# Describing distributions of data

# **Assignment Overview**

There are a variety of conventional ways to visualize data - tables, histograms, bar graphs, etc. Now that your data have been cleaned up, it is time to examine the distribution of variables related to your research question. You will create a plot, follow up each graphic with a table of summary statistics (for quantitative variables) or frequency and proportion table (for categorical), and then a summary paragraph that brings it all together.

### Instructions

You must use your cleaned version of your research data for this! This is the data file that was saved as a result of you running your data management script file (dm.Rmd or dm.sps).

- 0. Use the template provided: [RMD] for R users, and [Word] for SPSS users.
- 1. Completely describe 2 categorical and 2 quantitative variables using
  - A table of summary statistics,
  - An appropriate plot with titles and axes labels,
  - A short paragraph description in full complete English sentences.

To guide your description of this distribution try to include the following information:

- What is the trend in the data? What exactly does the chart show? (Use the chart title to help you answer this question)
- What are the axes and what are the units?
- Describe the shape:
  - Symmetry/Skewness Is it symmetric, skewed right, or skewed left?
  - Modality Is it uniform, unimodal, or bimodal?
- Describe the spread:
  - Variability What is the approximate range of the data (x-axis)?
  - Does the variable have a lot of variability in the data (visually, are the participants responded to many different responses or mainly just one)?
- Describe the center: What is the mean/median/midpoint of the data? (Pick one or two). Don't
- Describe the outliers (note: there may not be any for every graph):
  - Are there any outliers for the variable?
  - If yes, are these true outliers or false (due to data management or input error) outliers?

# Example

This example uses the mpg data set from the ggplot2 package.

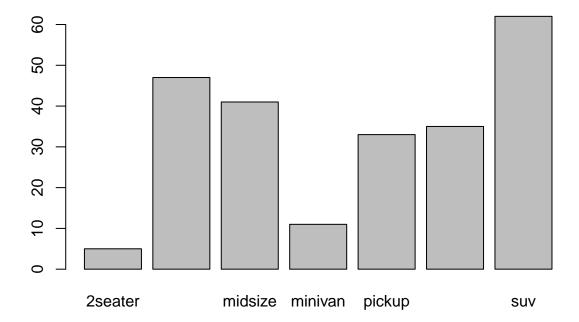
mpg <- ggplot2::mpg</pre>

#### Basic categorical

Draft style plot, direct computer output showing/copied. Poor grammar and/or sentence structure, no attempt at explaining what the variable means, extra unnecessary or incorrect information included. Typos.

```
class
```

```
library(descr)
freq(mpg$class)
```



##	mpg\$class		
##		Frequency	Percent
##	2seater	5	2.137
##	compact	47	20.085
##	midsize	41	17.521
##	minivan	11	4.701
##	pickup	33	14.103
##	subcompact	35	14.957
##	suv	62	26.496
##	Total	234	100.000

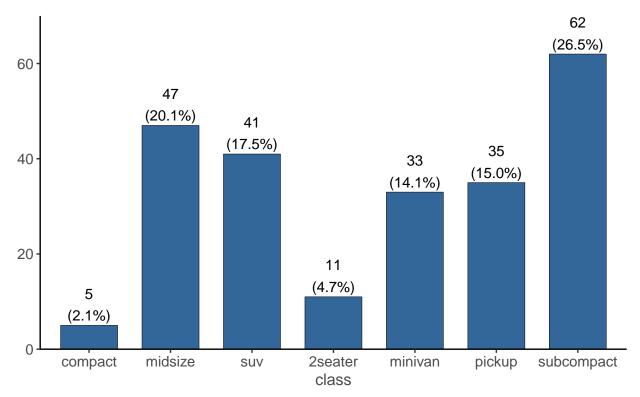
theres more suvs than compacts. 2% are 2 seaters. there are 5 2 seaters 47 cmpact 41 midize 11 minivans 33 pickups 35% subcompacts, 62 suv and 234 total cars.

## Proficient categorical

Cleaned up plot, full English sentences, useful text formatting of variable names and levels. Explained what the variable was named and what it measured.

The class variable from the mpg data set is a catgorical variable that describes the type of vehicle being measured. Some levels of this categorical variable include *compact*, *pickup* and *suv*.

```
library(sjPlot); library(ggplot2)
set_theme(base = theme_classic())
sjp.frq(mpg$class)
```

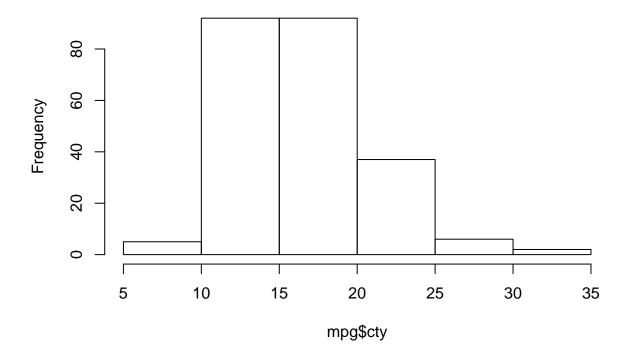


Sub compact cars are the most frequently reported type of car, making up over one-quarter (26.5%) of the cars in this data set with n=62 cars represented. The least represented car is a compact car with n=5 (2.1%) records.

# Basic quantitative

hist(mpg\$cty)

# Histogram of mpg\$cty



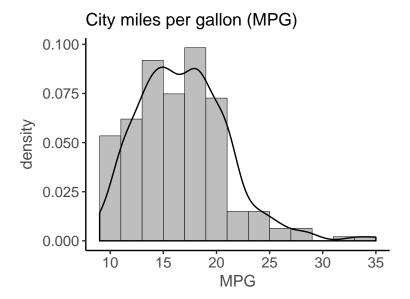
#### summary(mpg\$cty)

```
## Min. 1st Qu. Median Mean 3rd Qu. Max.
## 9.00 14.00 17.00 16.86 19.00 35.00
```

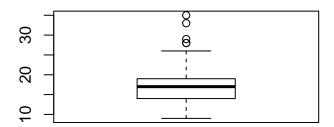
### Proficient quantitative

Overlaid a density curve on the histogram, also looked at a boxplot for outliers. Table of summary statistics present in a nicely formatted way, digits rounded appropriately. Plot cleaned up with appropriate axis and titles.

The cty variable records the miles per gallon (mpg) achieved during city driving. This is a quantititative numeric variable.



#### boxplot(mpg\$cty)



knitr::kable(t(c(summary(mpg\$cty), sd=sd(mpg\$cty))), digits=1)

Min.	1st Qu.	Median	Mean	3rd Qu.	Max.	$\operatorname{sd}$
9	14	17	16.9	19	35	4.3

The MPG in the city ranges from 9 to 35, unimodal and is slightly skewed right with a mean of 16.9 close to the median of 17 and a standard deviation of 4.3mpg. The boxplot indicates that there are at least 4 upper end outliers achieving a city MPG of approximately over 28 mpg.

#### Submission

- Upload the final PDF to 02 Univariate Graphics/Incoming folder in Google Drive with the file name:  $userid\_univ\_graph.pdf$
- This assignment will be peer reviewed.