar sign and follow variable naming rules.
- For multiple dichotomy sets, there is no space between the D and the integer that represents the length of the counted value.
- If there is no label for the set, the label length is 0, and there is a single blank space for the label. (So there are two blank spaces between the label length value of 0 and the first variable name.)

For example:

```
$mcset=C 21 Multiple Category Set mcvar1 mcvar2 mcvar3 mcvar4 \n
$mdset1=D1 1 22 Multiple Dichotomy Set mdvar1 mdvar2 mdvar3 mdvar4 \n
$mdset2=D3 Yes 0 mdvar5 mdvar6 mdvar7
```

*Note:* For multiple dichotomy sets that use counted values as category labels (`CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES` in IBM SPSS Statistics command syntax) or the variable label of the first set variable as the set label (`LABELSOURCE=VARLABEL` in IBM SPSS Statistics command syntax), use the method `spssGetMultRespDefsEx`.

### Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_NO_MULTRESP`. No definitions on the file (warning)

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_NO_MEMORY`. Insufficient memory to contain the string

See [“spssFreeMultRespDefs” on page 23](#) and [“spssGetMultRespDefsEx” on page 33](#).

## spssGetMultRespDefsEx

```
int spssGetMultRespDefsEx(const int handle, char **mrespDefs)
```

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*mrespDefs*. Returned as a pointer to a string

### Description

This function retrieves the multiple-response set definitions for from IBM SPSS Statistics data files for "extended" multiple dichotomy sets. The definitions are stored as a null-terminated code page or UTF-8 string based on whether the `spssGetInterfaceEncoding()` type is `SPSS_ENCODING_CODEPAGE` or `SPSS_ENCODING_UTF8`. The memory allocated by this function to contain the string must be freed by calling `spssFreeMultRespDefs`. If the file contains no multiple response definitions, *\*mrespDefs* is set to NULL, and the function returns the warning code `SPSS_NO_MULTRESP`.

An "extended" multiple dichotomy is a set that uses counted values as category labels (`CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES` in IBM SPSS Statistics command syntax) or the variable label of the first set variable as the set label (`LABELSOURCE=VARLABEL` in IBM SPSS Statistics command syntax).

The string contains the following: `$setname=E {flag1}{flag2} {value length} {counted value} {label length} {label} {variable list}`

- All extended dichotomy sets in the data file are returned as single string, with a newline character (`\n`) between each set.
- All multiple-response set names begin with a dollar sign and follow variable naming rules.
- *flag1* always has a value of 1 and indicates that counted values are used as category labels.
- *flag2* has a value of 1 if the variable label of the first variable in the set is used as the label; otherwise *flag2* is not included. There is no space between *flag1* and *flag2*.
- If there is no label for the set, the label length is 0. The label length is always 0 if *flag2* is present (and set to 1). If the label length is 0, there is a single blank space for the label. (So there are two blank spaces between the label length value of 0 and the first variable name.)

For example:

```
$meset=E 11 1 1 0 mevar1 mevar2 mevar3 \n
$meset=E 1 3 Yes 38 Enhanced set with user specified label mevar4 mevar5 mevar6
```

## Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_NO_MULTRESP`. No definitions on the file (warning)

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_NO_MEMORY`. Insufficient memory to contain the string

See [“spssFreeMultRespDefs” on page 23](#). See also [“spssGetMultRespDefs” on page 33](#).

## spssGetNumberOfCases

```
int spssGetNumberOfCases(int handle, long *numofCases)
```

### Description

This function reports the number of cases present in a data file open for reading.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*numofCases*. Pointer to number of cases

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_OPEN_WRMODE`. File is open for writing, not reading



## Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    long count;       /* Number of cases */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get & print the number of cases present in the file. */
    error = spssGetNumberOfCases(fH, &count);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("Number of cases: %ld\n");
    ...
}
```

## spssGetNumberOfVariables

---

```
int spssGetNumberOfVariables(int handle, long *numVars)
```

### Description

This function reports the number of variables present in a data file.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*numVars*. Pointer to number of variables

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. Dictionary has not been committed

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. Data file contains no variables

### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    long count;       /* Number of variables */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get & print the number of variables present in the file. */
    error = spssGetNumberOfVariables(fH, &count);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("Number of variables: %ld\n");
    ...
}
```

## spssGetReleaseInfo

---

```
int spssGetReleaseInfo(int handle, int relinfo[])
```

### Description

This function reports release- and machine-specific information about the file associated with *handle*. The information consists of an array of eight `int` values copied from record type 7, subtype 3 of the file, and is useful primarily for debugging. The array elements are, in order, release number (index 0), release subnumber (1), special release identifier number (2), machine code (3), floating-point representation code (4), compression scheme code (5), big/little-endian code (6), and character representation code (7).

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*relinfo*. Array of `int` in which release- and machine-specific data will be stored. This array must have at least eight elements.

#### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values (with one exception noted below).

`SPSS_OK`. No error.

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid.

`SPSS_NO_TYPE73`. There is no type 7, subtype 3 record present. This code should be regarded as a warning even though it is positive. Files without this record are valid.

#### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;         /* error code */
    int relInfo[8];    /* release info */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get & print release and machine-specific info. */
    error = spssGetReleaseInfo(fH, relInfo);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        printf("Release & machine information:\n");
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < 8; ++i)
            printf("  Element %d: %d\n", i, relInfo[i]);
    }
    ...
}
```

## spssGetSystemString

```
int spssGetSystemString(int handle, char *sysName)
```

#### Description

This function returns the name of the system under which the file was created. It is a 40-byte, blank-padded character field corresponding to the last 40 bytes of record type 1. Thus, in order to accommodate the information, the parameter *sysName* must be at least 41 bytes in length plus the terminating null character.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*sysName*. The originating system name

#### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

#### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;         /* error code */
    char sysName[41];  /* originating system */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    error = spssGetIdString(fH, sysName);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("Originating System: %s\n", sysName);
    ...
}
```

## spssGetTextInfo

---

```
int spssGetTextInfo(int handle, char *textInfo)
```

### Description

This function places the text data created by TextSmart as a null-terminated string in the user-supplied buffer *textInfo*. The buffer is assumed to be at least 256 characters long; the text data may be up to 255 characters long. If text data are not present in the file, the first character in *textInfo* is set to NULL.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*textInfo*. Buffer for text data

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

## spssGetTimeStamp

---

```
int spssGetTimeStamp(int handle, char *fileDate, char *fileTime)
```

### Description

This function returns the creation date of the file as recorded in the file itself. The creation date is a null-terminated nine-byte character field in dd mmm yy format (27 Feb 96), and the receiving field must be at least 10 bytes in length. The creation time is a null-terminated eight-byte character field in hh:mm:ss format (13:12:15), and the receiving field must be at least nine bytes in length.

*fileDate*. File creation date

*fileTime*. File creation time

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

## spssGetValueChar

---

```
int spssGetValueChar(  
    int handle,  
    double varHandle,  
    char *value,  
    int valueSize)
```

### Description

This function gets the value of a string variable for the current case, which is the case read by the most recent call to `spssReadCaseRecord`. The value is returned as a null-terminated string in the caller-provided buffer *value*; the length of the string is the length of the string variable. The argument *valueSize* is the allocated size of the buffer *value*, which must be at least the length of the variable plus 1.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varHandle*. Handle of the variable

*value*. Buffer for the value of the string variable

*valueSize*. Size of *value*

## Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. File is open for writing, not reading.

SPSS\_INVALID\_CASE. Current case is not valid. This may be because no `spssReadCaseRecord` calls have been made yet or because the most recent call failed with error or encountered the end of file.

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. Variable associated with the handle is numeric.

SPSS\_BUFFER\_SHORT. Buffer *value* is too short to hold the value.

## Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH; /* file handle */
    int error; /* error code */
    int numV; /* number of variables */
    int *typesV; /* variable types */
    char **namesV; /* variable names */
    double handlesV[100]; /* assume no more than 100 variables */
    char cValue[256]; /* long enough for any string variable */
    long nCases; /* number of cases */
    long casesPrint; /* number of cases to print */
    long case; /* case index */
    double nValue; /* numeric value */
    int i; /* variable index */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get variable names and types */
    error = spssGetVarNames(fH, &numV, &namesV, &typesV);
    ...
    if (numV > 100)
    {
        printf("Too many variables; increase program capacity.\n");
        spssFreeVarNames(namesV, typesV, numV);
        return;
    }
    /* Get & store variable handles */
    for (i = 0; i < numV; ++i)
    {
        error = spssGetVarHandle(fH, namesV[i], &handlesV[i]);
        if (error != SPSS_OK) ...
    }
    /* Get the number of cases */
    error = spssGetNumberOfCases(fH, &nCases);
    ...
    /* Print at most the first ten cases */
    casesPrint = (nCases < 10) ? nCases : 10;
    for (case = 1; case <= casesPrint; ++case)
    {
        error = spssReadCaseRecord(fH);
        ...
        printf("Case %ld\n", case);
        for (i = 0; i < numV; ++i)
        {
            if (typesV[i] == 0)
            {
                /* Numeric */
                error = spssGetValueNumeric(fH, handlesV[i], &nValue);
                if (error == SPSS_OK)
                    printf(" %ld\n", nValue);
                else ...
            }
            else
            {
                /* String */
                error = spssGetValueChar(fH, handlesV[i], cValue, 256);
                if (error == SPSS_OK)
                    printf(" %s\n", cValue);
                else ...
            }
        }
    }
    /* Free the variable names & types */
    spssFreeVarNames(namesV, typesV, numV);
}
```

## spssGetValueNumeric

---

```
int spssGetValueNumeric(int handle, double varHandle, double *value)
```

### Description

This function gets the value of a numeric variable for the current case, which is the case read by the most recent call to `spssReadCaseRecord`.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varHandle*. Handle to the variable

*value*. Pointer to the value of the numeric variable

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. File is open for writing, not reading.

SPSS\_INVALID\_CASE. Current case is not valid. This may be because no `spssReadCaseRecord` calls have been made yet or because the most recent call failed with error or encountered the end of file.

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. Variable associated with the handle is not numeric.

### Example

See [“spssGetValueChar” on page 37](#).

## spssGetVarAttributes

---

```
int spssGetVarAttributes(  
    const int hFile,  
    const char* varName,  
    char*** attribNames,  
    char*** attribText,  
    int* nAttributes)
```

### Description

This function is analogous to `spssGetFileAttributes`. It returns all the attributes for a single variable.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. The name of the variable

*attribNames*. Returned as a pointer to a vector of attribute names

*attribText*. Returned as a pointer to a vector of attribute values

*nAttributes*. Returned as the number of element in each vector

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. Named variable is not in the file

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory for the vectors

## spssGetVarAlignment

---

