SOC 282, RESEARCH PROJECT PART 1

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SECTION A

*Research Question:* How does peoples hours spent working affect their mental health?

*H1:*

Working more hours leads to more poor mental health days but it differs by gender.

*H2:*

People who work more frequently are more likely to be depressed.

*Variables Table*



SECTION B

See attached spreadsheet and code, which can be viewed on github as well:

<https://github.com/smithty18/soc282/blob/main/test2.R>

*Describe data:*

This data is from a general survey from 2022 of which various types of information from respondents was collected. I have focused on peoples work, working status, mental health condition, and reported sex. Approximately 2000~ people responded to mental health-oriented questions relevant to this research design. People on average tended not indicate having depression and have fewer poor mental health days.

*Frequency Distribution Tables of Dependent Variables*



*Two Graphs*

A graph of hours worked

Description automatically generated



SECTION C

*Central Tendency Table*



*Variability Table*



SECTION D

*Confidence Level Estimate*

Calculating for missed mental health days (mntlhlt):

The Standard error is: 7.9/(sqrt(1904)) = 0.18

Lower Bound 4.55-(1.96\*0.18); 4.1972

Upper Bound 4.55+(1.96\*0.18); 4.9028

The mean of missed mental health days is 4.55 within a 95% CU: 4.2: 4.9], within a margin of error of 0.36.

I chose to provide a confidence level estimate for this variable because it is relevant to the research question and is the more complex (in terms of level of measurement) of the two dependent variables.

SECTION E

*Conclusion*

Notably most respondents worked on average 40 hours a week. Respondents tend to report not being depressed and having 0 – 4 days of poor mental health. Of the information we have on people who worked full time and part time they reported 4 days of poor mental health a month on average. People who worked but were indisposed reported a higher rate of poor mental health in a given month, in as much as 7 days on average. Women tended to experience slightly longer periods of poor mental health (5.5) and reported depression more frequently than men (16% of women said they had diagnosed depression as opposed to 9% of men). Across all groups those who worked more hours saw higher poor mental health days, and those who worked part time saw lower reported frequencies of poor mental health days. Those who reported yes to having depression (~500) reported the highest average poor mental health days, regardless of work status or hours worked, with an average 10 poor days of mental health a month.