

Chapter 2 – Data Coding, Entry, and Checking

Using the college student data.sav file, from <http://www.psypress.com/ibm-spss-intro-stats/> (“Data Sets (ZIPS)” button) or the Moodle Web site for this book, do the following problems. Print your outputs and circle the key parts for discussion.

1. Compute the *N*, minimum, maximum, and mean, for all the variables in the college student data file. How many students have complete data? Identify any statistics on the output that are not meaningful. Explain.

There are 47 students who have complete data. This value is found by looking at the value given for the Valid N (listwise).

The mean is not meaningful for nominal (unordered) variables. In this example, nominal variables include: gender of student, marital status, and age group. The mean for dichotomous variables coded as 0 and 1 can be meaningful because the means actually tell the percent of students that answered with a “1” on their survey. In this example, the following variables are dichotomous: does subject have children, television shows-sitcoms, television shows-movies, television shows-sports, television shows-news.

2. What is the mean height of the students? What about the average height of the same sex parent? What percentage of students are males? What percentage have children?

Mean height of the students = 67.30 inches

Average height of same sex parent = 66.78 inches

Percentage of students that are male = 52.0%

Percentage of students with children = 52.0%