

basic statistics

[version: Saturday 16th September, 2017 12:35]

1. Dropout rate is a serious problem. Professor X hypothesizes that counselling not only helps at the university level (https://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/18/magazine/who-gets-to-graduate.html?_r=0), but also at primary and secondary levels. She gathered the following data:

school name	dropout rate (perc)	avg hrs counselling per pupil per week
fabulous haddonfield	2	3
average deptford	10	2
average glassboro	7	2
average blackwood	10	2
gritty camden	70	0

- (a) Compute the mean, median, and mode of dropout rate—which measure describes the data best? Explain.
- (b) Do a scatterplot (can do it by hand or using software), what do you conclude? Do you find evidence to support professor's X hypothesis?
2. Taking into account comfort and degree of luxury, there are many transportation options, but for sake of argument, let's assume that for a particular journey there are 3 options ranging from least comfortable/luxurious to most: Greyhound, Spirit Airlines, and United Airlines. Number of compliments and complains are one way to assess customer experience. Researchers have gathered some data:

100 people traveled on Greyhound, 75 people complained, and only 5 complimented. 500 people traveled on Spirit, no one complained, neither complimented. Astonishing 1,000 people complained about United Airlines, and only 100 complimented. At the same time, United had many travellers: 2,000.

Based on these data, do you find support for a hypothesis that the more comfort/luxury, the better the consumer experience? Again, as always, show your work.

general directions (always the same):

- ps is due in class in hardcopy
- keep it short; max: 5 single spaced pages; typically way less, say 1 or 2
- if you are stuck, email me early! also can email me if you want some feedback and make sure you are on the right track, etc
- show your work, a “naked” number won't do! unless indicated otherwise, always do calculations by hand
- if your handwriting is bad, please type
- i may want to discuss your assignment in class, which should be beneficial to you and give you more feedback; if however, you'd like to keep it private, let me know!
- ideally you want to use this class to write a research part of your capstone
- think if you can engage civically—see section 'civic engagement component' in syllabus