

SPSS: Multiple response tables (via Custom tables)

This document will show how to generate a multiple response table or cross table as shown below. In this document the Custom tables option is.

A video showing the instructions being performed is available at: <https://youtu.be/hUW-Cv89sjA>

The example used in the instructions uses the data file *Film preferences.sav* available at the companion website <http://PeterStatistics.com>.

		Count	Column N %
visited cinemas	Visited Pathé de Munt last year	62	49,6%
	Visited The Movies last year	45	36,0%
	Visited Pathé Tuschinski last year	61	48,8%
	Visited Pathé Arena last year	57	45,6%

Figure 1. Example output of a frequency table of a multiple response set

		Sex					
		Female		Male		Total	
		Count	Column Valid N %	Count	Column Valid N %	Count	Column Valid N %
visited cinemas	Visited Pathé de Munt last year	33	53,2%	29	46,0%	62	49,6%
	Visited The Movies last year	17	27,4%	28	44,4%	45	36,0%
	Visited Pathé Tuschinski last year	36	58,1%	25	39,7%	61	48,8%
	Visited Pathé Arena last year	28	45,2%	29	46,0%	57	45,6%
Total		62	100,0%	63	100,0%	125	100,0%

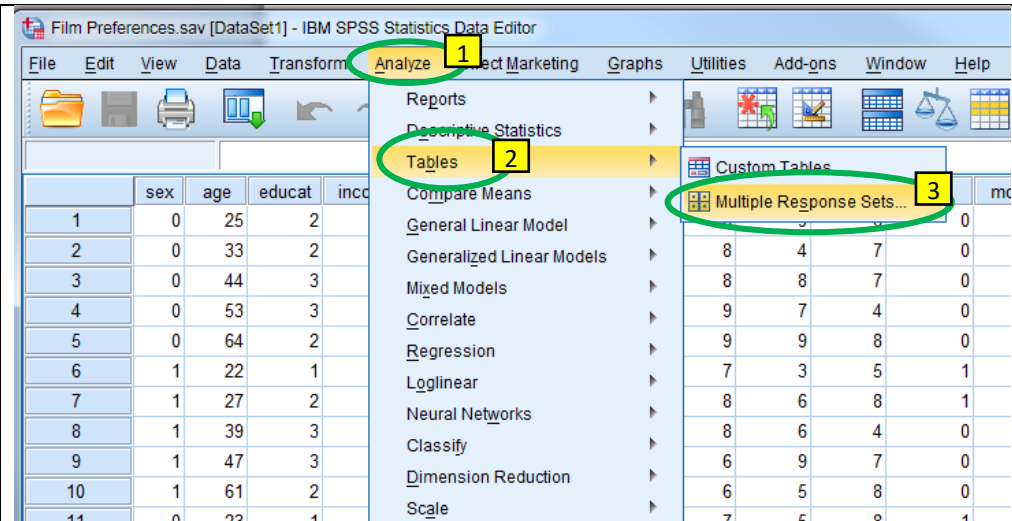
Figure 2. Example output of a frequency table of a multiple response set

These are the instructions for SPSS 23 or older. Instructions for version 24 are available at <http://PeterStatistics.com>, although the differences are minimum.

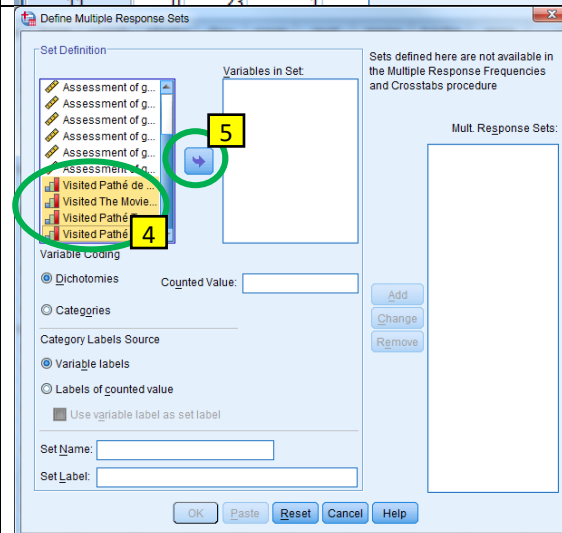
Creating a multiple response set

In order to create a frequency table or a cross table from a question with multiple answers, you first need to create a multiple response set.

