



CENTILES TABLE EXERCISE

August 2013

Questions or Comments?
NCES.info@rti.org

<http://nces.ed.gov/datalab>

YOUR CHALLENGE

1) Create a table in PowerStats that answers the following research question:

- What is the 25th, 50th, and 75th percentile for the number of hours all 2007-08 graduate students worked per week on schoolwork outside of the classroom...
 - among those who were pursuing an MBA, a master's of education or teaching, and any other master's degree program; and
 - among those who earned their bachelor's degree before 1997, between 1997 and 2004, and after 2004?

2) Check your table against the included answer table.

3) Compare the steps you took to create your table with the steps taken to create the included answer table.

READY FOR THE ANSWER TABLE?

Have you created your table?

Do not turn the page until you are ready to see the answer table.

ANSWER TABLE

Graduate students: 2008 (NPSAS2008GR)

VIEW | **TABLE** | T-Test Tool | Edit Table | Create New Table | Edit Title

Estimates Only
 Estimates and Standard Errors
 Estimates and Confidence Intervals
 Printer-Friendly Version

SAVE

Save to My Tables
 Save to My Variables
 Save at NCES and Send Me the URL
 Download as CSV
 Download for Excel
 Download as PDF
 Download Table Specifications

SHARE

Post My Table to User Tables
 Email to a Friend

Centile include zeros for Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class by Graduate and first professional degree programs and Year received bachelor's degree.

	Centile [i]				
	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th
Estimates					
Total	3.0	6.0	12.0	20.0	34.0
Graduate and first professional degree programs					
Master of Business Administration (MBA)	4.0	6.0	10.0	18.0	28.0
Master of Education or Teaching	3.0	4.0	8.0	14.0	20.0
Other Master's Degree Program	4.0	7.0	12.0	20.0	30.0
Year received bachelor's degree					
1952 <= X <= 1996	3.0	6.0	10.0	19.0	28.0
1997 <= X <= 2004	3.0	6.0	12.0	20.0	35.0
X >= 2005	4.0	7.0	14.0	24.0	35.0

^a Standard error of quantile, as estimated by Woodruff method, is zero. Use caution in hypothesis testing.

The names of the variables used in this table are: GRADGPG, BAYEAR and SCHWKHR. The variable names are unique identifiers. To locate these variables, enter the variable name in the search box.

The weight variable used in this table is WTA000.

STEPS TO CREATE THE ANSWER TABLE

Step 1: Log in

Step 2: Access the create new table feature

Step 3: Choose a group of students (dataset)

Step 4: Choose a type of table

Step 5: Select a column variable

Step 6: Select row variables

Step 7: Run your table

1. LOG IN

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Go to the NCES DataLab page:
<http://nces.ed.gov/datalab/>
2. Click the *PowerStats* icon or
Go under the *PowerStats* icon.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar containing nces.ed.gov/datalab/. The website header includes the logo for the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) and the National Center for Education Statistics. A navigation menu lists: Publications & Products, Surveys & Programs, Data & Tools, Fast Facts, School Search, News & Events, and About Us. The main content area is titled "DATALAB" and "Postsecondary & Pre-Elementary Education Data". It features four main sections: "PowerStats" (with a red box around the icon and a "GO" button), "College & Career Tables Library" (with a "GO" button), "QuickStats" (with a "GO" button), and "IPEDS ANALYTICS: Delta Cost Project Database" (with a "GO" button). A "What's New" sidebar on the right lists updates from 6/17/2013. At the bottom, there is contact information for the U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, and National Center for Education Statistics, along with a "STATISTICS" logo for the International Year of Statistics.

1. LOG IN, CONTINUED

INSTRUCTIONS

3. Enter your user e-mail and password.
4. Read the usage agreement.
5. Check *I agree to the terms above*.
6. Click *Login*.

PowerStats User Login X CLOSE

[Create new account](#)

User E-Mail: abc@xyz.edu

Password: ●●●●●●

NCES DATA USAGE AGREEMENT

Under law, public use data collected and distributed by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) may be used only for statistical purposes. Any effort to determine the identity of any reported case by

I agree to the terms above.

Login Cancel

[Forgot your password?](#)

2. ACCESS THE CREATE NEW TABLE FEATURE

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Click the *Table* icon under *Create New*.

