

PO 217-B SPSS Assignment

SPSS assignment is due via MLS by 10:30 AM Thursday, December 3

NOTE: Students should follow the PO217 SPSS handbook available on MLS to complete this assignment. SPSS is available for free through Laurier's website. To access SPSS, follow the instructions outlined in the "How_To_Access_SPSS" file available on MLS. Students who wish to work from a trial version or a rental version of SPSS are welcome to do so. You will need to save a copy of the 2019 CES dataset (available on MLS) to your Laurier personal drive (OneDrive / personal drive) that you can access via the web-based version of SPSS.

For this assignment, students are required to open the 2019 CES dataset (available on MLS), explore the variables available in the dataset, and develop a "working" **research question** and corresponding **hypothesis**. Students must then identify **TWO** variables from the dataset that may be used in subsequent work to test this question. Please note the **level of measurement** for each of these variables. Students must then report the **frequency distribution**, appropriate **measure of central tendency**, and the **measure of dispersion** for both variables (note that SPSS does not provide a measure of dispersion for nominal level variables. Students should calculate this on their own). Students should follow the outline from the example below for this assignment. **The variables used in the example may not be used for the assignment.** In addition, students are also required to submit a copy of their SPSS output file in PDF format. Your assignment must be submitted via MLS as a .doc or .docx file.

Assignment Example:

Research question (1 point): Does satisfaction with the way democracy works affect the likelihood of voting?

Hypothesis (1 point): Individuals who are more satisfied with the way democracy works will be more likely to vote.

Dataset: CES 2019

DV (4 pts total): Voted in the 2019 Canadian federal election (p2) nominal level

IV (4 pts total): Satisfaction with the way democracy works in Canada (q6) ordinal level

DV univariate statistics and frequency distribution:

→ Frequencies

Statistics

p2 -- The federal election was held on Monday, October 21. Did you vote in the r

N	Valid	2872
	Missing	1149
Mode		1

p2 -- The federal election was held on Monday, October 21. Did you vote in the r

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	(-9) Don't know	2	.1	.1	.1
	(-8) Refused	2	.0	.1	.1
	(1) Yes	2697	67.1	93.9	94.0
	(2) No	153	3.8	5.3	99.4
	(3) I usually vote but didn't this time (CATI only)	10	.3	.4	99.7
	(4) I thought about voting but didn't (CATI only)	8	.2	.3	100.0
	(6) Respondent not registered on electoral lists (CATI only)	0	.0	.0	100.0
	Total	2872	71.4	100.0	
Missing	System	1149	28.6		
Total		4021	100.0		

The mode (1, representing “Yes”) is the appropriate measure of central tendency for nominal level variables.

The variation ratio is the appropriate measure of dispersion for nominal level variables. $VR = 1 - \text{the number of cases in the modal category (2697 respondents) divided by the total number of cases (2872 respondents)}$. **NOTE:** Do NOT include MISSING CASES).

$$VR = 1 - (2697/2872) \text{ or } 1 - 0.939 = 0.061$$

ALTERNATIVELY $VR = 100\% - \% \text{ of cases in the modal category (93.9\%)}$

$$100\% - 93.9\% = 6.1\%$$

VR=0.061 or 6.1%

IV univariate statistics and frequency distribution:

Frequencies

Statistics

q6 -- On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied

N	Valid	4021
	Missing	0
Median		2.00
Range		13

q6 -- On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	(-9) Don't know	54	1.3	1.3	1.3
	(-8) Refused	8	.2	.2	1.5
	(1) Very satisfied	565	14.1	14.1	15.6
	(2) Fairly satisfied	2248	55.9	55.9	71.5
	(3) Not very satisfied	828	20.6	20.6	92.1
	(4) Not satisfied at all	318	7.9	7.9	100.0
	Total	4021	100.0	100.0	

The median (2, representing “fairly satisfied”) is the appropriate measure of central tendency for ordinal level variables.

The range (reported as 13: “Don’t know” to “Not satisfied at all”) is the appropriate measure of dispersion for ordinal level variables.

NOTE: The range in SPSS is reported as the difference between the max and min value. In this case, the min value is coded “-9” and the max value coded “4” for a range of 13. This represents “Don’t know” to “Not satisfied at all”. You would normally recode this variable to set “Don’t know” and “refused” to missing, since you do not know how these individuals feel. You will learn how to recode variables in PO218.