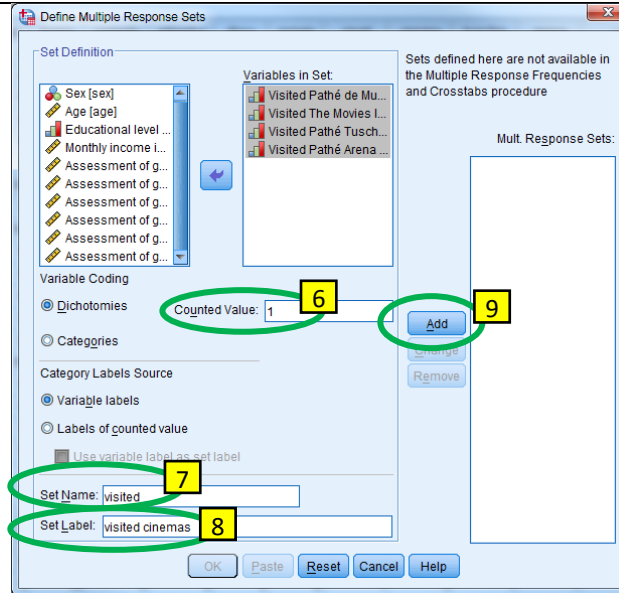
1. Click in the menubar on **Analyze**
2. Click on **Tables** (or in SPSS 23 on **Custom Tables**)
3. Click on **Multiple Response Sets...**



4. Click on the variables that form the multiple response set (you can use CTRL to select multiple variables)
5. Click on  to move them to the Variables in Set section.

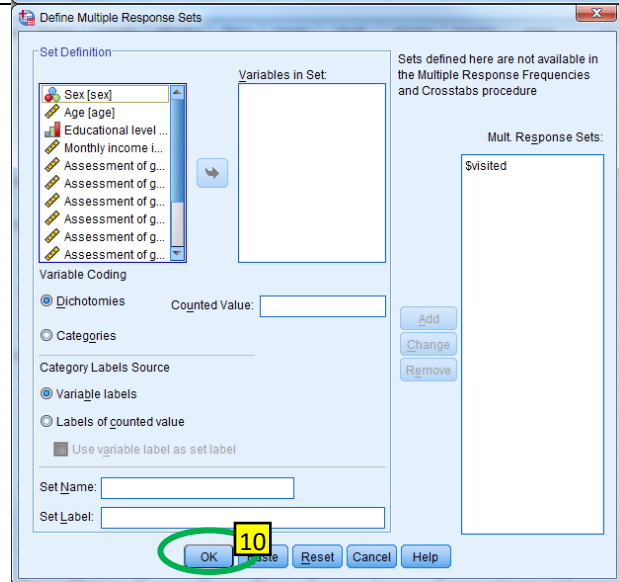


6. At Variable Coding, enter the value that you are most interested in. In this example 1 indicated that someone did visit the cinema, and I'm interested in those who did, so at Counted value a 1 is entered in the example.
7. Enter a name for the set. Note that the same rules as for variables apply, so no spaces and cannot start with a number.
8. Enter a label for the set
9. Click on 



The dialog box 'Define Multiple Response Sets' is shown. In the 'Set Definition' section, the 'Variables in Set' list contains 'Visited Pathé de Mu...', 'Visited The Movies I...', 'Visited Pathé Tusch...', and 'Visited Pathé Arena...'. Under 'Variable Coding', the 'Dichotomies' radio button is selected, and the 'Counted Value' is set to 1. The 'Set Name' is 'visited' and the 'Set Label' is 'visited cinemas'. The 'Add' button is highlighted with a yellow box and the number 9. The 'Counted Value' field is highlighted with a yellow box and the number 6. The 'Set Name' field is highlighted with a yellow box and the number 7. The 'Set Label' field is highlighted with a yellow box and the number 8.

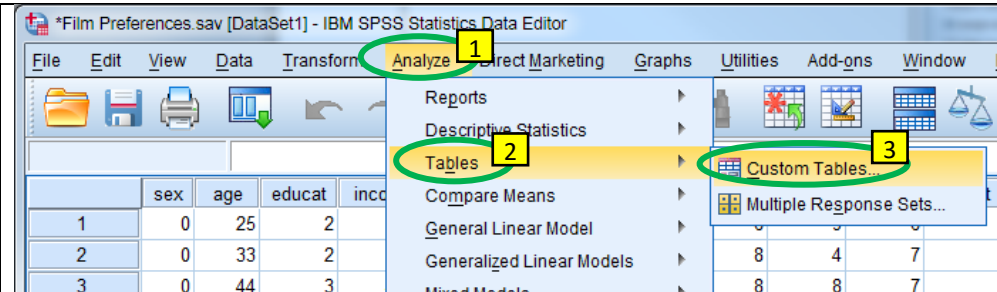
10. Click on 



The dialog box 'Define Multiple Response Sets' is shown again. The 'Set Name' is now 'visited' and the 'Set Label' is 'visited cinemas'. The 'Add' button is highlighted with a yellow box and the number 10. The 'Counted Value' field is highlighted with a yellow box and the number 10.