```
int spssGetVarAlignment(int handle, const char *varName, int *alignment)
```

### Description

This function reports the value of the alignment attribute of a variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*alignment*. Pointer to alignment. Set to SPSS\_ALIGN\_LEFT, SPSS\_ALIGN\_RIGHT, or SPSS\_ALIGN\_CENTER.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## spssGetVarCMissingValues

---

```
int spssGetVarCMissingValues(  
    int handle,  
    const char *varName,  
    int *missingFormat,  
    char *missingVal1,  
    char *missingVal2,  
    char *missingVal3)
```

### Description

This function reports the missing values of a short string variable. The value of *\*missingFormat* will be in the range 0–3, indicating the number of missing values. The appropriate number of missing values is copied to the buffers *missingVal1*, *missingVal2*, and *missingVal3*. The lengths of the null-terminated missing value strings will be the length of the short string variable in question. Since the latter can be at most eight characters long, nine-character buffers are adequate for any short string variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*missingFormat*. Pointer to missing value format code

*missingVal1*. Buffer for first missing value

*missingVal2*. Buffer for second missing value

*missingVal3*. Buffer for third missing value

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. The variable is numeric

SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. The variable is a long string (length > 8)

### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH; /* file handle */
    int error; /* error code */
    int type; /* missing format type */
    int numV; /* number of variables */
    int *typesV; /* variable types */
    char **namesV; /* variable names */
    char cMiss1[9]; /* first missing value */
    char cMiss2[9]; /* second missing value */
    char cMiss3[9]; /* third missing value */

    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Print missing value information for all short string variables */
    error = spssGetVarNames(fH, &numV, &namesV, &typesV);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < numV; ++i)
        {
            if (0 < typesV[i] && typesV[i] <= 8)
            {
                /* Short string variable */
                error = spssGetVarCMissingValues
                    (fH, namesV[i], &type, cMiss1, cMiss2, cMiss3);
                if (error != SPSS_OK) continue; /* Ignore error */
                printf("Variable %s, missing values: ", namesV[i]);
                switch (type)
                {
                    case 0:
                        printf("None\n");
                        break;
                    case 1:
                        printf("%s\n", cMiss1);
                        break;
                    case 2:
                        printf("%s, %s\n", cMiss1, cMiss2);
                        break;
                    case 3:
                        printf("%s, %s, %s\n", cMiss1, cMiss2, cMiss3);
                        break;
                    default: /* Should never come here */
                        printf("Invalid format code\n");
                        break;
                }
            }
        }
        spssFreeVarNames(namesV, typesV, numV);
    }
}
```

See also [“spssGetVarNMissingValues”](#) on page 48.

## spssGetVarColumnWidth

```
int spssGetVarColumnWidth(int handle, const char *varName, int *columnWidth)
```

### Description

This function reports the value of the column width attribute of a variable. A value of zero is special and means that the IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor, which is the primary user of this attribute, will set an appropriate width using its own algorithm.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*columnWidth*. Pointer to column width. Non-negative.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## spssGetVarCompatName

---

```
int spssGetVarCompatName(const int handle, const char* longName, char* shortName)
```

### Description

When writing IBM SPSS Statistics data files, the I/O Module creates variable names that are compatible with legacy versions. These names are no more than eight bytes in length, are all upper case, and are unique within the file. `spssGetVarCompatName` allows access to these "mangled" name for input files and for output files after `spssCommitHeader` has been called.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*longName*. The variable's extended name as a null-terminated string

*shortName*. A nine-byte character variable to receive the mangled name as a null-terminate string

### Returns

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has not been called for an output file

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. Variable *longName* does not exist

## spssGetVarCValueLabel

---

```
int spssGetVarCValueLabel(  
    int handle,  
    const char *varName,  
    const char *value,  
    char *label)
```

### Description

This function gets the value label for a given value of a short string variable. The label is copied as a null-terminated string into the buffer *label*, whose size must be at least 61 to hold the longest possible value label (60 characters plus the null terminator). To get value labels more than 60 characters long, use the `spssGetVarCValueLabelLong` function.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*value*. Short string value for which the label is wanted

*label*. Label for the value

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. The variable has no labels (warning)

SPSS\_NO\_LABEL. There is no label for the given value (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. The variable is numeric



SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. The variable is a long string (length > 8)

SPSS\_EXC\_STRVALUE. The value is longer than the length of the variable

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    char vLab[61];    /* label for the value */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("myfile.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get and print the label for value "IL" of variable STATE */
    error = spssGetVarCValueLabel(fH, "STATE", "IL", vLab);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("Value label for variable STATE, value \"IL\": %s\n", vLab);
    ...
}
```

## spssGetVarCValueLabelLong

```
int spssGetVarCValueLabelLong(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    const char *value,
    char *labelBuff,
    int lenBuff,
    int *lenLabel)
```

### Description

This function returns a null-terminated value label corresponding to one value of a specified variable whose values are short strings. The function permits the client to limit the number of bytes (including the null terminator) stored and returns the number of data bytes (excluding the null terminator) actually stored. If an error is detected, the label is returned as a null string, and the length is returned as 0.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varname*. Null-terminated variable name

*value*. Null-terminated value for which label is requested

*labelBuff*. Returned as null-terminated label

*lenBuff*. Overall size of *labelBuff* in bytes

*lenLabel*. Returned as bytes stored excluding terminator

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. The variable has no labels (warning)

SPSS\_NO\_LABEL. The given value has no label (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. The specified variable has numeric values

SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. The specified variable has long string values

SPSS\_EXC\_STRVALUE. The specified value is longer than the variable's data

## spssGetVarCValueLabels

```
int spssGetVarCValueLabels(  
    int handle,  
    const char *varName,  
    const char ***values,  
    char ***labels,  
    int *numLabels)
```

### Description

This function gets the set of labeled values and associated labels for a short string variable. The number of values is returned as *\*numLabels*. Values are stored into an array of *\*numLabels* pointers, each pointing to a *char* string containing a null-terminated value, and *\*values* is set to point to the first element of the array. Each value string is as long as the variable. The corresponding labels are structured as an array of *\*numLabels* pointers, each pointing to a *char* string containing a null-terminated label, and *\*labels* is set to point to the first element of the array.

The two arrays and the value and label strings are allocated on the heap. When they are no longer needed, *spssFreeVarCValueLabels* should be called to free the memory.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*values*. Pointer to array of pointers to values

*labels*. Pointer to array of pointers to labels

*numLabels*. Pointer to number of values or labels

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. The variable has no labels (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. The variable is numeric

SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. The variable is a long string (length > 8)

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>  
#include "spssdio.h"  
void func()  
{  
    int fH; /* file handle */  
    int error; /* error code */  
    int numL; /* number of values or labels */  
    char **cValuesL; /* values */  
    char **labelsL; /* labels */  
    ...  
    error = spssOpenRead("myfile.sav", &fH);  
    ...  
    /* Get and print value labels for short string variable STATE */  
    error = spssGetVarCValueLabels(fH, "STATE",  
        &cValuesL, &labelsL, &numL);  
    if (error == SPSS_OK)  
    {  
        int i;  
        printf("Value labels for STATE\n");  
        for (i = 0; i < numL; ++i)  
        {  
            printf("Value: %s, Label: %s\n", cValuesL[i], labelsL[i]);  
        }  
        /* Free the values & labels */  
        spssFreeVarCValueLabels(cValuesL, labelsL, numL);  
    }  
}
```

See also [“spssFreeVarCValueLabels”](#) on page 23.

## spssGetVarHandle

---

```
int spssGetVarHandle(int handle, const char *varName, double *varHandle)
```

### Description

This function returns a handle for a variable, which can then be used to read or write (depending on how the file was opened) values of the variable. If *handle* is associated with an output file, the dictionary must be written with `spssCommitHeader` before variable handles can be obtained via `spssGetVarHandle`.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*varHandle*. Pointer to handle for the variable. Note that the variable *handle* is a double, and not `int` or `long`.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. Dictionary of the output file has not yet been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. No memory available

### Example

See [“spssGetValueChar”](#) on page 37.

## spssGetVariableSets

---

```
int spssGetVariableSets(int handle, char **varSets)
```

### Description

This function reports the variable sets information in the data file. Variable sets information is stored in a null-terminated string and a pointer to the string is returned in *\*varSets*. Since the variable sets string is allocated on the heap, the caller should free it by calling `spssFreeVariableSets` when it is no longer needed.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varSets*. Pointer to pointer to variable sets string

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_VARSETS. There is no variable sets information in the file (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

## Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    char *vSets;      /* ptr to variable sets info.*/
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get & print variable sets information. */
    error = spssGetVariableSets(fH, &vSets);
    if (error == SPSS_NO_VARSETS)
    {
        printf("No variable sets information in file.\n");
    }
    else if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        /* In real life, we would format the variable sets
        ** information better
        */
        printf("Variable sets:\n%s", vSets);
        /* Remember to free variable set string */
        spssFreeVariableSets(vSets);
    }
    ...
}
```

See also [“spssFreeVariableSets”](#) on page 24.

## spssGetVarInfo

```
int spssGetVarInfo(
    int handle,
    int iVar,
    char *varName,
    int *varType)
```

### Description

This function gets the name and type of one of the variables present in a data file. It serves the same purpose as `spssGetVarNames` but returns the information one variable at a time and, therefore, can be passed to a Visual Basic program. The storage to receive the variable name must be at least 65 bytes in length because the name is returned as a null-terminated string. The type code is an integer in the range 0–32767--0 indicating a numeric variable and a positive value indicating a string variable of that size.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*iVar*. Zero-origin variable number

*varName*. Returned as the variable name

*varType*. Returned as the variable type

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. The data file contains no variables

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. Parameter *iVar* is invalid

### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    long count;       /* number of variables */
    int *typeV;       /* variable type */
    char *nameV;      /* variable name */
    ...
}
```

```

error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
...
/* Get number of variables */
error = spssGetNumberOfVariables(fH, &count);
if (error == SPSS_OK)
/* Get & print variable names and types */
{
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < count; ++i)
    {error = spssGetVarInfo(fH, i, nameV, typeV);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    printf("Variable name: %s, type: %d\n", nameV, typeV);
    }
}
}

```

## spssGetVarLabel

```
int spssGetVarLabel(int handle, const char *varName, char *varLabel)
```

### Description

This function copies the label of variable *varName* into the buffer pointed to by *varLabel*. Since the variable label is at most 120 characters long and null-terminated, the size of the buffer should be at least 121. To get labels more than 120 characters long, use the `spssGetVarLabelLong` function.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*varLabel*. Variable label buffer

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABEL. The variable does not have a label (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

### Example

```

#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    char vLabel[121]; /* variable label */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get and print the label of the variable AGE */
    error = spssGetVarLabel(fH, "AGE", vLabel);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("Variable label of AGE: %s\n", vLabel);
    ...
}

```

## spssGetVarLabelLong

```
int spssGetVarLabelLong(
int handle,
const char *varName,
char *labelBuff,
int lenBuff,
int *lenLabel)
```

### Description

This function returns the null-terminated label associated with the specified variable but restricts the number of bytes (including the null terminator) returned to *lenBuff* bytes. This length can be conveniently specified as *sizeof(labelBuff)*. The function also returns the number of data bytes (this time excluding the

null terminator) stored. If an error is detected, the label is returned as a null string, and the length is returned as 0.

