

General Comments:

Students will complete the project in small groups of 3-4 people.

The data set and description are provided via BrightSpace under the *Project* content area.

Each group of students will submit a short paper describing the results of a statistical analysis addressing the relevant specific aims. The paper will then be reviewed by the instructors, returned, and a revised paper will be submitted. Grading of the project will be primarily based on the revised paper and response to reviewers' comments, though cases of egregious nonperformance on the first submission will lower the grade on the project.

For submissions, use the PDF file format to ensure that your tables and figures will appear legibly on all computers.

Each group will also submit with the revised paper (1) a copy of the dataset (in Stata format, complete with variable labels and, where needed, value labels); and (2) a copy of the documented Stata code.

Due Dates: Note that all deadlines are strict. Under all but extreme circumstances, failure to meet a deadline is synonymous with failing the project and an incomplete grade in the course.

- 5:00 PM on Wednesday, April 10. Submit your team's first draft to the instructor at robert.e.johnson@vanderbilt.edu.
- Your first draft with comments will be returned within one week after your submission. Thus, if you turn in your first draft before the due date, you will receive it back earlier and have more time to work on revisions for final submission. Drafts will be processed and returned in the order received.
- 5:00 PM on Wednesday, May 1. Submit the final draft to the instructor at robert.e.johnson@vanderbilt.edu. Also include a point-by-point response to the reviewer comments.
- Present your analysis to the class on Thursday, May 2, 9-11:30 AM, in the usual classroom.

Ground Rules:

- You are not to discuss your data analysis or paper with anyone other than the members of your group, the course instructor or course TA.
- Submit one report for your entire group.
- If a member of the group disagrees strongly with something in their group report, they are invited to separately submit a short document detailing their disagreement and how they would have proceeded differently.

Requirements for the Manuscript:

Your paper should be no more than 12 pages, excluding figures and tables. You may not use fonts less than 10 points for the main text.

In this report, you should describe the results of your analysis and the conclusions you would reach from those results. This report should look like a formal report to a statistically naïve client (i.e., the researcher who brought you the data and/or involved you in the analysis) or an interested reader of the scientific/medical literature. See *Analysis.pdf* for additional instructions.