## from data TO DECISION

## Critical Thinking: Was the draft lottery random?

In 1970, a lottery was used to determine who would be drafted into the U.S. Army. The 366 dates in the year were placed in individual capsules. First, the 31 January capsules were placed in a box; then the 29 February capsules were added and the two months were mixed. Then the 31 March capsules were added and the three months were mixed. This process continued until all months were included. The first capsule selected was September 14, so men born on that

date were drafted first. The accompanying list shows the 366 dates in the order of selection.

## **Analyzing the Results**

- a. Use the runs test to test the sequence for randomness above and below the median of 183.5.
- b. Use the Kruskal-Wallis test to test the claim that the 12 months had priority numbers drawn from the same population.
- c. Calculate the 12 monthly means. Then plot those 12 means on a graph.

(The horizontal scale lists the 12 months, and the vertical scale ranges from 100 to 260.) Note any pattern suggesting that the original priority numbers were not randomly selected.

d. Based on the results from parts (a), (b), and (c), decide whether this particular draft lottery was fair. Write a statement explaining why you believe that it was or was not fair. If you decided that this lottery was unfair, describe a process for selecting lottery numbers that would have been fair.

Jan:	305	159	251	215	101	224	306	199	194	325	329	221	318	238	017	121
	235	140	058	280	186	337	118	059	052	092	355	077	349	164	211	
Feb:	086	144	297	210	214	347	091	181	338	216	150	068	152	004	089	212
	189	292	025	302	363	290	057	236	179	365	205	299	285			
Mar:	108	029	267	275	293	139	122	213	317	323	136	300	259	354	169	166
	033	332	200	239	334	265	256	258	343	170	268	223	362	217	030	
Apr:	032	271	083	081	269	253	147	312	219	218	014	346	124	231	273	148
	260	090	336	345	062	316	252	002	351	340	074	262	191	208		
May:	330	298	040	276	364	155	035	321	197	065	037	133	295	178	130	055
	112	278	075	183	250	326	319	031	361	357	296	308	226	103	313	
Jun:	249	228	301	020	028	110	085	366	335	206	134	272	069	356	180	274
	073	341	104	360	060	247	109	358	137	022	064	222	353	209		
Jul:	093	350	115	279	188	327	050	013	277	284	248	015	042	331	322	120
	098	190	227	187	027	153	172	023	067	303	289	088	270	287	193	
Aug:	111	045	261	145	054	114	168	048	106	021	324	142	307	198	102	044
	154	141	311	344	291	339	116	036	286	245	352	167	061	333	011	
Sep:	225	161	049	232	082	006	008	184	263	071	158	242	175	001	113	207
	255	246	177	063	204	160	119	195	149	018	233	257	151	315		
Oct:	359	125	244	202	024	087	234	283	342	220	237	072	138	294	171	254
	288	005	241	192	243	117	201	196	176	007	264	094	229	038	079	
Nov:	019	034	348	266	310	076	051	097	080	282	046	066	126	127	131	107
	143	146	203	185	156	009	182	230	132	309	047	281	099	174		
Dec:	129	328	157	165	056	010	012	105	043	041	039	314	163	026	320	096
	304	128	240	135	070	053	162	095	084	173	078	123	016	003	100	