

Reporting Findings for Bivariate Tables

Before you begin writing, identify patterns. Most important is to look for horizontal patterns; i.e., compare across. With larger tables (3 or more by 3 or more) you should also investigate vertical and diagonal patterns. Look at the percentages for substantial differences (increases or decreases-5% or more). You may want to make some preliminary notes regarding the patterns you find. Note that sometimes no pattern is substantively significant. Also note that you do NOT have to report something for every cell. For the purposes of this course, report on a minimum of two patterns-see cells highlighted in the table below. Only begin writing after completing this step.

1. Give the table a title using variable labels separated by the word "by". Put independent last.
2. As with frequency reporting, name the sample, its size, the variables, which is independent, which is dependent, and the level of measurement for each.
3. Discuss patterns you found using percents with N in parentheses, variable names, and value labels.
4. Report values for appropriate measures of association and tests of significance, and what they mean.

For example:

Table 1: A Woman Will be President by Gender

A woman will be president of the U.S	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
Strongly Agree	3.4% (N=5)	15.0% (N=28)	9.8% (N=33)
Agree	6.8% (N=10)	29.8% (N=56)	19.7% (N=66)
Neutral	12.4% (N=18)	20.9% (N=39)	17.0% (N=57)
Disagree	44.3% (N=66)	26.9% (N=50)	34.6% (N=116)
Strongly Disagree	33.1% (N=49)	7.5% (N=14)	18.8% (N=63)
Total	100.0% (N=148)	100.0% (N=187)	100.0% (N=335)

	Value	Sig.
Pearson Chi-Square	64.062	.000
Lambda	.049	.006
Gamma	-.316	.041
Somers' d		
	A woman will be president - Dependent	-.390
	Gender - Dependent	-.061

A sample of students (N=335) at a large mid-western university were asked if a woman will be president of the U.S. This variable was measured at the ordinal level. This variable was cross-tabulated with their gender measured at the nominal level and considered independent. A woman president is dependant on gender. Twenty-nine point eight percent (N=56) of females surveyed "agreed" that a woman would be president, while only 6.8% (N=10) of the males surveyed agreed. Almost a third [33.1%(N=49)] of the males surveyed "strongly disagreed", while only 7.5% (N=14) of the females surveyed expressed a similar opinion. This relationship is statistically significant (Chi-Square=64.062; $p < .05$), and although Lambda, the statistic of choice, is also statistically significant ($p < .05$), it indicates the relationship between these two variables is extremely weak (Lambda=.049)(see Table 1) .