

Grading Rubric: Data Analysis Papers (5 points possible)

[1] Writing quality (2 points possible)

Excellent writing skills: paragraphs have points; sentences well constructed; argument is clear from beginning to end = 2 points

Very good writing: most paragraphs have points; most sentences well constructed; but occasional lapses = 1½ points

Passable writing: paragraphs have one or more or no point, but occasionally are clear; sentences are often well constructed but sometimes not; argument is difficult if impossible to discern = ½ - 1 point

Not passable writing: spelling errors; incomplete sentences; unclear points; no argument = 0 points

[2] Data Analysis (content) quality

a) Description of data set (½ points possible)

Excellent job describing data set: what are the data; who compiled the data set; who is covered in the data set, etc. Answers every reasonable question someone could have about the data set itself = ½ points

Passable job describing data set: answers some of those questions, but only about half = ¼ point

Not passable job: doesn't clearly tell reader where the data are from, who compiled it, etc = 0 points

b) Analysis (1 point possible)

Excellent: well thought out analysis; reasonable and thoughtful; well done analysis = 1 point

Passable : ok but not great = ½ point

Not passable: no analysis, or no clear analysis = 0 points

c) Presentation of analysis (table or graph) (½ point possible)

Table is easy to follow, clearly presented = ½ point

Table is missing, or is presented in a very jumbled way = 0 points

d) Written Explanation of analysis (text) (1 point possible)

Excellent: Written explanation is clear, easy to follow, complete, and makes sense = 1 point

Passable: Written explanation has moments of clarity, but also has moments of confusion; occasionally difficult to follow logic = ½ point

Not passable: no explanation or no clear explanation = 0 points