

**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE  
AND  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
Research Methods Posc 302**

**ASSIGNMENT 2  
Interpreting Cross-classifications  
Due: April 14, 2000**

The purpose of this assignment to make sure everyone can interpret a typical cross-tabulation in such a way as to make the data intelligible to an informed reader.

Here are some data collected by the Census Bureau.<sup>1</sup>

<b>Race/Vote</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Hispanic</b>
<b>Yes</b>	<b>64.6</b>	<b>58.5</b>	<b>31.3</b>
<b>No</b>	<b>35.4</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>68.7</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100%</b> <b>(160,317)</b>	<b>100%</b> <b>(21,799)</b>	<b>100%</b> <b>(17,476)</b>

1. What proposition or hypothesis do these data “test”?
2. Write a one- or two-paragraph interpretation of the data.
  - a. Write in complete sentences;
  - b. proofread your work;
  - c. consult Patricia O’Conner, *Woe is I*, to make sure usage and style are acceptable. Assume that your response will be treated as a “writing sample” that many employers want as part of applications for employment.

Note: use the table above as a guideline for table presentations in Assignment 3.

Turn into 347 Smith Hall, the Political Science Department office. Do not leave papers in *my* office!

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<sup>1</sup>“Characteristics of the Voting-Age Population Reported Having Registered or Voted: November 1994,” U.S. Bureau of the Census, Release date: September 1996