*handle* . Handle to the data file

*varName*. Null-terminated variable name

*labelBuff* . Buffer to receive the null-terminated label

*lenBuff* . Overall size of *labelBuff* in bytes

*lenLabel*. Returned as bytes stored excluding terminator

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK . No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABEL. The variable does not have a label (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## spssGetVarMeasureLevel

---

```
int spssGetVarMeasureLevel(int handle, const char *varName, int *measureLevel)
```

Description

This function reports the value of the measurement level attribute of a variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*measureLevel*. Pointer to measurement level. Set to SPSS\_MLVL\_NOM, SPSS\_MLVL\_ORD, or SPSS\_MLVL\_RAT, for nominal, ordinal, and scale (ratio), respectively.

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## spssGetVarNMissingValues

---

```
int spssGetVarNMissingValues(  
    int handle,  
    const char *varName,  
    int *missingFormat,  
    double *missingVal1,  
    double *missingVal2,  
    double *missingVal3)
```

Description

This function reports the missing values of a numeric variable. The value of *\*missingFormat* determines the interpretation of *\*missingVal1*, *\*missingVal2*, and *\*missingVal3*. If *\*missingFormat* is SPSS\_MISS\_RANGE, *\*missingVal1* and *\*missingVal2* represent the upper and lower limits, respectively, of the range, and *\*missingVal3* is not used. If *\*missingFormat* is SPSS\_MISS\_RANGEANDVAL, *\*missingVal1*

and *\*missingVal2* represent the range and *\*missingVal3* is the discrete missing value. If *\*missingFormat* is neither of the above, it will be in the range 0–3, indicating the number of discrete missing values present. (The macros SPSS\_NO\_MISSVAL, SPSS\_ONE\_MISSVAL, SPSS\_TWO\_MISSVAL, and SPSS\_THREE\_MISSVAL may be used as synonyms for 0–3.)

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*missingFormat*. Pointer to missing value format code

*missingVal1*. Pointer to first missing value

*missingVal2*. Pointer to second missing value

*missingVal3*. Pointer to third missing value

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. The variable is not numeric

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH; /* file handle */
    int error; /* error code */
    int type; /* missing format type */
    int numV; /* number of variables */
    int *typesV; /* variable types */
    char **namesV; /* variable names */
    double nMiss1; /* first missing value */
    double nMiss2; /* second missing value */
    double nMiss3; /* third missing value */

    ...

    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /*Print missing value information for all numeric variables */
    error = spssGetVarNames(fH, &numV, &namesV, &typesV);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < numV; ++i)
        {
            if (typesV[i] == 0)
            {
                /* Numeric variable */
                error = spssGetVarNMissingValues
                    (fH, namesV[i], &type, &nMiss1, &nMiss2, &nMiss3);
                if (error != SPSS_OK) continue; /* Ignore error */
                printf("Variable %s, missing values: ", namesV[i]);
                switch (type)
                {
                    case SPSS_MISS_RANGE:
                        printf("%e through %e\n", nMiss1, nMiss2);
                        break;
                    case SPSS_MISS_RANGEANDVAL:
                        printf("%e through %e, %e\n", nMiss1, nMiss2, nMiss3);
                        break;
                    case 0:
                        printf("None\n");
                        break;
                    case 1:
                        printf("%e\n", nMiss1);
                        break;
                    case 2:
                        printf("%e, %e\n", nMiss1, nMiss2);
                        break;
                    case 3:
                        printf("%e, %e, %e\n", nMiss1, nMiss2, nMiss3);
                        break;
                    default: /* Should never come here */
                        printf("Invalid format code\n");
                        break;
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```

    spssFreeVarNames(namesV, typesV, numV);
}
}

```

See also [“spssGetVarCMissingValues”](#) on page 40.

## spssGetVarNValueLabel

```

int spssGetVarNValueLabel(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    double value,
    char *label)

```

### Description

This function gets the value label for a given value of a numeric variable. The label is copied as a null-terminated string into the buffer *label*, whose size must be at least 61 to hold the longest possible value label (60 characters) plus the terminator. To get value labels more than 60 characters long, use the `spssGetVarNValueLabelLong` function.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*value*. Numeric value for which the label is wanted

*label*. Label for the value

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. The variable has no labels (warning)

SPSS\_NO\_LABEL. There is no label for the given value (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. The variable is not numeric

### Example

```

#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;                /* file handle */
    int error;              /* error code */
    char vLab[61];          /* label for the value */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get and print the label for value 0.0 of variable SEX */
    error = spssGetVarNValueLabel(fH, "SEX", 0.0, vLab);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        printf("Value label for variable SEX, value 0.0: %s\n", vLab);
    ...
}

```

## spssGetVarNValueLabelLong

```

int spssGetVarNValueLabelLong(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    double value,
    char *labelBuff,
    int lenBuff,
    int *lenLabel)

```

### Description



This function returns a null-terminated value label corresponding to one value of a specified numeric variable. It permits the client to limit the number of bytes (including the null terminator) stored and returns the number of data bytes (excluding the null terminator) actually stored. If an error is detected, the label is returned as a null string, and the length is returned as 0.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Null-terminated variable name

*value*. Value for which label is requested

*labelBuff*. Returned as null-terminated label

*lenBuff*. Overall size of *labelBuff* in bytes

*lenLabel*. Returned as bytes stored excluding terminator

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. The variable has no labels (warning)

SPSS\_NO\_LABEL. The given value has no label (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. The specified variable has string values

## spssGetVarNValueLabels

---

```
int spssGetVarNValueLabels(  
    int handle,  
    const char *varName,  
    double **values,  
    char ***labels,  
    int *numLabels)
```

Description

This function gets the set of labeled values and associated labels for a numeric variable. The number of values is returned as *\*numLabels*. Values are stored into an array of *\*numLabels* double elements, and *\*values* is set to point to the first element of the array. The corresponding labels are structured as an array of *\*numLabels* pointers, each pointing to a char string containing a null-terminated label, and *\*labels* is set to point to the first element of the array.

The two arrays and the label strings are allocated on the heap. When they are no longer needed, `spssFreeVarNValueLabels` should be called to free the memory.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*values*. Pointer to array of double values

*labels*. Pointer to array of pointers to labels

*numLabels*. Pointer to number of values or labels

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. The variable has no labels (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. The variable is not numeric

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH; /* file handle */
    int error; /* error code */
    int numL; /* number of values or labels */
    double *nValuesL; /* values */
    char **labelsL; /* labels */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get and print value labels for numeric variable SEX */
    error = spssGetVarNValueLabels(fH, "SEX",
        &nValuesL, &labelsL, &numL);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        int i;
        printf("Value labels for SEX\n");
        for (i = 0; i < numL; ++i)
        {
            printf("Value: %g, Label: %s\n", valuesL[i], labelsL[i]);
        }
        /* Free the values & labels */
        spssFreeVarNValueLabels(nValuesL, labelsL, numL);
    }
}
```

See also [“spssFreeVarNValueLabels”](#) on page 24.

## spssGetVarNames

```
int spssGetVarNames(
    int handle,
    int *numVars,
    char ***varNames,
    int **varTypes)
```

### Description

This function gets the names and types of all the variables present in a data file. The number of variables is returned as *\*numVars*. Variable names are structured as an array of *\*numVars* pointers, each pointing to a `char` string containing a variable name, and *\*varNames* is set to point to the first element of the array. Variable types are stored into a corresponding array of *\*numVars* in elements, and *\*varTypes* is set to point to the first element of the array. The type code is an integer in the range 0–32767--0 indicating a numeric variable and a positive value indicating a string variable of that size.

The two arrays and the variable name strings are allocated on the heap. When they are no longer needed, `spssFreeVarNames` should be called to free the memory.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*numVars*. Pointer to number of variables

*varNames*. Pointer to array of pointers to variable names

*varTypes*. Pointer to array of variable types

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. The data file contains no variables

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    int numV;         /* number of variables */
    int *typesV;      /* variable types */
    char **namesV;    /* variable names */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Get & print variable names and types */
    error = spssGetVarNames(fH, &numV, &namesV, &typesV);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        int i;
        for (i = 0; i < numV; ++i)
        {
            printf("Variable name: %s, type: %d\n", namesV[i], typesV[i]);
        }
        /* Free the variable names & types */
        spssFreeVarNames(namesV, typesV, numV);
    }
}
```

See also [“spssFreeVarNames”](#) on page 25.

## spssGetVarPrintFormat

```
int spssGetVarPrintFormat(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    int *printType,
    int *printDec,
    int *printWid)
```

Description

This function reports the print format of a variable. Format type, number of decimal places, and field width are returned as *\*printType*, *\*printDec*, and *\*printWid*, respectively.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*printType*. Pointer to print format type code (file *spssdio.h* defines macros of the form SPSS\_FMT\_ . . . for all valid format type codes)

*printDec*. Pointer to number of digits after the decimal

*printWid*. Pointer to print format width

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    int type;         /* print format type */
    int dec;          /* digits after decimal */
    int wid;          /* print format width */
    ...
    error = spssGetVarPrintFormat(fH, "varName", &type, &dec, &wid);
    ...
}
```

```

error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
...
/* Get & print the print format of variable AGE */
error = spssGetVarPrintFormat(fH, "AGE", &type, &dec, &wid);
if (error == SPSS_OK)
{
    printf("Variable AGE, format code %d, width.dec %d.%d\n",
           type, wid, dec);
}
}

```

## spssGetVarRole

```
int spssGetVarRole(const int hFile, const char *varName, int *varRole)
```

### Description

This function reports the role of a variable. The role is returned as *\*varRole*.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*varRole*. Pointer to variable role. Set to SPSS\_ROLE\_INPUT, SPSS\_ROLE\_TARGET, SPSS\_ROLE\_BOTH, SPSS\_ROLE\_NONE, SPSS\_ROLE\_PARTITION, or SPSS\_ROLE\_SPLIT.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## spssGetVarWriteFormat

```

int spssGetVarWriteFormat(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    int *varRole,
    int *writeType,
    int *writeDec,
    int *writeWid)

