

Short Essay #1

Due on Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Write a short paper (no more than 5 pages long, including tables, graphs and charts) reporting on **Activity #1: An Age Discrimination Case?** (see the activity’s handout). Recall that one of the goals of the activity was to use exploratory data analysis and statistical inference to determine whether the data provided in the handout show any trend or trends that indicate whether indeed there was discrimination based on age in that case. In the paper you will be reporting on the findings of your analysis of the data provided by the Westvaco company. The main question you will be addressing is whether the data provide statistically significant evidence to conclude that the company discriminated against older employees at the Envelope Division at Westvaco when it downsized in 1991.

Your essay will be graded on the clarity of your exposition and the soundness of your arguments, as well as the structure and organization of the paper. Make sure you define your terms you use clearly. Your write-up must be the result of careful and thoughtful reflection on the supporting material and questions posed during discussion as well as your own. Consequently, it should not be a draft, but rather the result of at least one re-write.