# Basic Quantitative Analysis: Using Excel to Analyze Your Data 

Kimberly Yousey, PhD.
Associate Director, Assessment Programs
StudentVoice
716-652-9400 press 1
kyouseyelsener@studentvoice.com

## Defining Quantitative Assessment

- Uses Numbers
- Tables/Charts vs. words/stories
$\square$ More general information
- Breaks things into variables and factors
- Uses independent and dependent variables


## Before you start...

- What is the purpose of your assessment?
- Determines quantitative/qualitative or mixed methods
- What is your assessment plan?
- Determines instruments, timeline, sample, etc.

Who is your final audience?

- **Determines how you will analyze your data**


## Audience is key:

Large Audience or
Practice-Based

- Most common
- Less technical language is required
- Less technical analysis is needed
- Simple is better

Technical audience or Research-Based

- Less common, but sometimes needed for faculty and others
- More technical language and reports
- More technical analysis


## What types of analysis would we use?

Large Audience or
Practice-Based

Technical audience or Research-Based

## Where are you getting your data?

- Paper copies - 3 options
- Enter by hand (careful of human error!)
- Scan (careful of computer error!)
- Count (less human error but still there)
- On-line (download into excel)
- PDAs

Others??

## On-Line Example

- Survey Monkey
- Student Voice
- ITS
- Snap
- Others


## Excel Basics

Sorting Data:

- ALWAYS remember to highlight everything before you sort (click box in top left corner)
- "Data"
- "Sort"
- Pick Column and order
- Press "OK"
- Formulas: \$ vs no \$


## Quantitative Analysis: Frequency

- Number of times an answer is given for a certain question
- Let's try the hard way first:
- 3 groups, one for each column
- Count number of time each answer is given for first 20 rows

| 1 | Have you always lived off campus? | What is the average number of hours a day you spend commuting | Do you tend to study while you are commuting? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 | No | 30 minutes or less | No |
| 3 | No | 30 minutes - 1 hour | Yes |
| 4 | No | 30 minutes or less | No |
| 5 | No | 1-1.5 hours | No |
| 6 | No | 30 minutes - 1 hour | No |
| 7 | No | 30 minutes or less | No |
| 8 | No | 30 minutes - 1 hour | No |
| 9 | No | 30 minutes - 1 hour | Yes |
| 10 | No | 30 minutes or less | Yes |
| 11 | No | 1-1.5 hours | No |
| 12 | No | 30 minutes or less | No |
| 13 | No | 30 minutes or less | Yes |
| 14 | No | 30 minutes or less | No |
| 15 | No | 1-1.5 hours | Yes |
| 16 | No | 30 minutes or less | Yes |
| 17 | No | 30 minutes - 1 hour | Yes |
| 18 | No | 30 minutes - 1 hour | No |
| 19 | No | 1-1.5 hours | Yes |
| 20 | No | 30 minutes or less | No |

## Frequencies

Now the easy way

- Go to bottom of row
- Use the formula for COUNTIF:
=COUNTIF (\$A\$2:\$A\$98, "Yes")

tells excel to count where to count what to count
(\$ will keep the A2:A98 consistent if you copy and past)

COUNT

- $\times \vee f_{x}=C O U N T I F(\$ A \$ 2: \$ A \$ 98, ~ " Y e s ")$



## Frequencies

- Repeat for each item you want to count in that question
- Be sure to LABEL what you are doing so when you go back you know what it is :)
- Quick Tip: Copy and Paste formulas to speed things up, but always double check that Excel is following you correctly!


## What can you use frequencies for?

- Basic summary data



## But wait, how did you make that pretty graph?

Go to the "Chart Wizard" icon or "Insert" then "Chart"
2. Pick which chart you would like (this example is bar so we picked the "Column" option)
3. "Next"

## 5. "Next"

"Title" - Have you Always Lived on Campus
"Axes" and "Gridlines"- don't usually have to do anything
"Legend" - turned off "Show Legend"
"Data Labels" - clicked on "Value"
"Data Table" - did nothing
7. "Next"
8. "Finish"

## Percents

$\square$ Why percents vs. straight frequencies?