Generating a frequency table from a multiple response set

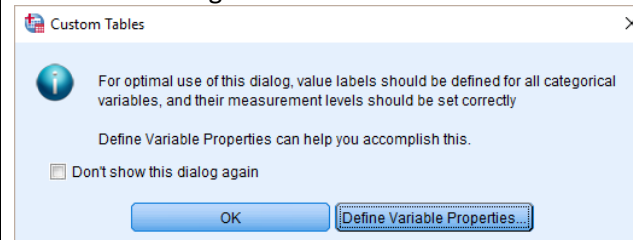
1. Click in the menubar on **Analyze**
2. Click on
 - SPSS 21 or older: **Tables**
 - SPSS 22 and higher: **Custom Tables**
3. Click on **Custom Tables...**



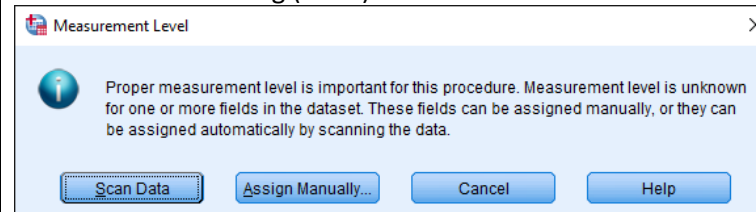
4. In SPSS version 22 you might be prompted with a message that custom tables work best if the labels for all values have been assigned. If you have done so, you can simply click on OK.

In version 22 & 23 you will get a message about measurement level if any of the variables is still set to 'unknown' as a measurement level. SPSS gives you a few options but you might want to cancel in this case, go to the Variable View and check which variables have Measure set to unknown and change them to the proper measurement level.

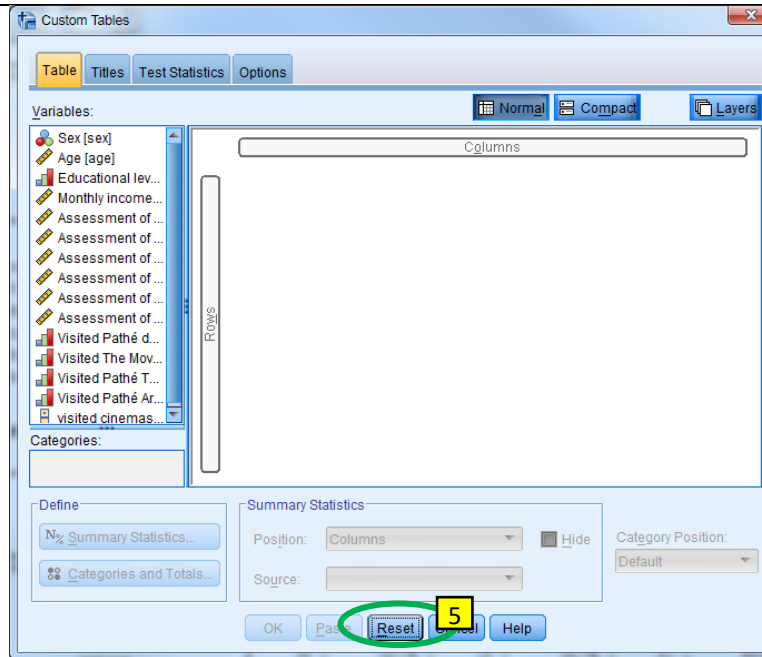
SPSS 22: Warning that it works best if all values are assigned a label.



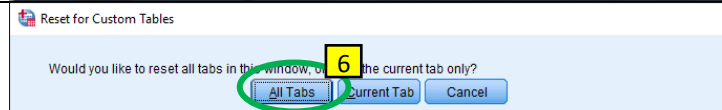
SPSS 22 & 23: Warning (error) if measurement level of one variable is unknown.