```

### Description

This function reports the write format of a variable. Format type, number of decimal places, and field width are returned as *\*writeType*, *\*writeDec*, and *\*writeWid*, respectively.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*writeType*. Pointer to write format type code (file *spssdio.h* defines macros of the form SPSS\_FMT\_... for all valid format type codes)

*writeDec*. Pointer to number of digits after the decimal

*writeWid*. Pointer to write format width

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int  fH;           /* file handle      */
    int  error;         /* error code       */
    int  type;          /* write format type */
    int  dec;           /* digits after decimal */
    int  wid;           /* write format width */

    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    /* Get & print the write format of variable AGE */
    error = spssGetVarWriteFormat(fH, "AGE", &type, &dec, &wid);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        printf("Variable AGE, format code %d, width.dec %d.%d\n",
               type, wid, dec);
    }
}
```

## spssHostSysmisVal

```
void spssHostSysmisVal(double *missVal)
```

### Description

This function accesses the same information as `spssSysmisVal` but returns the information via a parameter rather than on the stack as the function result. The problem being addressed is that not all languages return doubles from functions in the same fashion.

*missval*. Returned as the system missing value

### Returns

The function always succeeds, and there is no return code.

See also [“spssSysmisVal”](#) on page 87.

## spssIsCompatibleEncoding

```
int spssIsCompatibleEncoding(const int hFile, int* bCompatible)
```

### Description

This function determines whether the file's encoding is compatible with the current interface encoding. The result value of *\*bCompatible* will be false when reading a code page file in UTF-8 mode, when reading a UTF-8 file in code page mode when reading a code page file encoded in other than the current locale's code page, or when reading a file with numbers represented in reverse bit order. If the encoding is incompatible, data stored in the file by other applications, particularly Data Entry for Windows, may be unreliable.

*hFile*. Handle to the file

*bCompatible*. Returned as the code page of the file

### Returns

The function returns `SPSS_OK` or an error value:

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is invalid

## spssLowHighVal

```
void spssLowHighVal(double *lowest, double *highest)
```

### Description

This function returns the "lowest" and "highest" values used for numeric missing value ranges on the host system. It may be called at any time.

*lowest*. Pointer to "lowest" value

*highest*. Pointer to "highest" value

Returns

*None*

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int    fH;                /* file handle */
    int    error;             /* error code */
    double lowest, highest;
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Create numeric variable SALARY and set range "lowest"
    ** through 0 as missing
    */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "SALARY", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        spssLowHighVal(&lowest, &highest);
        /* Last arg. is a placeholder since we are defining a range
        ** only
        */
        error = spssSetVarNMissingValues(fH, "SALARY",
            SPSS_MISS_RANGE, lowest, 0.0, 0.0);
        ...
    }
}
```

## spssOpenAppend

```
int spssOpenAppend(const char *fileName, int *handle)
```

Description

This function opens IBM SPSS Statistics data files for appending cases and returns a handle that should be used for subsequent operations on the file. (*Note:* This function will not work correctly on compressed data files created by versions prior to 14.0.)

There are some precautions involving encoding. If you are in UTF-8 mode, you can't open a data file in code page. If you are in code page mode, you can't open a system file in UTF-8. You also can't open a file in reversed bit order. If the file violates any of these rules, `spssOpenAppend` returns `SPSS_INCOMPATIBLE_APPEND`. While in code page mode, you can open a file in a different code page, but the results are not predictable. For more information about encoding, see ["Interface and file encoding"](#) on page 3.

*fileName*. Name of the file

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenAppendU8` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenAppend` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenAppend` and `spssOpenAppendU8` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_FITAB_FULL`. File table full (too many open data files)

`SPSS_FILE_OERROR`. Error opening file

`SPSS_NO_MEMORY`. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_ERROR. Error reading file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

SPSS\_INCOMPAT\_APPEND. File created on an incompatible system.

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;          /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenAppend("bank.sav", &fH);
    if (error == 0)
    {
        /* fH is a valid handle; process and */
        ...
        /* close file */
        error = spssCloseAppend(fH);
        ...
    }
    else
    {
        /* Handle error*/
        ...
    }
}
```

See also [“spssCloseAppend” on page 17](#).

## spssOpenAppendEx

```
int spssOpenAppendEx(const char *fileName, const char *password, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens encrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data files for appending cases and returns a handle that should be used for subsequent operations on the file. (*Note:* This function will not work correctly on compressed data files created by versions prior to 14.0.)

**Tip:** This function also works for opening unencrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data files. In that case, the specified password is ignored.

There are some precautions involving encoding. If you are in UTF-8 mode, you can't open a data file in code page. If you are in code page mode, you can't open a system file in UTF-8. You also can't open a file in reversed bit order. If the file violates any of these rules, `spssOpenAppendEx` returns `SPSS_INCOMPATIBLE_APPEND`. While in code page mode, you can open a file in a different code page, but the results are not predictable. For more information about encoding, see [“Interface and file encoding” on page 3](#).

*fileName*. Name of the file

*password*. A string that specifies the password that is required to open the file. The password can be specified as encrypted or unencrypted. For reference, passwords are always encrypted in pasted syntax within IBM SPSS Statistics.

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenAppendU8Ex` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenAppendEx` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenAppendEx` and `spssOpenAppendU8Ex` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_PASSWORD. Invalid password

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening file

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

SPSS\_INCOMPAT\_APPEND. File created on an incompatible system.

### Related information

[“spssCloseAppend” on page 17](#)

[“spssOpenAppend” on page 56](#)

## spssOpenRead

```
int spssOpenRead(const char *fileName, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens IBM SPSS Statistics data files for reading and returns a handle that should be used for subsequent operations on the file.

*fileName*. Name of the file

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenReadU8` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenRead` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenRead` and `spssOpenReadU8` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening file

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;
    int error;
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    if (error == 0)
    {
        /* fH is a valid handle; process and */
        ...
        /* close file */
    }
}
```



```

        error = spssCloseRead(fh);
        ...
    }
    else
    {
        /* Handle error*/
        ...
    }
}

```

See also [“spssCloseRead” on page 17](#).

## spssOpenReadEx

```
int spssOpenReadEx(const char *fileName, const char *password, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens encrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data files for reading and returns a handle that should be used for subsequent operations on the file.

**Tip:** This function also works for opening unencrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data files. In that case, the specified password is ignored.

*fileName*. Name of the file

*password*. A string that specifies the password that is required to open the file. The password can be specified as encrypted or unencrypted. For reference, passwords are always encrypted in pasted syntax within IBM SPSS Statistics.

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

**Note:** If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenReadU8Ex` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenReadEx` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenReadEx` and `spssOpenReadU8Ex` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_PASSWORD. Invalid password

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening file

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

### Related information

[“spssCloseRead” on page 17](#)

[“spssOpenRead” on page 58](#)

## spssOpenWrite

```
int spssOpenWrite(const char *fileName, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens a file in preparation for creating a new IBM SPSS Statistics data file and returns a handle that should be used for subsequent operations on the file.

*filename*. Name of the data file

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenWriteU8` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenWrite` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenWrite` and `spssOpenWriteU8` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening file

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("dat.sav", &fH);
    if (error == 0)
    {
        /* fH is a valid handle; process and */
        ...
        /* close file */
        error = spssCloseWrite(fH);
        ...
    }
    else
    {
        /* Handle error*/
        ...
    }
}
```

See also [“spssCloseWrite” on page 18](#).

## spssOpenWriteEx

```
int spssOpenWriteEx(const char *fileName, const char *password, int *handle)
```

Description

This function opens a file in preparation for creating a new encrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file and returns a handle that should be used for subsequent operations on the file.

*filename*. Name of the data file

*password*. A string that specifies the password that is required to open the file. Passwords are limited to 10 characters and are case-sensitive. All spaces, including leading and trailing spaces, are retained.

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenWriteU8Ex` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenWriteEx` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenWriteEx` and `spssOpenWriteU8Ex` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_EMPTY\_PASSWORD. Empty string specified for password

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening file

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Creating strong passwords

- Use eight or more characters.
- Include numbers, symbols and even punctuation in your password.
- Avoid sequences of numbers or characters, such as "123" and "abc", and avoid repetition, such as "111aaa".
- Do not create passwords that use personal information such as birthdays or nicknames.
- Periodically change the password.

*Warning:* Passwords cannot be recovered if they are lost. If the password is lost the file cannot be opened.

*Note:* Encrypted data files and output documents cannot be opened in versions of IBM SPSS Statistics prior to version 21. Encrypted syntax files cannot be opened in versions prior to version 22.

### Related information

[“spssCloseWrite” on page 18](#)

[“spssOpenWrite” on page 59](#)

## spssOpenWriteCopy

```
int spssOpenWriteCopy( const char *fileName, const char *dictFileName, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens a file in preparation for creating a new IBM SPSS Statistics data file and initializes its dictionary from that of an existing IBM SPSS Statistics data file. It is useful when you want to modify the dictionary or data of an existing file or replace all of its data. The typical sequence of operations is to call `spssOpenWriteCopy` (`newFileName`, `oldFileName`, ...) to open a new file initialized with a copy of the old file's dictionary, then `spssOpenRead` (`oldFileName`, ...) to open the old file to access its data.

