

GOVT 2304 - Research Exercise 2

Due Monday, October 5, at the beginning of class.

This document has two (2) pages.

Read all directions carefully and follow them closely.

Part I: More work understanding variables

To make sure you are comfortable with analyzing both data collection and levels of measurement, complete numbers 2, 6, 7 and 9 of the worksheet for chapter 3 in the Le Roy text. Once again, answer the questions and provide the descriptions required in paragraph form as if you were submitting research requested by a workplace superior. (All work must be typed, double spaced in 12-point font with 1" margins and left aligned. There will be a penalty for ignoring these guidelines.)

Next, using the *NES* data file, create a table that displays a cross-tabulation between a respondent's presidential vote choice in 2008 (use variable #201) and their age group. Align the table so that vote choice defines the rows and age group determines the columns. The values you need to enter in each cell of the table will be percentages such that each column will total to 100%. (See, *but do not perform*, the Chapter 4 Exercises 3-9 for clues on how to complete this step.) Present the results in a table that conveys the information clearly. Explain what this table tells you about the appeal of the candidates to different age groups. Describe what patterns, if any, help explain age and 2008 vote choice. Assess whether your results compare to "conventional" wisdom on how age affects voting.

Part II is on the following page

Part II: Formulating more formal hypotheses

Read carefully through exercise 1 and 2 in chapter 5, perform each required step with the variables Le Roy directs for these exercises, and type your results in paragraph form. Repeat the same process using the *STATES* database choosing two variables that you think might relate to each other (positively or negatively). Realize that you are dealing with aggregate data, so resist the temptation to make inferences concerning individual behavior or attributes. Present these results using the same format as Le Roy's exercises you completed above.

After completing your work, reread the assignment to make sure you have followed every direction correctly and answered each question fully.