

Lab Two

In this lab we will use descriptive statistics to analyze data found on the Massachusetts Department of Education website. The data, listed below, identifies the average amount of money that was spent on public school education per child in several towns across Massachusetts for fiscal year 2007. I have selected towns in three geographic regions, metro west communities, communities on the south shore and the southeastern portion of the state and communities in the western half of the state. To see data from all of the towns go to http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/state_report/ppx.aspx.

town	Ave. spent/pupil	area
CAMBRIDGE	24467	metro west
BROOKLINE	15098	metro west
BURLINGTON	12805	metro west
BELMONT	10764	metro west
ARLINGTON	11406	metro west
LEXINGTON	13574	metro west
MEDFORD	12861	metro west
NEWTON	14524	metro west
SOMERVILLE	15369	metro west
WALTHAM	16538	metro west
<u>WATERTOWN</u>	15341	metro west
PITTSFIELD	10021	western
NORTHAMPTON	10982	western
NORTH ADAMS	13859	western
SPRINGFIELD	12443	western
BELCHERTOWN	9164	western
GARDNER	9532	western
GREENFIELD	11795	western
LENOX	12812	western
LEOMINSTER	10283	western
LONGMEADOW	10140	western
PLYMOUTH	11271	s. shore
SCITUATE	9781	s. shore
ATTLEBORO	10464	s. shore
FRANKLIN	9586	s. shore
MANSFIELD	8831	s. shore
MARSHFIELD	9734	s. shore
BROCKTON	12107	s. shore
COHASSET	11721	s. shore
NEW BEDFORD	11,843	s. shore
TAUNTON	10,223	s. shore

Name _____

Statistics
Fall 2009

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DUE: Wed. Sept. 30th

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- 1) Looking at the descriptive statistics and the histogram for all of the data together. Describe the general shape of the data and explain why you chose the term that you did.

- 2) How does the histogram of these data compare to a normal distribution?

- 3) What are the means and standard deviations of the specific geographical areas?

- 4) What can you say about similarities and differences between the geographical areas in terms of money spent on education? Make sure to use both the mean values and the standard deviations.