*fileName.* Name of the new file

*dictFileName.* Name of existing file

*handle.* Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenWriteCopyU8` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenWriteCopy` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenWriteCopy` and `spssOpenWriteCopyU8` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open IBM SPSS Statistics data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening new file for output

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading existing file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

## spssOpenWriteCopyEx

---

```
int spssOpenWriteCopyEx( const char *fileName, const char *password, const char *dictFileName, const char *dictPassword, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens a file in preparation for creating a new encrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file and initializes its dictionary from an existing encrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file. It is useful when you want to modify the dictionary or data of an existing file or replace all of its data. The typical sequence of operations is to call `spssOpenWriteCopyEx` (`newFileName`, `oldFileName`, ...) to open a new file initialized with a copy of the old file's dictionary, then `spssOpenReadEx` (`oldFileName`, ...) to open the old file to access its data.

**Tip:** This function also works when the file from which the dictionary is obtained is an unencrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file. In that case, the password that is specified for that file is ignored.

*fileName*. Name of the new file

*password*. A string that specifies the password that is required to open the new file. Passwords are limited to 10 characters and are case-sensitive. All spaces, including leading and trailing spaces, are retained.

*dictFileName*. Name of existing file

*dictPassword*. A string that specifies the password that is required to open the existing file. The password can be specified as encrypted or unencrypted. For reference, passwords are always encrypted in pasted syntax within IBM SPSS Statistics.

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenWriteCopyU8Ex` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenWriteCopyEx` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenWriteCopyEx` and `spssOpenWriteCopyU8Ex` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_EMPTY\_PASSWORD. Empty string specified for password for new file

SPSS\_INVALID\_PASSWORD. Invalid password specified for existing file

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open IBM SPSS Statistics data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening new file for output

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading existing file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

### Creating strong passwords

- Use eight or more characters.
- Include numbers, symbols and even punctuation in your password.

- Avoid sequences of numbers or characters, such as "123" and "abc", and avoid repetition, such as "111aaa".
- Do not create passwords that use personal information such as birthdays or nicknames.
- Periodically change the password.

**Warning:** Passwords cannot be recovered if they are lost. If the password is lost the file cannot be opened.

**Note:** Encrypted data files and output documents cannot be opened in versions of IBM SPSS Statistics prior to version 21. Encrypted syntax files cannot be opened in versions prior to version 22.

### Related information

["spssOpenWriteCopy" on page 61](#)

## spssOpenWriteCopyExFile

```
int spssOpenWriteCopyExFile( const char *fileName, const char *password, const char *dictFileName, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens a file in preparation for creating a new encrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file and initializes its dictionary from that of an existing unencrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file. It is useful when you want to modify the dictionary or data of an existing file or replace all of its data. The typical sequence of operations is to call `spssOpenWriteCopyExFile (newFileName, oldFileName, ...)` to open a new file initialized with a copy of the old file's dictionary, then `spssOpenRead (oldFileName, ...)` to open the old file to access its data.

*fileName*. Name of the new file

*password*. A string that specifies the password that is required to open the new file. Passwords are limited to 10 characters and are case-sensitive. All spaces, including leading and trailing spaces, are retained.

*dictFileName*. Name of existing file

*handle*. Pointer to handle to be returned

**Note:** If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenWriteCopyU8ExFile` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenWriteCopyExFile` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenWriteCopyExFile` and `spssOpenWriteCopyU8ExFile` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_EMPTY\_PASSWORD. Empty string specified for password for new file

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open IBM SPSS Statistics data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening new file for output

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading existing file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

Creating strong passwords

- Use eight or more characters.

- Include numbers, symbols and even punctuation in your password.
- Avoid sequences of numbers or characters, such as "123" and "abc", and avoid repetition, such as "111aaa".
- Do not create passwords that use personal information such as birthdays or nicknames.
- Periodically change the password.

*Warning:* Passwords cannot be recovered if they are lost. If the password is lost the file cannot be opened.

*Note:* Encrypted data files and output documents cannot be opened in versions of IBM SPSS Statistics prior to version 21. Encrypted syntax files cannot be opened in versions prior to version 22.

#### Related information

[“spssOpenWriteCopy” on page 61](#)

## spssOpenWriteCopyExDict

```
int spssOpenWriteCopyExDict( const char *fileName, const char *dictFileName, const char *dictPassword, int *handle)
```

### Description

This function opens a file in preparation for creating a new unencrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file and initializes its dictionary from an existing encrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file. It is useful when you want to modify the dictionary or data of an existing file or replace all of its data. The typical sequence of operations is to call `spssOpenWriteCopyExDict` (`newFileName`, `oldFileName`, ...) to open a new file initialized with a copy of the old file's dictionary, then `spssOpenReadEx` (`oldFileName`, ...) to open the old file to access its data.

**Tip:** This function also works when the file from which the dictionary is obtained is an unencrypted IBM SPSS Statistics data file. In that case, the password that is specified for that file is ignored.

*fileName.* Name of the new file

*dictFileName.* Name of existing file

*dictPassword.* A string that specifies the password that is required to open the existing file. The password can be specified as encrypted or unencrypted. For reference, passwords are always encrypted in pasted syntax within IBM SPSS Statistics.

*handle.* Pointer to handle to be returned

*Note:* If you are working in code page mode but need to specify the filename in UTF-8 then use the `spssOpenWriteCopyU8ExDict` function. It is identical to the `spssOpenWriteCopyExDict` function but takes a UTF-8 encoding of the filename and converts it to the current code page. The `spssOpenWriteCopyExDict` and `spssOpenWriteCopyU8ExDict` functions are completely identical when working in UTF-8 mode.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_PASSWORD. Invalid password specified for existing file

SPSS\_FITAB\_FULL. File table full (too many open IBM SPSS Statistics data files)

SPSS\_FILE\_OERROR. Error opening new file for output

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading existing file

SPSS\_INVALID\_FILE. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE2. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (no type 2 record)

SPSS\_NO\_TYPE999. File is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file (missing type 999 record)

### Related information

[“spssOpenWriteCopy” on page 61](#)

## spssQueryType7

---

```
int spssQueryType7(const int handle, const int subType, int *bFound)
```

### Description

This function can be used to determine whether a file opened for reading or append contains a specific "type 7" record. The following type 7 subtypes might be of interest:

**Subtype 3.** Release information

**Subtype 4.** Floating point constants including the system missing value

**Subtype 5.** Variable set definitions

**Subtype 6.** Date variable information

**Subtype 7.** multiple-response set definitions

**Subtype 8.** Data Entry for Windows (DEW) information

**Subtype 10.** TextSmart information

**Subtype 11.** Measurement level, column width, and alignment for each variable

*handle.* Handle to the data file

*subtype.* Specific subtype record

*bFound.* Returned set if the specified subtype was encountered

### Returns

The result of the query is returned in parameter *bfound*—TRUE if the record subtype was encountered when reading the file's dictionary; FALSE otherwise.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. The file was opened for writing

SPSS\_INVALID\_7SUBTYPE. Parameter subtype not between 1 and MAX7SUBTYPE

## spssReadCaseRecord

---

```
int spssReadCaseRecord(int handle)
```

### Description

This function reads the next case from a data file into internal buffers. Values of individual variables for the case may then be obtained by calling the `spssGetValueNumeric` and `spssGetValueChar` procedures.

*handle.* Handle to the data file

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_FILE\_END. End of the file reached; no more cases (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. File is open for writing, not reading

SPSS\_FILE\_ERROR. Error reading file

Example

See [“spssGetValueChar”](#) on page 37.

## spssSeekNextCase

---

```
int spssSeekNextCase(const int handle, const long CaseNumber)
```

### Description

This function sets the file pointer of an input file so that the next data case read will be the one specified via the *caseNumber* parameter. A zero-origin scheme is used. That is, the first case is number 0. The next case can be read by calling either `spssWholeCaseIn` or `spssReadCaseRecord`. If the specified case is greater than or equal to the number of cases in the file, the call to the input function will return `SPSS_FILE_END`.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*caseNumber*. Zero-origin case number

### Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_OPEN_WRMODE`. The file is open for writing, not reading

`SPSS_NO_MEMORY`. Insufficient memory

`SPSS_FILE_ERROR`. Error reading the file

`SPSS_INVALID_FILE`. The file is not a valid IBM SPSS Statistics data file

See [“spssWholeCaseIn”](#) on page 88 and [“spssReadCaseRecord”](#) on page 65.

## spssSetCaseWeightVar

---

```
int spssSetCaseWeightVar(int handle, const char *varName)
```

### Description

This function defines variable *varName* as the case weight variable for the data file specified by the *handle*.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. The name of the case weight variable

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_OPEN_RDMODE`. File is open for reading, not writing

`SPSS_DICT_COMMIT`. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`



SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. The variable is not numeric

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;          /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Define variables */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "NUMCHILD", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        error = spssSetVarName(fH, "TOYPREF", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    ...
    /* Set NUMCHILD as case weight */
    error = spssSetCaseWeightVar(fH, "NUMCHILD");
    if (error != SPSS_OK)
    {
        /* Handle error */
    }
}
```

## spssSetCompression

```
int spssSetCompression(int handle, int compSwitch)
```

### Description

This function sets the compression attribute of a data file. Compression is set on if *compSwitch* is 1 (standard compression) or 2 (ZSAV compression), and off if it is 0. If this function is not called, the output file will be uncompressed by default.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*compSwitch*. Compression switch. Specify 1 for standard compression and 2 for compression to a ZSAV file.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_INVALID\_COMPSW. Invalid compression switch (other than 0, 1 or 2)

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;          /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Set data compression on */
    error = spssSetCompression(fH, 1);
    ...
}
```

## spssSetDateVariables

```
int spssSetDateVariables(int handle, int numofElements, const long *dateInfo)
```

### Description

This function sets the Trends date variable information. The array at *dateInfo* is assumed to have *numofElements* elements that correspond to the data array portion of record 7, subtype 3. Its first six elements comprise the "fixed" information, followed by a sequence of one or more three-element groups. Since very little validity checking is done on the input array, this function should be used with caution and is recommended only for copying Trends information from one file to another.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*numofElements*. Size of the array *dateInfo*

*dateInfo*. Array containing date variables information

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with *spssCommitHeader*

SPSS\_INVALID\_DATEINFO. The date variable information is invalid

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

### Example

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fHIn, fHOut; /* input & output file handles */
    int error; /* error code */
    long *dateInfo; /* pointer to date variable info. */
    int nElements; /* number of elements in date info. array */
    ...
    /* Open one file for reading and one for writing. */
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fHIn);
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("bankcopy.sav", &fHOut);
    ...
    /* Get the list of variables in input file;
    ** define variables in output file
    */
    ...
    /* Get date variable information from input file and copy
    ** it to output file
    */
    error = spssGetDateVariables(fHIn, &nElements, &dateInfo);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        error = spssSetDateVariables(fHOut, nElements, dateInfo);
        ...
        free(dateInfo);
    }
    ...
}
```

See [“spssGetDateVariables” on page 27](#).

## spssSetDEWFirst

```
int spssSetDEWFirst(const int handle, const void *pData, const long nBytes)
```

### Description

DEW information (file information which is private to the Data Entry product) can be delivered to the I/O Module in whatever segments are convenient for the client. The *spssSetDEWFirst* function is called to

deliver the first such segment, and subsequent segments are delivered by calling `spssSetDEWNext` as many times as necessary.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*pData*. Pointer to the data to be written

*nBytes*. Number of bytes to write

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_EMPTY_DEW`. Zero bytes to be written (warning)

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_OPEN_READ_MODE`. The file is not open for writing

`SPSS_DICT_COMMIT`. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called

`SPSS_NO_MEMORY`. Insufficient memory for control blocks

`SPSS_FILE_BADTEMP`. Cannot open or write to temporary file

See [“`spssSetDEWNext`” on page 69](#).

## spssSetDEWGUID

---

