

**READER RESPONSE SHEET FOR DATA ANALYSIS ESSAY**

**INTRODUCTION and LIT REVIEW:** Does the introduction clearly lay out the main point of the paper and tell the reader what to expect? Do you now have a clear idea what the author is trying to investigate and why? Has the author referred to other relevant research on the topic of income inequality? Has the author cited sources properly?

**DATA:** Has the author provided a **brief**, comprehensible description of the samples under study? In other words, has the author briefly discussed the frequencies/marginals for the race, earnings, and gender distributions of all full-time year-round workers in the given state and the comparison state or the US? Make suggestions on the draft or the back of this page.

**RESULTS:** Has the author clearly described the results? What were the author's main findings? Does the author basically **tell an interesting story**, with numbers to support the claims? Has the author described the statistics in a clear, comprehensible (and correct!) manner? (The author should start with a general statement, follow up with statistics, and end with a summary statement.) Mark any passages that need additional editing, and make suggestions on the back of this page. When describing the results each time, does the author specifically refer to tables?

**TABLES:** Has the author included the necessary tables, and are the tables properly titled, labeled and easy to read? Does the text make clear reference to the tables? The tables should not just be the output from the data exercises. Instead, the author should reformat the tables: each should **be numbered, and have proper titles, labels, etc.** Make sure that the **total number** is included at the bottom of each column and **include the source.** Here are examples of properly formatted tables:

Table 1: Gender Differences in Earnings for Fulltime, Year-Round Workers, United States, 2008

Earnings	Male	Female	TOTAL
< \$15K	5.7%	9.2%	7.1%
15-24K	14.0%	20.6%	16.8%
25-34K	16.3%	21.5%	18.4%
35-49K	20.7%	21.7%	21.1%
50-69K	18.2%	14.5%	16.7%
70-99K	12.6%	7.7%	10.6%
100K+	12.5%	4.7%	9.3%
TOTAL	100%=56,997,160	100%=40,086,536	

Source: wgted 2006-08 ACS, SSDAN/U-Mich

Table 2: 2008 Earnings by Race for U.S. Full-time Civilian Workers, ACS

	Non-Hispanic White	African American	Asian	Hispanic	Native American	Non-Hispanic Other	Non-Hispanic Multi-racial	TOTAL
<\$15K	5.5%	9.5%	6.2%	13.5%	11.6%	10.1%	7.5%	7.1%
15-24K	13.5%	21.8%	14.8%	29.4%	24.2%	20.9%	17.3%	16.8%
25-34K	17.5%	22.6%	15.2%	21.0%	21.5%	21.0%	20.0%	18.4%
35-49K	21.8%	22.1%	18.4%	17.7%	20.1%	18.8%	21.9%	21.1%
50-69K	18.5%	13.9%	16.9%	10.3%	12.6%	13.4%	16.4%	16.7%
70-99K	12.1%	6.8%	14.7%	5.0%	6.3%	9.2%	9.7%	10.6%
100K+	11.2%	3.3%	13.8%	3.1%	3.6%	6.6%	7.1%	9.3%
TOTAL	100% = 66,678,276	100% = 10,610,592	100% = 4,694,340	100% = 13,309,425	100% = 611,753	100% = 216,348	100% = 962,917	97,083,651

Source: Source: wgted 2006-08 ACS, SSDAN/U-Mich

**CONCLUSION:** Does the author have a clear and compelling conclusion that ties back to the questions laid out in the introduction? What did the author find of interest to you? Has the author offered reasons for the patterns found in the data? Gender and race discrimination are part of the answer, but certainly not the whole answer. What else explains differences in earnings between men and women and across the races? Make suggestions on back.

**WORKS CITED:**

1) Has the author properly cited the works in the literature review? (Make sure to properly reference sources IN THE TEXT). Are these sources properly included in the Works Cited?

2) Do all the tables have appropriate sources listed at the bottom? Is the data properly cited in the works cited?

Check that they have followed the citations below:

For state-level data sets,:

Frey, William H. "2008 Full-time, year-round workers, age 16+, [*name of state*], wgted 2006-08 ACS, SSDAN/University of Michigan. 2008. [http://ssdan.net/cgi-bin/datacounts/webChipLauncher\\_choice2.cgi](http://ssdan.net/cgi-bin/datacounts/webChipLauncher_choice2.cgi) [date you got your information from the website].

For national data set:

Frey, William H. "2008 Full time, year round civilian workers, wgted ACS." University of Michigan. 2008. <[http://ssdan.net/cgi-bin/datacounts/webChipLauncher\\_choice2.cgi](http://ssdan.net/cgi-bin/datacounts/webChipLauncher_choice2.cgi)> [date you got your information from the website].

**Context Statement:** This project was designed to introduce you to and give you practice with the following skills: read and report basic frequencies in a table, interpret numbers in a bivariate table, convert raw data into formatted tables, identify independent and dependent variables, analyze the relationship between two variables, tell a story using numbers.

For your paper, please also include a "Context Statement." In a couple paragraphs, please describe your experience writing a paper based on data analysis. What did you learn from this experience? What did you find most challenging? Has this helped you feel more confident about working with numbers? In what ways would you like more help or practice? You may comment directly on the skills listed above or discuss any other issues relevant to this assignment.

Your paper must include, in this order:

- 1) context statement [see above],
- 2) final draft
- 3) relevant tables (or embed them in the text of your paper)
- 4) works cited page
- 5) first draft

YES, YOU NEED ALL THESE PIECES!