

CRIMINAL JUSTICE 405

FALL 2001

HOMEWORK #1

FI=hom0101

DUE: CLASS TIME 9/10

NOTE: Follow all the guidelines as stated in the syllabus for preparing and submitting assignments. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in your paper not being graded.

PARAMETERS: in addition to those specified in guidelines: papers should not exceed 2 pages; I reserve the right to stop reading after 2 pages.

Attach two charts: boxplot and histogram with normal curve superimposed. I DO take off for mis-spellings and flagrantly poor grammar.

NOTE: Try and write this up using pretty normal English. Explain your data; they never speak for themselves. Tell your reader what the data source is. Tell the reader what the variable is you are examining. Be specific in describing what you see in your statistics and in your plots.

DATA SOURCE: ECOLOGICAL DATA FILE USDANU12.SAV

VARIABLE: VIOLRA90: reported violent crime rate in 1990 / 100k

1. Describe the distribution making reference to the mean, median, standard deviation, minimum and maximum.
2. Use the skewness statistic, a histogram with a normal curve superimposed, and a box plot, to decide if the distribution is abnormally skewed or relatively normal in terms of skewness. If it is skewed, in which direction is it skewed? Be specific about the features supporting what you say.
3. Identify the cases with the highest and lowest values.

NOTE ON SHARING: It is perfectly acceptable to collaborate with people in the course if you are running into problems **getting your output**. But once you have your output the collaboration should cease. You should not discuss numbers or interpretations with one another. I want to hear how each of you approach this.