5. Click on **Reset**



6. Click on **All Tabs**

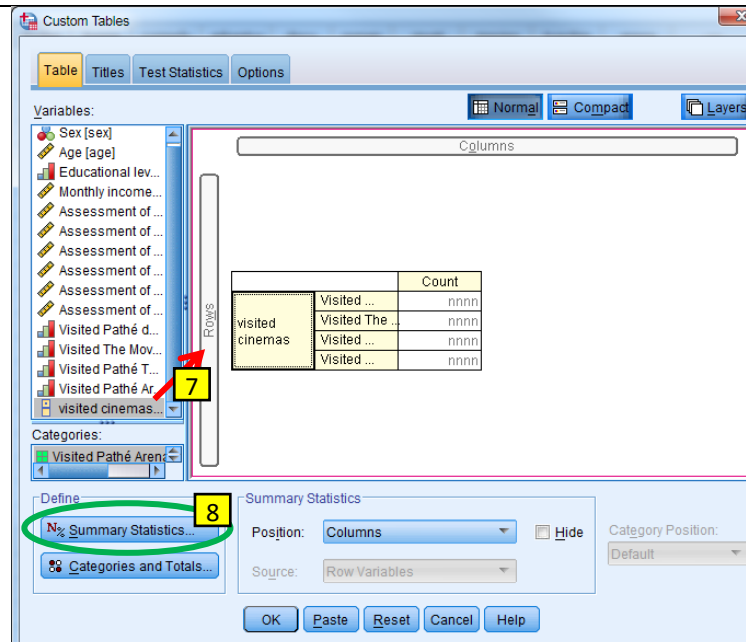


7. **Drag** the multiple response set (at the bottom of the variables list) to the Rows, by dragging it there.

If you want to see *percentages*:

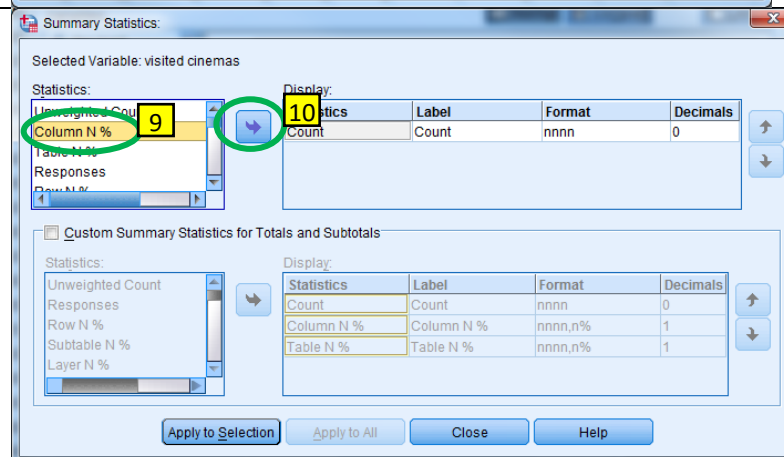
8. Click on **N% Summary Statistics...**

Note: if you cannot click on the *Summary Statistics*, then first click in the table on the multiple response set name or any of the values (the lightly yellow shaded area).



9. Click on Column N% (or Table N%)

10. Click on  to move Column N% to the Display section.



If you want the totals to be shown as well:

Note: if you cannot click on the *Categories and Totals*, then first click in the table on the multiple response set name or any of the values

Custom Tables

Table Titles Test Statistics Options

Variables:

Normal Compact Layers

Columns

Rows

		Count	Column N %
visited cinemas	Visited ...	nnnn	nnnn.n%
	Visited The ...	nnnn	nnnn.n%
	Visited ...	nnnn	nnnn.n%
	Visited ...	nnnn	nnnn.n%

Categories:

Define

Summary Statistics

Position: Columns Hide

Source: Row Variables

Categories and Totals

Category Position: Default

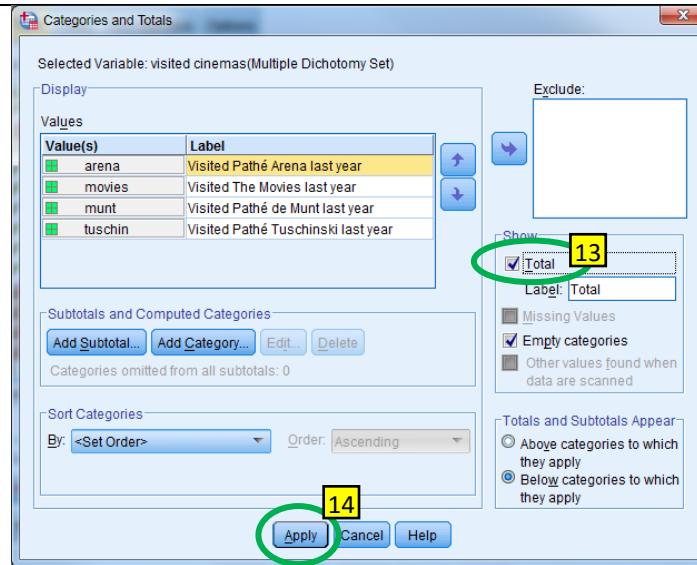
OK Paste Reset Cancel Help

12

13. At the Show section tick the ☒ Total option.

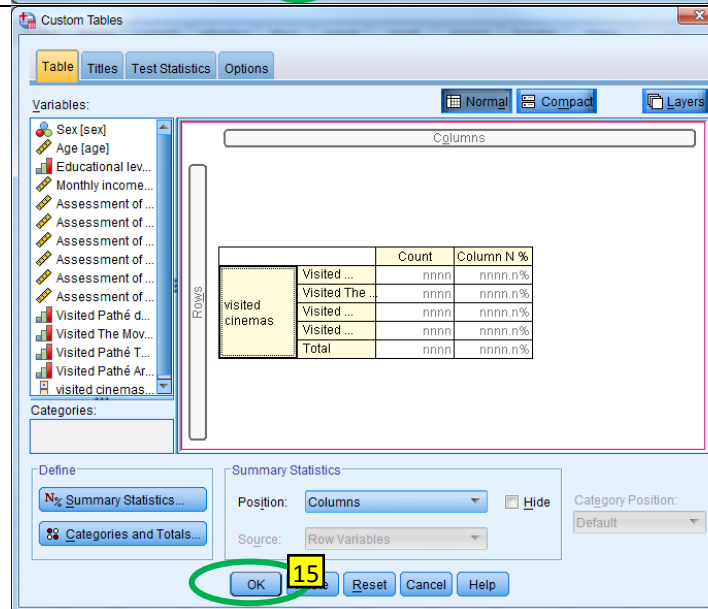
14. Click on

Apply



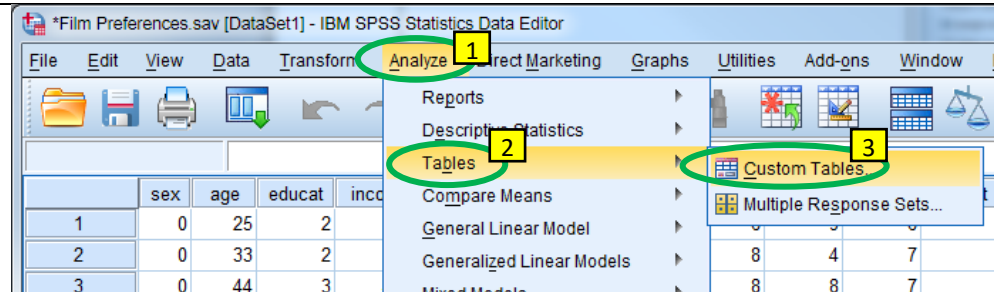
15. Click on

OK



Generating a cross table with a multiple response set

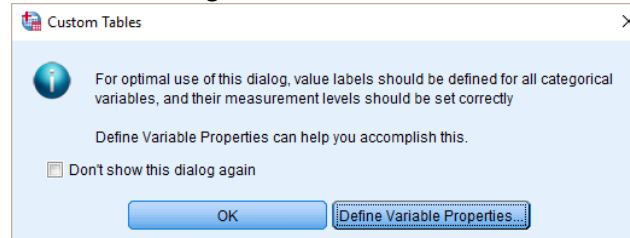
1. Click in the menubar on **Analyze**
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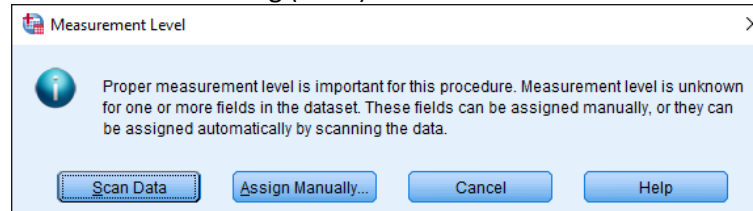
4. In SPSS version 22 you might be prompted with a message that custom tables work best if the labels for all values have been assigned. If you have done so, you can simply click on OK.

In version 22 & 23 you will get a message about measurement level if any of the variables is still set to 'unknown' as a measurement level. SPSS gives you a few options but you might want to cancel in this case, go to the Variable View and check which variables have Measure set to unknown and change them to the proper measurement level.