The screenshot displays the PowerStats web application interface. At the top left is the PowerStats logo. At the top right is a 'QuickRetrieve' search bar with the text 'Enter table number:' and a 'GO' button. Below the search bar is a 'DataLab | Log out' link. The main content area is divided into four quadrants by dashed lines:

- CREATE NEW:** Contains three icons: 'TABLE' (highlighted with a red box), 'REGRESSION', and 'MY LIBRARY'.
- USE EXISTING FILES:** Contains three icons: 'IMPORT FILE' and 'LAUNCH BATCH PROCESSOR'.
- GETTING STARTED:** Contains two sections: 'LEARN BY DOING (PDF)' with a list of resources (Tables, Linear Regressions, Logistic Regressions, My Library, Import Files, Batch Processor) and 'TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS (PDF)' with a list of documents (Calculating Variance Inflation Factor).
- RECENT WORK:** Contains a list of recent work items and a 'View more' link.

3. CHOOSE A GROUP OF STUDENTS (DATASET)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Click *Graduate students* or drag it to the *Group* box.

The *Group* box is updated with your selection.

Information about the dataset and different cohorts appear in the *Work Space*.

2. At the bottom of the column labeled “were graduate and first-professional students when interviewed in 2008” click *Select*.

TIP

Use the *QuickSelect by dataset name* option if you are already familiar with NCES datasets.

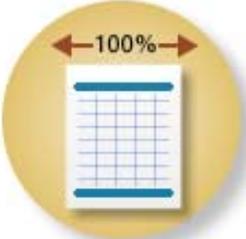
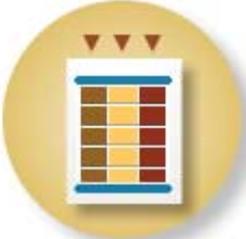
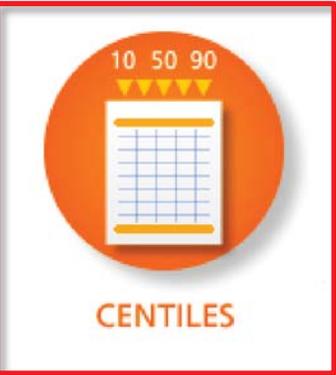
The screenshot shows the PowerStats interface. On the left is the 'GROUP' sidebar with a tree view. The 'POSTSECONDARY' section is expanded, and 'Graduate students' is selected. The 'WORK SPACE' on the right shows a 'Group' dropdown set to 'Graduate students'. Below it, a table displays three columns of student groups. Each column includes a description, a list of included variables, the approximate number of respondents, the study name, and links for more information. A 'Select' button is located at the bottom of each column.

Students who...	Older years	
were graduate and first-professional students when interviewed in 2008.	were graduate and first-professional students when interviewed in 2004.	were graduate and first-professional students when interviewed in 2000.
Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">General demographicsTypes of aid and amounts receivedCost of attending collegeCombinations of work, study, and borrowingEnrollment patterns	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">General demographicsTypes of aid and amounts receivedCost of attending collegeCombinations of work, study, and borrowingEnrollment patterns	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">General demographicsTypes of aid and amounts receivedCost of attending collegeCombinations of work, study, and borrowingEnrollment patterns
Approximate number of respondents: 14,200	Approximate number of respondents: 10,900	Approximate number of respondents: 12,000
Study name: National Postsecondary Student Aid Study: 2008 Graduate Students Visit study website View technical information View all variable information, by subject View all variable information, by variable name	Study name: National Postsecondary Student Aid Study: 2004 Graduate Students Visit study website View technical information View methodology report View all variable information, by subject View all variable information, by variable name	Study name: National Postsecondary Student Aid Study: 2000 Graduate Students Visit study website View technical information View methodology report View all variable information, by subject View all variable information, by variable name
View example tables	View example tables	View example tables
Select	Select	Select

4. CHOOSE A TYPE OF TABLE

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Click the *Centiles* icon.

		
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION	AVERAGES, MEDIANS, & PERCENTS	CENTILES
Generates percentage of population in each category of a variable, displayed in columns.	Computes any of three statistics (averages, medians, or percentages) for your selected variables, displayed in columns.	Produces values of a <u>continuous variable</u> at centiles, displayed in columns.

5. SELECT A COLUMN VARIABLE

TIP

The dependent variable in your research question should be added as a column variable. Independent variables should be added as row variables.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Type “schoolwork” in the *Find Variables* box and click *Go*.
2. Under *Search Result*, click *Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class*.