```
int spssSetDEWGUID(const int handle, const char* asciiGUID)
```

Description

This function stores the Data Entry for Windows uniqueness indicator on the data file. It should only be used by the DEW product.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*asciiGUID*. The GUID (as a null-terminated string) to be stored on the file

Returns

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_OPEN_RDMODE`. The file is open for input or append

`SPSS_DICT_COMMIT`. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called

`SPSS_NO_MEMORY`. Insufficient memory to store the GUID

## spssSetDEWNext

---

```
int spssSetDEWNext(const int handle, const void *pData, const long nBytes)
```

Description

The DEW information (file information that is private to the Data Entry product) can be delivered to the I/O Module in whatever segments are convenient for the client. The `spssSetDEWFirst` function is called to deliver the first such segment, and subsequent segments are delivered by calling `spssSetDEWNext` as many times as necessary.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*pData*. Pointer to the data to be written

*nBytes*. Number of bytes to write

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_DEW\_NOFIRST. `spssSetDEWFirst` was never called

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_READ\_MODE. The file is not open for writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory for control blocks

SPSS\_FILE\_BADTEMP. Cannot open or write to temporary file

See also “[spssSetDEWFirst](#)” on page 68.

## spssSetFileAttributes

---

```
int spssSetFileAttributes(  
    const int hFile,  
    const char** attribNames,  
    const char** attribText,  
    const int nAttributes)
```

Description

This function replaces all the datafile attributes. It is the converse of `spssGetFileAttributes`, and the names of subscripted attributes must contain the unit origin subscripts in square brackets as in `Prerequisite[11]`. If the number of attributes is zero, the vector pointers can be NULL, and all attributes will be discarded.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file

*attribNames*. Pointer to a vector of attribute names

*attribText*. Pointer to a vector of attribute values

*nAttributes*. The number of element in each vector

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is read-only

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRDEF. Missing name, missing text, or invalid subscript

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRNAME. Lexically invalid attribute name

## spssSetIdString

---

```
int spssSetIdString(int handle, const char *id)
```

Description

This function sets the file label of the output data file associated with *handle* to the given string *id*.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*id*. File label. The length of the string should not exceed 64 characters.

#### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_EXC\_LEN64. Label length exceeds 64; truncated and used (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`

#### Example

```
include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;                /* file handle */
    int error;             /* error code */
    char id[] = "This is a file label.";
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    error = spssSetIdString(fH, id);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        /* The label of the data file is now the string
        ** "This is a file label."
        */
        ...
    }
}
```

## spssSetInterfaceEncoding

```
int spssInterfaceEncoding(const int iEncoding)
```

#### Description

Use this function to change the interface encoding. If the call is successful, all text communicated to or from the I/O Module in subsequent calls will be in the specified mode. Also, all text in files written will be in the specified mode. There can be no open files when this call is made.

*iEncoding*. An encoding mode, SPSS\_ENCODING\_CODEPAGE (the default) or SPSS\_ENCODING\_UTF8.

#### Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_ENCODING. The specified encoding is not valid

SPSS\_FILES\_OPEN. IBM SPSS Statistics files are open

## spssSetLocale

```
char* spssSetLocale(const int iCategory, const char* pszLocale)
```

#### Description

The I/O Module's locale is separate from that of the client application. When the I/O Module is first loaded, its locale is set to the system default. The `spssSetLocale` function gives the client application control over the I/O Module's locale. The parameters and return value are identical to those for the C runtime function `setlocale`.

*iCategory*. A locale category, for example LC\_ALL or LC\_CTYPE. These are defined in the header file *locale.h*.

*pszLocale*. A locale, for example "Japanese.932".

Returns

The function returns the resulting locale, for example "French\_Canada.1252".

## spssSetMultRespDefs

```
int spssSetMultRespDefs(const int handle, const char *mrespDefs)
```

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*mrespDefs*. Code page or UTF-8 string containing definitions

Description

This function is used to write multiple response definitions to the file. The definitions are stored as a null-terminated code page or UTF-8 string based on whether the `spssGetInterfaceEncoding()` type is `SPSS_ENCODING_CODEPAGE` or `SPSS_ENCODING_UTF8`.

For multiple category sets, the string contains the following: `$setname=C {label length} {label} {variable list}`

For multiple dichotomy sets, the string contains the following: `$setname=D{value length} {counted value} {label length} [label] {variable list}`

- All multiple multiple category and multiple dichotomy sets in the data file are returned as single string, with a newline character (`\n`) between each set.
- All multiple-response set names begin with a dollar sign and follow variable naming rules.
- For multiple dichotomy sets, there is no space between the D and the integer that represents the length of the counted value.
- If there is no label for the set, the label length is 0, and there is a single blank space for the label. (So there are two blank spaces between the label length value of 0 and the first variable name.)

For example:

```
$mcset=C 21 Multiple Category Set mcvar1 mcvar2 mcvar3 mcvar4 \n
$mdset1=D1 1 22 Multiple Dichotomy Set mdvar1 mdvar2 mdvar3 mdvar4 \n
$mdset2=D3 Yes 0 mdvar5 mdvar6 mdvar7
```

*Note:* You cannot write "extended" multiple dichotomy sets with this function. "Extended" multiple dichotomy sets are sets that use counted values as category labels (`CATEGORYLABELS=COUNTEDVALUES` in IBM SPSS Statistics command syntax) or the variable label of the first set variable as the set label (`LABELSOURCE=VARLABEL` in IBM SPSS Statistics command syntax). To create extended multiple dichotomy sets, use the `spssAddMultRespDefExt` function. You can get values of extended multiple dichotomy sets with `spssGetMultRespSetsDefEx`.

Returns

Returns one of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (`SPSS_OK`), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

`SPSS_OK`. No error

`SPSS_EMPTY_MULTRESP`. The string contains no definitions (warning)

`SPSS_INVALID_HANDLE`. The file handle is not valid

`SPSS_OPEN_RDMODE`. The file is open for input or append

`SPSS_DICT_COMMIT`. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called

`SPSS_NO_MEMORY`. Insufficient memory to store the definitions

## spssSetTempDir

---

```
int spssSetTempDir(const char* dirName)
```

### Description

The I/O Module spills some large object to temporary files. Normally these files reside in the directory supplied by the Windows GetTempPath function. The spssSetTempDir function permits the I/O Module client to specify a different directory.

*dirName*. Fully-qualified directory name as a null-terminated string

### Returns

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory to store the path

## spssSetTextInfo

---

```
int spssSetTextInfo(int handle, const char *textInfo)
```

### Description

This function sets the text data from the null-terminated string in *textInfo*. If the string is longer than 255 characters, only the first 255 are (quietly) used. If *textInfo* contains the empty string, existing text data, if any, are deleted.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*textInfo*. Text data

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is open for input or append

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT . spssCommitHeader has already been called

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

## spssSetValueChar

---

```
int spssSetValueChar(int handle, double varHandle, const char *value)
```

### Description

This function sets the value of a string variable for the current case. The current case is not written out to the data file until spssCommitCaseRecord is called.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varHandle*. Handle to the variable

*value*. Value of the variable as a null-terminated string. The length of the string (ignoring trailing blanks, if any) should be less than or equal to the length of the variable.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. Dictionary of the output file has not yet been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. Variable associated with the handle is numeric

SPSS\_EXC\_STRVALUE. The value is longer than the length of the variable

Example

See [“spssSetValueNumeric” on page 74](#) and [“spssCommitCaseRecord” on page 18](#).

## spssSetValueNumeric

```
int spssSetValueNumeric(int handle, double varHandle, double value)
```

### Description

This function sets the value of a numeric variable for the current case. The current case is not written out to the data file until `spssCommitCaseRecord` is called.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varHandle*. Handle to the variable

*value*. Value of the variable

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. Dictionary of the output file has not yet been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. Variable associated with the handle is not numeric

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int    fH;           /* file handle */
    int    error;        /* error code */
    double ageH, titleH; /* variable handles */
    double age;          /* value of AGE */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Create numeric variable AGE and long string variable
    ** TITLE
    */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "AGE", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    ...
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "TITLE", SPSS_STRING(20));
    ...
    /* Done with dictionary definition; commit dictionary */
    error = spssCommitHeader(fH);
    ...
    /* Get variable handles */
    error = spssGetVarHandle(fH, "AGE", &ageH);
    ...
    error = spssGetVarHandle(fH, "TITLE", &titleH);
    ...
    /* Construct & write cases, with AGE set to 20, 21, ... 46
    ** and TITLE set to "Super salesman"
    */
    for (age = 20.0; age <= 46.0; ++age)
    {
        error = spssSetValueNumeric(fH, ageH, age);
        ...
        error = spssSetValueChar(fH, titleH, "Super salesman");
        ...
        error = spssCommitCaseRecord(fH);
        ...
    }
}
```



```

    }
    error = spssCloseWrite(fh);
    ...
}

```

See also [“spssConvertDate” on page 19](#), [“spssConvertTime” on page 21](#), and [“spssCommitCaseRecord” on page 18](#).

## spssSetVarAlignment

```
int spssSetVarAlignment(int handle, const char *varName, int alignment)
```

### Description

This function sets the value of the alignment attribute of a variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*alignment*. Alignment. Must be one of SPSS\_ALIGN\_LEFT, SPSS\_ALIGN\_RIGHT, or SPSS\_ALIGN\_CENTER. If not a legal value, alignment is set to a type-appropriate default.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is open for input or append

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. spssCommitHeader has already been called

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## spssSetVarAttributes

```
int spssSetVarAttributes(
    const int hFile,
    const char* varName,
    const char** attribNames,
    const char** attribText,
    const int nAttributes)

```

### Description

This function is analogous to spssSetFileAttributes. It replaces all the attributes for one variable.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Name of the variable

*attribNames*. Pointer to a vector of attribute names

*attribText*. Pointer to a vector of attribute values

*nAttributes*. The number of element in each vector

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. Named variable is not in the file

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is read-only

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. spssCommitHeader has already been called

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRDEF. Missing name, missing text, or invalid subscript

SPSS\_INVALID\_ATTRNAME. Lexically invalid attribute name

## spssSetVarCMissingValues

---

```
int spssSetVarCMissingValues(  
    int handle,  
    const char *varName  
    int missingFormat,  
    const char *missingVal1,  
    const char *missingVal2,  
    const char *missingVal3)
```

### Description

This function sets missing values for a short string variable. The argument *missingFormat* must be set to a value in the range 0–3 to indicate the number of missing values supplied. When fewer than three missing values are to be defined, the redundant arguments must still be present, although their values are not inspected. For example, if *missingFormat* is 2, *missingVal3* is unused. The supplied missing values must be null-terminated and not longer than the length of the variable unless the excess length is made up of blanks, which are ignored. If the missing value is shorter than the length of the variable, trailing blanks are assumed.

