

Assignment 2 – Solutions

1. We can answer this question by creating a crosstab of the presidential vote by income groups for each state. For both state exit poll datasets, first properly weight cases properly (Got to Data → Weight Cases → Click on Weight Cases By → Choose Respondent Wight.) and use the command, Analyze → Descriptive Statistics → Crosstabs. We then select presde04 for Delaware (or presal04 for Alabama) under row and income (2003 total family income: [inc50k]) under column. We obtain the following two crosstabs:

Alabama

In today's election for president, did you just vote for: * 2003 total family income: Crosstabulation

			2003 total family income:		Total
			Under \$50,000	\$50,000 or more	
In today's election for president, did you just vote for:	Did not vote	Count	0	1	1
		% within 2003 total family income:	0.0%	0.4%	0.2%
	Kerry	Count	194	52	246
		% within 2003 total family income:	48.1%	21.7%	38.3%
	Bush	Count	203	187	390
		% within 2003 total family income:	50.4%	77.9%	60.7%
	Nader	Count	1	0	1
		% within 2003 total family income:	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
	Other	Count	5	0	5
		% within 2003 total family income:	1.2%	0.0%	0.8%
Total	Count	403	240	643	
	% within 2003 total family income:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Delaware

In today's election for president, did you just vote for: * 2003 total family income: Crosstabulation

		2003 total family income:		Total
		Under \$50,000	\$50,000 or more	
In today's election for president, did you just vote for:	Count	185	198	383
	Kerry % within 2003 total family income:	62.9%	48.1%	54.2%
	Count	108	212	320
	Bush % within 2003 total family income:	36.7%	51.5%	45.3%
	Count	1	0	1
	Nader % within 2003 total family income:	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%
	Count	0	2	2
	Other % within 2003 total family income:	0.0%	0.5%	0.3%
	Count	294	412	706
	Total % within 2003 total family income:	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The claim that wealthy people are more likely to vote Republican holds both in Alabama and Delaware. For example, in Alabama 77.9% of the respondents with a total family income of over \$5000 in 2003 voted for Bush which is greater than their percent vote for Kerry (i.e. 21.7%). In Delaware, 51.5% of the respondents with a total family income of over \$5000 in 2003 voted for Bush which is greater than their percent vote for Kerry (i.e. 48.1%).

In Delaware, the lower income respondents vote overwhelmingly according to their economic interest (showing a larger gap between the percent vote for Bush, 36.7%, and the percent vote for Kerry, 62.9%) while the higher income respondents do not to as great a degree (showing a smaller gap between the percent vote for Bush, 51.5%, and the

percent vote for Kerry, 48.1%). In Alabama, the higher income respondents vote according to their economic interest (showing a larger gap between the percent vote for Bush, 77.9%, and the percent vote for Kerry, 21.7%) while the lower income do not to as great a degree (showing a smaller gap between the percent vote for Bush, 50.4%, and the percent vote for Kerry, 48.1%). Furthermore, the difference between the percent vote for Bush and for Kerry is not as large in Delaware as in Alabama. This is similar to the pattern seen in Connecticut and Kansas.