- Compare different sized groups
- Proportions
- Sometimes easier to understand
- Audience


## Percents

- The hard way

The easy way:

- Add the Column (highlight what you want to add, hit "Sum" key on menu or use =SUM (A100:A101)
- Use formula:


## $=A 100 / \$ \mathrm{~A} \$ 102$

Item frequency/Total Sum


## Percents

- You will get a long decimal number, such as 0.422680412
- To change it to a percent:
- Highlight cell
- Go to "Format" then "Cell"
- Click on "Number" then "Percentage" then choose number of decimal points
- "Ok"
- Don't forget to label again


## Percents

- Pie Chart - Same process, go to Chart Wizard
- Select Pie Chart then "Next"
- Under "Series" put cursor on "Category Labels" then highlight "Yes" and "No" cells on your worksheet
- "Next" - "Title" added a title, under "Data Labels" selected "Values"
■ "Next" and "Finish"



## Frequencies/Percents by Groups

- Looking at two different factors/questions
- Combine information to make new information
- Helps to see if there are relationships
- Helps to compare groups


## Frequencies/Percents by Groups

- Similar concept only you group your formulas by selected groups or factors using the data limits
- Example: What about whether people study combined with the length of their commute?


## Frequencies/Percents by Groups

Sort your data by one group (think about which is most logical). Remember select all data, then go to "Data", "Sort" pick the column, and "Ok"
2. Note the range of the group you sorted by (for example "No" is from A2:A56 and "Yes" is from A57:A98)

## Frequencies/Percents by Groups

3. Set up chart at bottom so your labels are done
4. Write in COUNTIF formulas to correspond with the range, ie. 2-56 for "No" and 57-98 for "Yes", but to count the items in column B

|  | Yes | No |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 30 minutes - 1 hour | $\begin{aligned} & =\text { COUNTIF(\$B\$57:\$B\$98, "30 minutes - } 1 \\ & \text { hour") } \end{aligned}$ | =COUNTIF(\$B\$2:\$B\$56, "30 minutes - 1 hour") |
| 1-1.5 hours | =COUNTIF(\$B\$57:\$B\$98, "1-1.5 hours") | =COUNTIF(\$B\$2:\$B\$56, "1-1.5 hours") |
| 1.5-2.0 hours | =COUNTIF(\$B\$57:\$B\$98, "1.5-2.0 hours") | =COUNTIF(\$B\$2:\$B\$56, "1.5-2.0 hours") |
| More than 2 hours | =COUNTIF(\$B\$57:\$B\$98, "More than 2 hours") | $=C O U N T I F(\$ B \$ 2: \$ B \$ 56$, "More than 2 hours") <br> - Copyright 2007 |

## Frequencies/Percents by Groups

|  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | Yes | No |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 30 minutes -1 hour |  | 18 |  |
|  |  | 13 |  |
| $1-1.5$ hours |  |  |  |
|  |  | 4 |  |
| $1.5-2.0$ hours |  |  |  |
|  |  | 2 |  |

## Frequencies/Percents by Groups

## - Sometimes easier to see on a graph



## Other examples:

## - Multiple factors (such as time of day):



## "Real Life" Example:

- Can show by tables, graphs or just in words Pictures are easier and faster to read


## Random Drawings

- Incentives, prizes, samples and more
- Formula: = RANDBETWEEN (1, $\qquad$
- The formula will draw a random number between the numbers you indicate
- You can match that number up with a line in excel with a corresponding email address
- If you need more than 1 drawing (i.e. drawing for 10 iTunes cards), copy and paste formula 10 times


## Tips to Remember:

- Copying and Pasting formulas saves a lot of time
- Remember to double check
- Use \$ when you want a cell to stay constant
- Do not use $\$$ when you want excel to follow you
- Save frequently
- Move graphs to new worksheets (copy/paste OR you can set to displan on a new worksheet when in the chart-maker before you hit "Finish" on last page select "As a new sheet" and give it a new name)


## Where can you go for help?

- Staff Development/Training - Take an Excel course
- Formula and other books
"Help" tab on Excel is EXCELLENT!
- kmy209@nyu.edu ©


## Questions?

## Thanks for coming!