*handle*. The handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*missingFormat*. Missing format code

*missingVal1*. First missing value

*missingVal2*. Second missing value

*missingVal3*. Third missing value

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with spssCommitHeader

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. The variable is numeric

SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. The variable is a long string (length > 8)

SPSS\_INVALID\_MISFOR. Invalid missing values specification (*missingFormat* is not in the range 0–3)

SPSS\_EXC\_STRVALUE. A missing value is longer than the length of the variable

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

### Example

```
#include <stddef.h>  
#include "spssdio.h"  
void func()  
{  
    int fh;                /* file handle    */  
    int error;             /* error code     */  
}
```

```

...
error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
...
/* Create short string variable TITLE and define values
** consisting of blanks or periods only as missing
*/
error = spssSetVarName(fH, "TITLE", SPSS_STRING(6));
if (error == SPSS_OK)
{
    /* Last arg. is a placeholder since we are defining only two
    ** missing values
    */
    error = spssSetVarCMissingValues(fH, "TITLE", 2,
        ".....", "          ", NULL);
    ...
}
}

```

## spssSetVarColumnWidth

```
int spssSetVarColumnWidth(int handle, const char *varName, int columnWidth)
```

### Description

This function sets the value of the column width attribute of a variable. A value of zero is special and means that the IBM SPSS Statistics Data Editor, which is the primary user of this attribute, is to set an appropriate width using its own algorithm.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*columnWidth*. Column width. If negative, a value of zero is (quietly) used instead.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is open for input or append

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. spssCommitHeader has already been called

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

## spssSetVarCValueLabel

```
int spssSetVarCValueLabel(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    const char *value,
    const char *label)

```

### Description

This function changes or adds a value label for the specified value of a short string variable. The label should be a null-terminated string not exceeding 60 characters in length.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*value*. Value to be labeled

*label*. Label

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`.

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. Variable name is invalid.

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist.

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. The variable is numeric.

SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. The variable is a long string (length > 8).

SPSS\_EXC\_STRVALUE. The value (*\*value*) is longer than the length of the variable.

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory.

SPSS\_INTERNAL\_VLABS. Internal data structures of the I/O Module are invalid. This signals an error in the I/O Module.

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int    fh;                /* file handle */
    int    error;             /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fh);
    ...
    /* Create short string variable TITLE and label the value
    ** consisting of all blanks as "Did not want title"
    */
    error = spssSetVarName(fh, "TITLE", SPSS_STRING(6));
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        error = spssSetVarCValueLabel(fh, "TITLE", "    ",
        "Did not want title");
    }
}
```

See also [“spssSetVarCValueLabels”](#) on page 78.

## spssSetVarCValueLabels

```
int spssSetVarCValueLabels(
    int handle,
    const char **varNames,
    int numVars,
    const char **values,
    const char **labels,
    int numLabels)
```

### Description

This function defines a set of value labels for one or more short string variables. Value labels already defined for any of the given variable(s), if any, are discarded (if the labels are shared with other variables, they remain associated).

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varNames*. Array of pointers to variable names

*numVars*. Number of variables

*values*. Array of pointers to values

*labels*. Array of pointers to labels

*numLabels* . Number of labels or values)

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`.

SPSS\_NO\_VARIABLES. Number of variables (*numVars*) is zero or negative.

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. Number of labels (*numLabels*) is zero or negative.

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. At least one variable name is invalid.

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. At least one of the variables does not exist.

SPSS\_STR\_EXP. At least one of the variables is numeric.

SPSS\_SHORTSTR\_EXP. At least one of the variables is a long string (length < 8).

SPSS\_EXC\_STRVALUE. At least one value is longer than the length of the variable.

SPSS\_DUP\_VALUE. The list of values contains duplicates.

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory.

SPSS\_INTERNAL\_VLABS. Internal data structures of the I/O Module are invalid. This signals an error in the I/O Module.

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int    fH;                /* file handle */
    int    error;             /* error code */
    static char *vNames[2]=   /* variable names */
    { "TITLE", "OLDTITLE" };
    static char *vValues[3] = /* values to be labeled */
    { " ", "techst", "consul" };
    static char *vLabels[3] = /* corresponding labels */
    { "Unknown", "Member of tech. staff", "Outside consultant" };
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Define two short string variables TITLE & OLDTITLE and a
    ** set of shared value labels
    */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, vNames[0], SPSS_STRING(6));
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        error = spssSetVarName(fH, vNames[1], SPSS_STRING(6));
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        error =
            spssSetVarCValueLabels(fH, vNames, 2, vValues, vLabels, 3);
        ...
    }
}
```

See also [“spssSetVarCValueLabel”](#) on page 77.

## spssSetVarLabel

```
int spssSetVarLabel(int handle, const char *varName, const char *varLabel)
```

### Description

This function sets the label of a variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*varLabel*. Variable label. The length of the string should not exceed 120 characters. If *varLabel* is the empty string, the existing label, if any, is deleted.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_EXC\_LEN120. Variable label's length exceeds 120; truncated and used (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;          /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    /* Do the file operations here */
    ...
    /* Define string variable NAME of length 8 */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "NAME", SPSS_STRING(8));
    ...
    /* Label the variable */
    error =
        spssSetVarLabel(fH, "NAME", "Name of respondent");
    ...
}
```

## spssSetVarMeasureLevel

```
int spssSetVarMeasureLevel(int handle, const char *varName, int measureLevel)
```

### Description

This function sets the value of the measurement level attribute of a variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file.

*varName*. Variable name.

*measureLevel*. Measurement level. Must be one of SPSS\_MLVL\_NOM, SPSS\_MLVL\_ORD, SPSS\_MLVL\_RAT, or SPSS\_MLVL\_UNK for nominal, ordinal, scale (ratio), and unknown, respectively. If SPSS\_MLVL\_UNK, measurement level is set to a type-appropriate default.

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. The file is open for input or append

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. `spssCommitHeader` has already been called

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_INVALID\_MEASURELEVEL. *measureLevel* is not in the legal range, or it is SPSS\_MLVL\_RAT and the variable is a string variable

## spssSetVarNMissingValues

```
int spssSetVarNMissingValues(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    int missingFormat,
    double missingVal,
```

```
double missingVal2,  
double missingVal3)
```

## Description

This function sets missing values for a numeric variable. The interpretation of the arguments *missingVal1*, *missingVal2*, and *missingVal3* depends on the value of *missingFormat*. If *missingFormat* is set to SPSS\_MISS\_RANGE, *missingVal1* and *missingVal2* are taken as the upper and lower limits, respectively, of the range, and *missingVal3* is ignored. If *missingFormat* is SPSS\_MISS\_RANGEANDVAL, *missingVal1* and *missingVal2* are taken as limits of the range and *missingVal3* is taken as the discrete missing value. If *missingFormat* is neither of the above, it must be in the range 0–3, indicating the number of discrete missing values present. For example, if *missingFormat* is 2, *missingVal1* and *missingVal2* are taken as two discrete missing values and *missingVal3* is ignored. (The macros SPSS\_NO\_MISSVAL, SPSS\_ONE\_MISSVAL, SPSS\_TWO\_MISSVAL, and SPSS\_THREE\_MISSVAL may be used as synonyms for 0–3.)

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*missingFormat*. Missing values format code

*missingVal1*. First missing value

*missingVal2*. Second missing value

*missingVal3*. Third missing value

## Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. The variable is not numeric

SPSS\_INVALID\_MISSFOR. Invalid missing values specification (*missingFormat* is invalid or the lower limit of range is greater than the upper limit)

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

## Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"  
void func()  
{  
    int    fh;                /* file handle    */  
    int    error;             /* error code    */  
    ...  
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fh);  
    ...  
    /* Create numeric variable BUYCODE and set range 1-9 as  
    ** missing  
    */  
    error = spssSetVarName(fh, "BUYCODE", SPSS_NUMERIC);  
    if (error == SPSS_OK)  
    {  
        /* Last arg. is a placeholder since we are defining a range  
        ** only  
        */  
        error =  
            spssSetVarMissingValues(fh, "BUYCODE", SPSS_MISS_RANGE,  
                                   1.0, 9.0, 0.0);  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

See also [“spssSetVarCMissingValues” on page 76](#).

## spssSetVarNValueLabel

---

```
int spssSetVarNValueLabel(  
    int handle,  
    const char *varName,  
    double value,  
    const char *label)
```

### Description

This function changes or adds a value label for the specified value of a numeric variable. The label should be a null-terminated string not exceeding 60 characters in length.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*value*. Value to be labeled

*label*. Label

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. File handle not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`.

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. Variable name is invalid.

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist.

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. The variable is not numeric.

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory.

SPSS\_INTERNAL\_VLABS. Internal data structures of the I/O Module are invalid. This signals an error in the I/O Module.

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"  
void func()  
{  
    int fH; /* file handle */  
    int error; /* error code */  
    ...  
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);  
    ...  
    /* Create numeric variable BUYCODE and label value 0.0 as  
    ** "Unknown"  
    */  
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "BUYCODE", SPSS_NUMERIC);  
    if (error == SPSS_OK)  
    {  
        error =  
            spssSetVarNValueLabel(fH, "BUYCODE", 0.0, "Unknown");  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

See also [“spssSetVarNValueLabels”](#) on page 82.

## spssSetVarNValueLabels

---

```
int spssSetVarNValueLabels(  
    int handle,  
    const char **varNames,  
    int numVars,  
    const double *values,  
    const char **labels,  
    int numLabels)
```



## Description

This function defines a set of value labels for one or more numeric variables. Value labels already defined for any of the given variable(s), if any, are discarded (if the labels are shared with other variables, they remain associated with those variables).

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varNames*. Array of pointers to variable names

*numVars*. Number of variables

*values*. Array of values

*labels*. Array of pointers to labels

*numLabels* . Number of labels or values

## Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error.

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid.

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing.

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`.

SPSS\_NO\_VARIABLES. Number of variables (*numVars*) is zero or negative.

SPSS\_NO\_LABELS. Number of labels (*numLabels*) is zero or negative.

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. At least one variable name is invalid.

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. At least one of the variables does not exist.

SPSS\_NUME\_EXP. At least one of the variables is not numeric.

SPSS\_DUP\_VALUE. The list of values contains duplicates.

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory.

SPSS\_INTERNAL\_VLABS. Internal data structures of the I/O Module are invalid. This signals an error in the I/O Module.

## Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int    fH;                /* file handle      */
    int    error;             /* error code       */
    static char *vNames[2]=   /* variable names   */
    { "AGE", "AGECHILD" };
    static double vValues[3] = /* values to be labeled */
    { -2.0, -1.0, 0.0 };
    static char *vLabels[3] = /* corresponding labels */
    { "Unknown", "Not applicable", "Under 1" };
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Define two numeric variables AGE & AGECHILD and a set of
    ** shared value labels
    */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, vNames[0], SPSS_NUMERIC);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        error = spssSetVarName(fH, vNames[1], SPSS_NUMERIC);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        error =
            spssSetVarNValueLabels(fH, vNames, 2, vValues, vLabels, 3);
        ...
    }
}
```

See also [“spssSetVarNValueLabel”](#) on page 82.