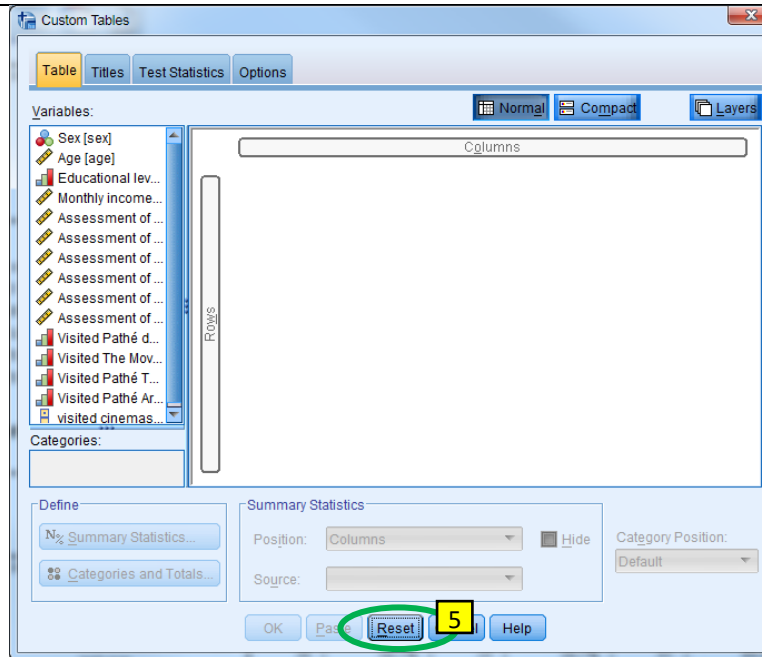
SPSS 22: Warning that it works best if all values are assigned a label.



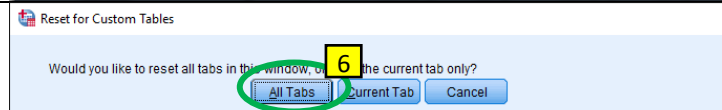
SPSS 22 & 23: Warning (error) if measurement level of one variable is unknown.



5. Click on **Reset**

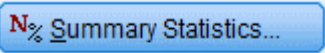


6. Click on **All Tabs**

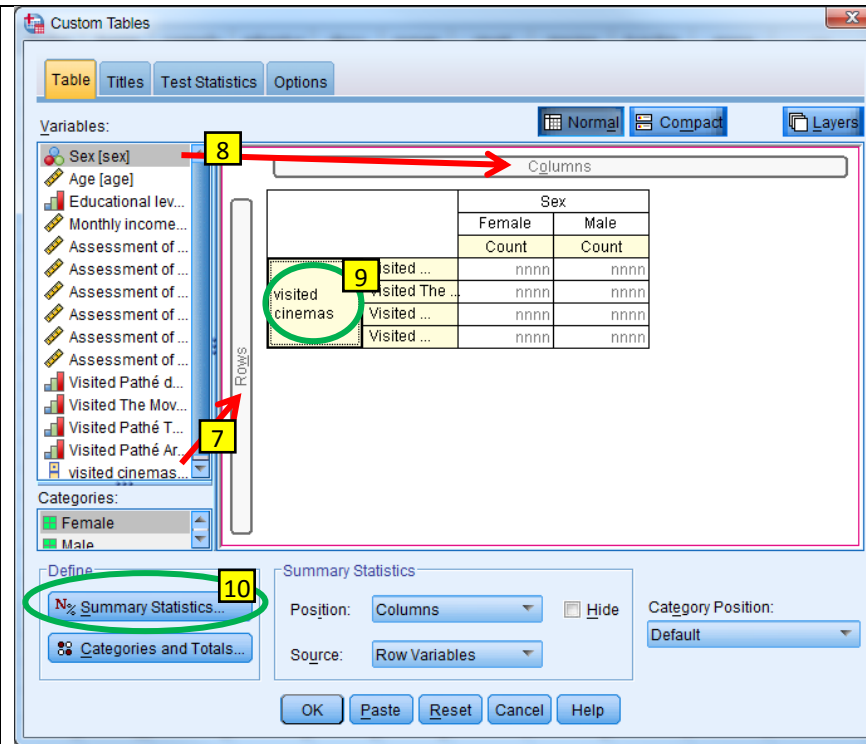


7. **Drag** the multiple response set to the Rows (the multiple response set can be found at the bottom of the Variables list)
8. **Drag** the variable you want to cross it with to the Columns

In case you want to show percentages:

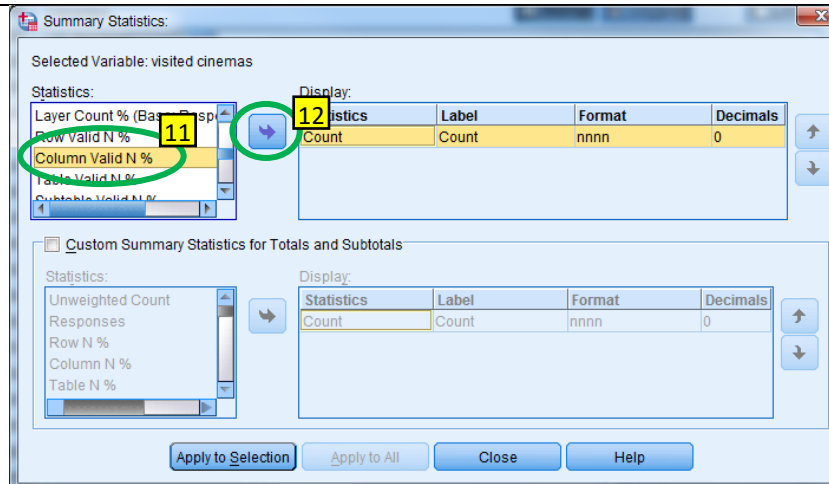
9. Click on the multiple response set name in the main area (the lightly yellow shaded area)
10. Click on 

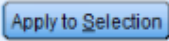
Note: by first dragging the multiple response set and then the other variable, you will have the option to also show the percentages based on responses. However most often you want them based on cases, so it does not matter much.

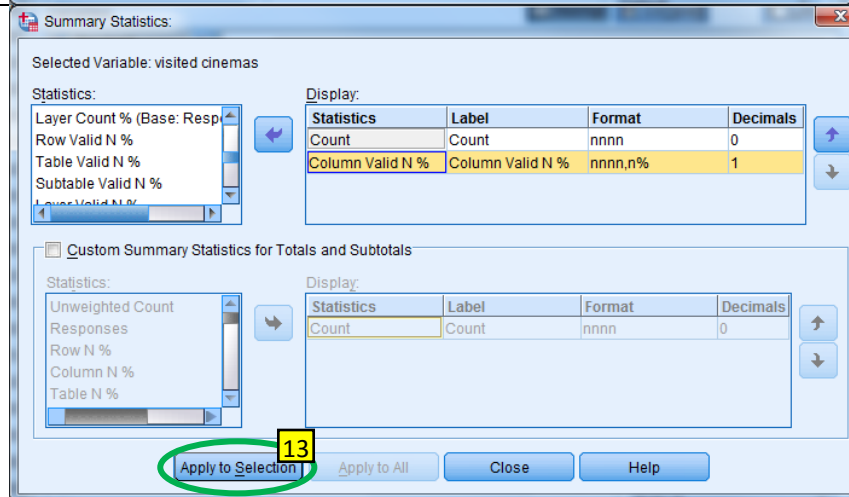


11. Click in the Statistics section on Column Valid N %

12. Click on 



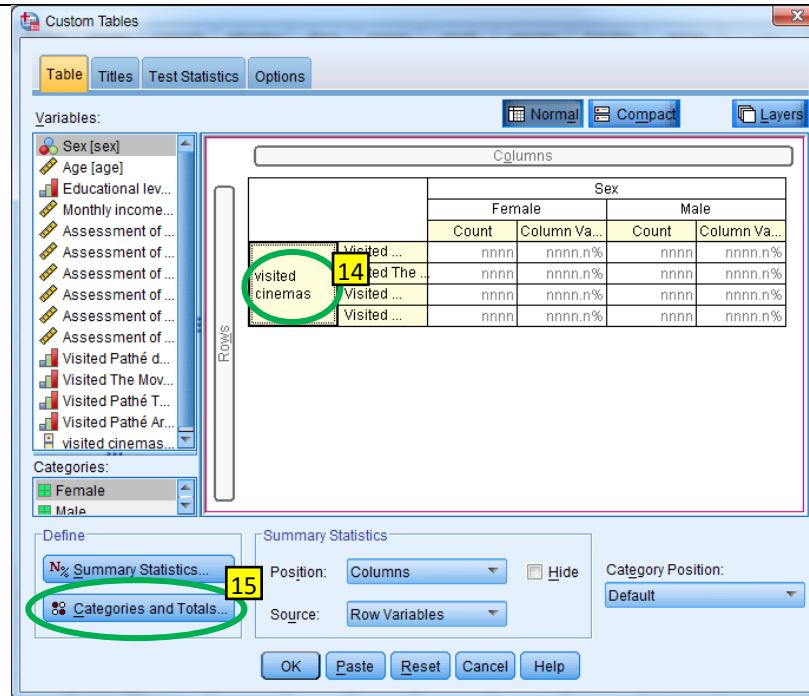
13. Click on 



In case you also want to add the column totals:

