Missing Data

Question 1

What is missing data?

- Missing data (or missing values) is defined as the data value that is not stored for a variable in the observation of interest. The problem of missing data is relatively common in almost all research and can have a significant effect on the conclusions that can be drawn from the data

Question 2

Why is it important to investigate missing data?

- Any patterns underlying the missing data can be identified, in order to maintain the original distribution of values as close as possible if/when any remedy is applied.

- Missing data reduces the sample size available for analysis

- Results based on data with a nonrandom missing data process could be biased.