## spssSetVarName

---

```
int spssSetVarName(int handle, const char *varName, int varLength)
```

### Description

This function creates a new variable named *varName*, which will be either numeric or string based on *varLength*. If the latter is zero, a numeric variable with a default format of F8.2 will be created; if it is greater than 0 and less than or equal to 32767, a string variable with length *varLength* will be created; any other value will be rejected as invalid. For better readability, the macros SPSS\_NUMERIC and SPSS\_STRING( *length* ) may be used as values for *varLength*.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*varLength*. Type and size of the variable

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with spssCommitHeader

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARTYPE. Invalid length code (*varLength* is negative or exceeds 32767)

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. Variable name is invalid

SPSS\_DUP\_VAR. There is already a variable with the same name

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;                /* file handle */
    int error;              /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Create numeric variable AGE and string variable NAME */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "AGE", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
        error = spssSetVarName(fH, "NAME", SPSS_STRING(20));
    ...
}
```

## spssSetVarPrintFormat

---

```
int spssSetVarPrintFormat(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    int printType,
    int printDec,
    int printWid)
```

### Description

This function sets the print format of a variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*printType*. Print format type code (file *spssdio.h* defines macros of the form SPSS\_FMT\_... for all valid format type codes)

*printDec*. Number of digits after the decimal

*printWid*. Print format width

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_INVALID\_PRFOR. The print format specification is invalid or is incompatible with the variable type

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;                /* file handle */
    int error;             /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    /* Define numeric variable TIMESTMP */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "TIMESTMP", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    ...
    /* Set the print format of TIMESTMP to DATETIME28.4 */
    error = spssSetVarPrintFormat(fH, "TIMESTMP",
        SPSS_FMT_DATE_TIME, 4, 28);
    ...
}
```

See also [“spssSetVarWriteFormat” on page 85](#).

## spssSetVarRole

```
int spssSetVarRole(const int hFile, const char *varName, const int varRole)
```

Description

This function sets the role of a variable.

*hFile*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*varRole*. Variable role. Must be one of the following values: SPSS\_ROLE\_INPUT, SPSS\_ROLE\_TARGET, SPSS\_ROLE\_BOTH, SPSS\_ROLE\_NONE, SPSS\_ROLE\_PARTITION, or SPSS\_ROLE\_SPLIT.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_INVALID\_ROLE. Invalid role value

## spssSetVarWriteFormat

```
int spssSetVarWriteFormat(
    int handle,
    const char *varName,
    int writeType,
```

```
int writeDec,
int writeWid)
```

### Description

This function sets the write format of a variable.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varName*. Variable name

*writeType*. Write format type code (file *spssdio.h* defines macros of the form SPSS\_FMT\_ . . . for all valid format type codes)

*writeDec*. Number of digits after the decimal

*writeWid*. Write format width

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with `spssCommitHeader`

SPSS\_INVALID\_VARNAME. The variable name is not valid

SPSS\_VAR\_NOTFOUND. A variable with the given name does not exist

SPSS\_INVALID\_WRFOR. The write format specification is invalid or is incompatible with the variable type

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

### Example

```
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;          /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    /* Define string variable ODDCHARS of length 7 */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "ODDCHARS", SPSS_STRING(7));
    ...
    /* Set the write format of ODDCHARS to AHX14 */
    error =
    spssSetVarWriteFormat(fH, "ODDCHARS", SPSS_FMT_AHEX, 0, 14);
    ...
}
```

## spssSetVariableSets

```
int spssSetVariableSets(int handle, const char *varSets)
```

### Description

This function sets the variable sets information in the data file. The information must be provided in the form of a null-terminated string. No validity checks are performed on the supplied string beyond ensuring that its length is not 0. Any existing variable sets information is discarded.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*varSets*. Variable sets information

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_EMPTY\_VARSETS. The variable sets information is empty (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_COMMIT. Dictionary has already been written with spssCommitHeader

SPSS\_NO\_MEMORY. Insufficient memory

Example

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fHIn, fHOut;      /* input & output file handles */
    int error;            /* error code */
    char *vSets;          /* ptr to variable sets info. */
    ...
    /* Open one file for reading and one for writing. */
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fHIn);
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("bankcopy.sav", &fHOut);
    ...
    /* Copy variable sets information from input file to output
    ** file
    */
    error = spssGetVariableSets(fHIn, &vSets);
    if (error == SPSS_OK)
    {
        error = spssSetVariableSets(fHOut, vSets);
        /* Handle errors and remember to free variable set string */
        ...
        free(vSets);
    }
    else if (error != SPSS_EMPTY_VARSETS)
    {
        /* Error getting variable sets information from input file */
        ...
    }
    ...
}
```

## spssSysmisVal

```
double spssSysmisVal(void)
```

Description

This function returns the IBM SPSS Statistics system-missing value for the host system. It may be called at any time.

*None.* No parameters

Returns

The IBM SPSS Statistics system-missing value for the host system.

Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    double sysmis;        /* system missing value */
    ...
    /* Get and print the system missing value */
    sysmis = spssSysmisVal();
    printf("System missing value: %e\n");
    ...
}
```

## spssValidateVarname

```
int spssValidateVarname(const char* varName)
```

Description

This function allows the client to validate a potential variable name. The name is checked for lexical validity only; there is no check for whether it is a duplicate name. Note that the error code SPSS\_NAME\_BADFIRST indicates that the name is entirely composed of valid characters but that the first character is not valid in that position--for example, the name begins with a period or digit. Note also that names ending with a period are technically valid but are to be discouraged because they cause difficulty if they appear at the end of a line of syntax.

*varName*. Null-terminated variable name

Returns

SPSS\_NAME\_OK. The name is valid

SPSS\_NAME\_SCRATCH. The name is invalid because it begins with "#"

SPSS\_NAME\_SYSTEM. The name is invalid because it begins with "\$"

SPSS\_NAME\_BADLTH. The name is too long

SPSS\_NAME\_BADCHAR. The name contains an invalid character

SPSS\_NAME\_RESERVED. The name is a reserved word

SPSS\_NAME\_BADFIRST. The name begins with an invalid character

## spssWholeCaseIn

---

```
int spssWholeCaseIn(int handle, char *caseRec)
```

Description

This function reads a case from a data file into a case buffer provided by the user. The required size of the buffer may be obtained by calling `spssGetCaseSize`. This is a fairly low-level function whose use should not be mixed with calls to `spssReadCaseRecord` using the same file handle because both procedures read a new case from the data file.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*caseRec*. Buffer to contain the case

Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_FILE\_END. End of the file reached; no more cases (warning)

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_WRMODE. File is open for writing, not reading

SPSS\_FILE\_RERROR. Error reading file

Example

```
#include <stdlib.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    int caseSize;     /* size of a case */
    char *cRec;       /* pointer to case record */
    ...
    error = spssOpenRead("bank.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Find out the size of the case and allocate memory for the
    ** case record.
    */
    error = spssGetCaseSize(fH, &caseSize);
    ...
    cRec = (char *) malloc(caseSize);
    ...
    error = spssWholeCaseIn(fH, cRec);
    ...
}
```

```

/* Buffer cRec now contains the first case in the data file.
** It is up to us to make sense out of it.
*/
...
}

```

See also [“spssGetCaseSize” on page 25](#) and [“spssWholeCaseOut” on page 89](#).

## spssWholeCaseOut

```
int spssWholeCaseOut(int handle, const char *caseRec)
```

### Description

This function writes a case assembled by the caller to a data file. The case is assumed to have been constructed correctly in the buffer *caseRec*, and its validity is not checked. This is a fairly low-level function whose use should not be mixed with calls to *spssCommitCaseRecord* using the same file handle because both procedures write a new case to the data file.

*handle*. Handle to the data file

*caseRec*. Case record to be written to the data file

### Returns

One of the following codes. Success is indicated by zero (SPSS\_OK), errors by positive values, and warnings, if any, by negative values.

SPSS\_OK. No error

SPSS\_INVALID\_HANDLE. The file handle is not valid

SPSS\_OPEN\_RDMODE. File is open for reading, not writing

SPSS\_DICT\_NOTCOMMIT. Dictionary of the output file has not yet been written with *spssCommitHeader*

SPSS\_FILE\_WERROR. File write error

### Example

```

#include <string.h>
#include "spssdio.h"
void func()
{
    int fH;           /* file handle */
    int error;        /* error code */
    int caseSize;     /* size of a case */
    char caseRec[16]; /* case record */
    double age;       /* value of AGE */
    ...
    error = spssOpenWrite("data.sav", &fH);
    ...
    /* Define two variables */
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "NAME", SPSS_STRING(7));
    ...
    error = spssSetVarName(fH, "AGE", SPSS_NUMERIC);
    ...
    /* Done with dictionary definition; commit dictionary */
    error = spssCommitHeader(fH);
    ...
    /* Please note that code beyond this requires knowledge of
    ** SPSS Statistics data file formats, and it very easy to produce
    ** garbage.
    */
    /* Find out the size of the case and make sure it is 16 as
    ** we assume it to be
    */
    error = spssGetCaseSize(fH, &caseSize);
    ...
    /* Construct one case with NAME "KNIEVEL" and AGE 50.
    ** Write out the case and close file.
    */
    memcpy(caseRec, "KNIEVEL ", 8); /* Padding to 8 */
    age = 50.0;
    memcpy(caseRec+8, &age, 8); /* Assuming sizeof double is 8 */
    error = spssWholeCaseOut(fH, caseRec);
    ...
    error = spssCloseWrite(fH);
    ...
}

```

See also [“spssGetCaseSize” on page 25](#) and [“spssWholeCaseIn” on page 88](#).





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