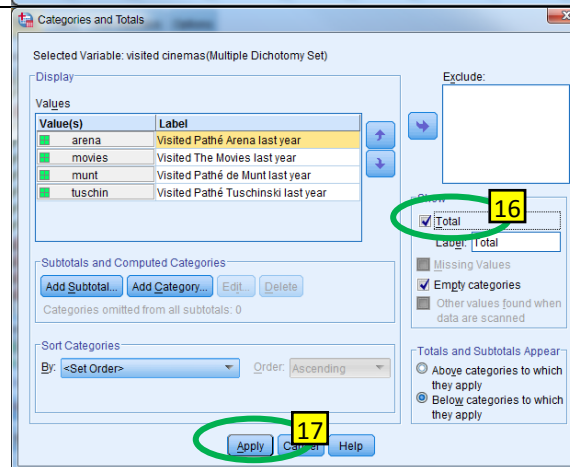
14. Click on the multiple response set name in the main area (the lightly yellow shaded area)

15. Click on  **Categories and Totals...**



16. At the Show section tick the  **Total** option

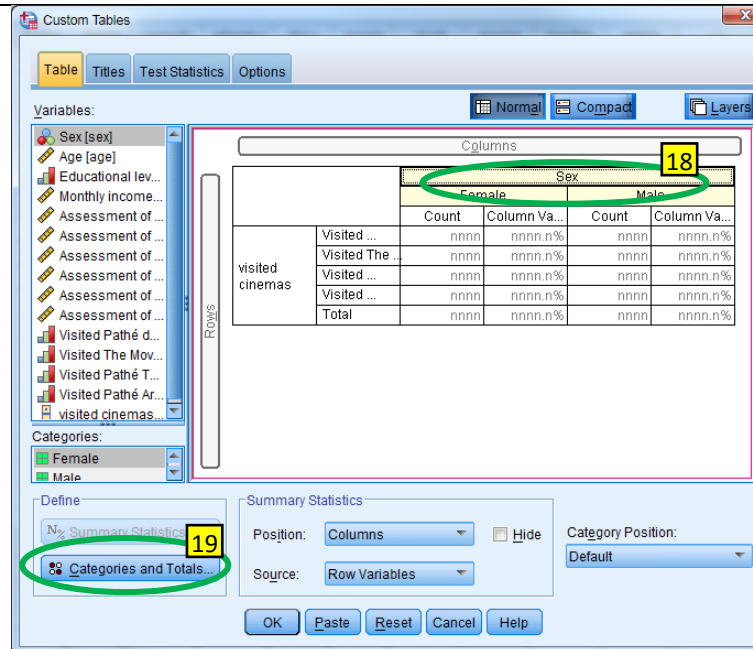
17. Click on 



In case you also want the row totals:

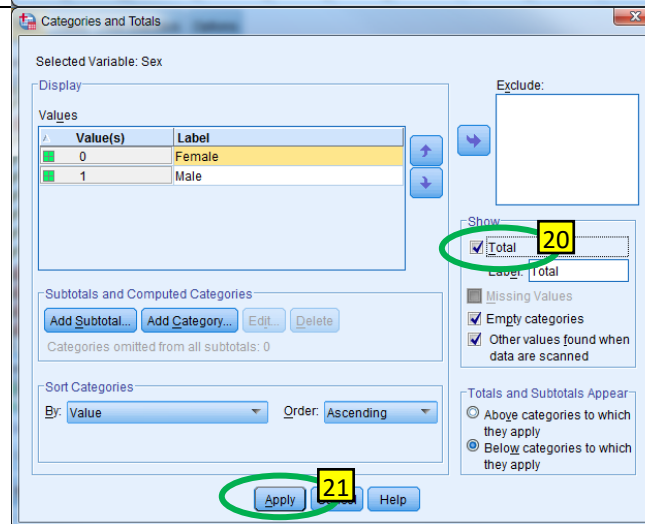
18. Click on variable of the columns (the lightly yellow shaded area)

19. Click on  **Categories and Totals...**



20. At the Show section tick the  **Total** option

21. Click on 



22. Click on

OK

