

# **Tutorial 06, Michaelmas Term**

Research Methods for Political Science (PO3600)

---

Stefan Müller

21 November 2017

Trinity College Dublin

<http://muellerstefan.net/research-methods>

1. Questions?
2. Merging Data in SPSS
3. Summary statistics

## Exercise: Merge datasets on Irish counties

1. Download the two following datasets:
  - `ire_01.sav`: <http://tinyurl.com/censusire01>
  - `ire_02.sav`: <http://tinyurl.com/censusire02>
2. Import both datasets into SPSS
3. Sort both datasets ascending by `county_id`
4. Merge datasets (Data → Merge Files → Add variables)

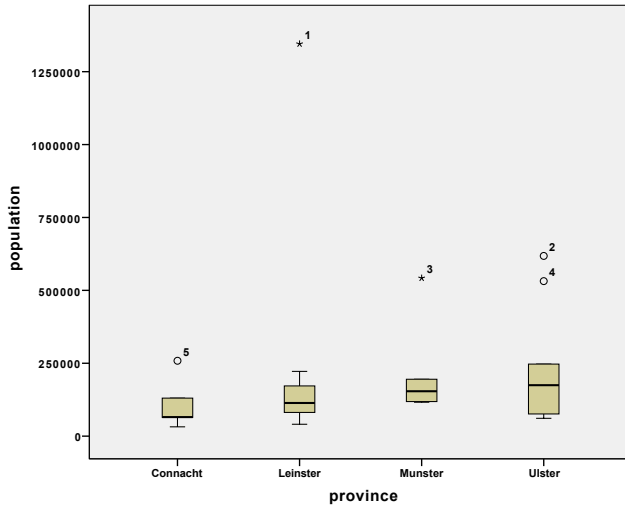
## Exercise: Summary Statistics

1. Use the merged datasets to create summary statistics of all continuous variables  
(Analyse → Descriptive Statistics → Frequencies)
2. Interpret the variable distributions with your neighbour.
3. Are there information we can leave out?

## Exercise: Create a Boxplot

1. Use the merged datasets to create a “simple boxplot”
2. Put province on the *Category Axis* and insert population as the *Variable*.
3. Interpret the plot. Which observations are outliers?
4. Modify the plot (white background), rename axes manually.
5. Export and save the plot as a pdf file.

# SPSS Output: Boxplot (bad)



# SPSS Output: Boxplot (better)