The screenshot shows the PowerStats software interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'My Preferences', 'PowerStats Home', 'DataLab', and 'Log out'. Below this, a search bar contains the text 'FIND VARIABLES schoolwork' and a 'GO' button. The main area is titled 'Graduate students: 2008 (NPSAS2008GR)' and 'WORK SPACE >> Centiles'. On the left, there is a sidebar with 'ALL VARIABLES', 'MY VARIABLES', and 'FREQUENTLY USED VARIABLES'. Under 'FREQUENTLY USED VARIABLES', there are radio buttons for 'Continuous variable' and 'Categorical variable'. Below this is a 'Search result' section with a list of variables. The first variable, 'Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class', is highlighted with a red box. Below the search results are buttons for 'Add Variable' and 'Reorder Variables'. The main workspace shows a table structure for 'Centile' and 'Subtable'. The 'Centile' table has a header row for 'Centile [i]' with columns for '10th', '25th', '50th', '75th', '90th', and 'Zero'. The 'Subtable' table has a header row for 'Subtable' and columns for '10th', '25th', '50th', '75th', '90th', and 'Zero'. The 'Rows' section shows a table with a header row for 'Working Title — Centile variable by row variable.' and columns for '10th', '25th', '50th', '75th', '90th', and 'Zero'. The 'Filters' section shows two filter boxes, 'Filter 1' and 'Filter 2', each with a question mark icon. At the bottom, there is an 'Add Filter' button.

5. SELECT A COLUMN VARIABLE: VARIABLE INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONS

3. The Variable Information screen, which includes the three tabs shown below and to the right, appears. Click *Centile* under the *Use Variable* tab to select this variable as a column.

TIP

You can also select *Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class* as your centile variable by dragging it to the *Centile* box in the *Work Space*. The Variable Information screen and its tabs will not appear using this method.

Use variable tab

View descriptive statistics tab

Value	Percentage	Label
Continuous	99	Positive values, see statistics below
0	1	{zero}

Minimum	Maximum	Average	Standard Deviation
1	60	16.36	12.03

Get more info tab

Name: SCHWKHR
Label: Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class
Notes: From student interview item: N8CLSWRK.
Applies to: All respondents.
Variable source: NPSAS:08 Interview

5. SELECT A COLUMN VARIABLE: OPTIONS

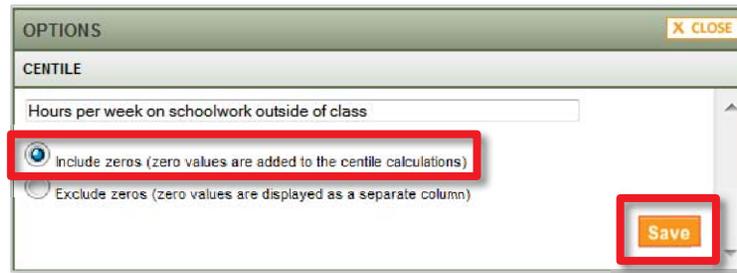
INSTRUCTIONS

4. This *Options* screen appears.
Select *Include zeros* and click *Save*.

TIP

Choose *Include zeros* so that the centile calculations include all graduate students – even those working 0 hours per week on schoolwork outside of class.

Your research question and the *Applies to* field determine whether you should include or exclude zeros.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "OPTIONS" with a close button in the top right corner. Below the title bar is a section labeled "CENTILE". A text field contains the variable name "Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class". Below this field are two radio button options: "Include zeros (zero values are added to the centile calculations)" and "Exclude zeros (zero values are displayed as a separate column)". The first option is selected and highlighted with a red rectangular box. In the bottom right corner of the dialog, there is a "Save" button, also highlighted with a red rectangular box.

5. SELECT A COLUMN VARIABLE

TIP

The *Work Space* displays the centile variable selected and the columns that will be generated.

WORK SPACE >> Centiles Change Clear All Create Table [Download Table Specifications](#)

Centile Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class Clear Edit

Subtable Optional. Drag desired variable here

Rows

Drag desired variable here

Optional. Drag desired variable here

Optional. Drag desired variable here

Working Title — Centile variable by row variable.

	Centile []				
	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th
Total	%	%	%	%	%
Row var label					
Category	%	%	%	%	%
Category	%	%	%	%	%
Total	%	%	%	%	%
Row var label					
Category	%	%	%	%	%
Category	%	%	%	%	%

Add Variable Reorder Variables

Filter 1 Optional. Drag desired variable here ?

Filter 2 Optional. Drag desired variable here ?

Add Filter

6. SELECT FIRST ROW VARIABLE

TIP

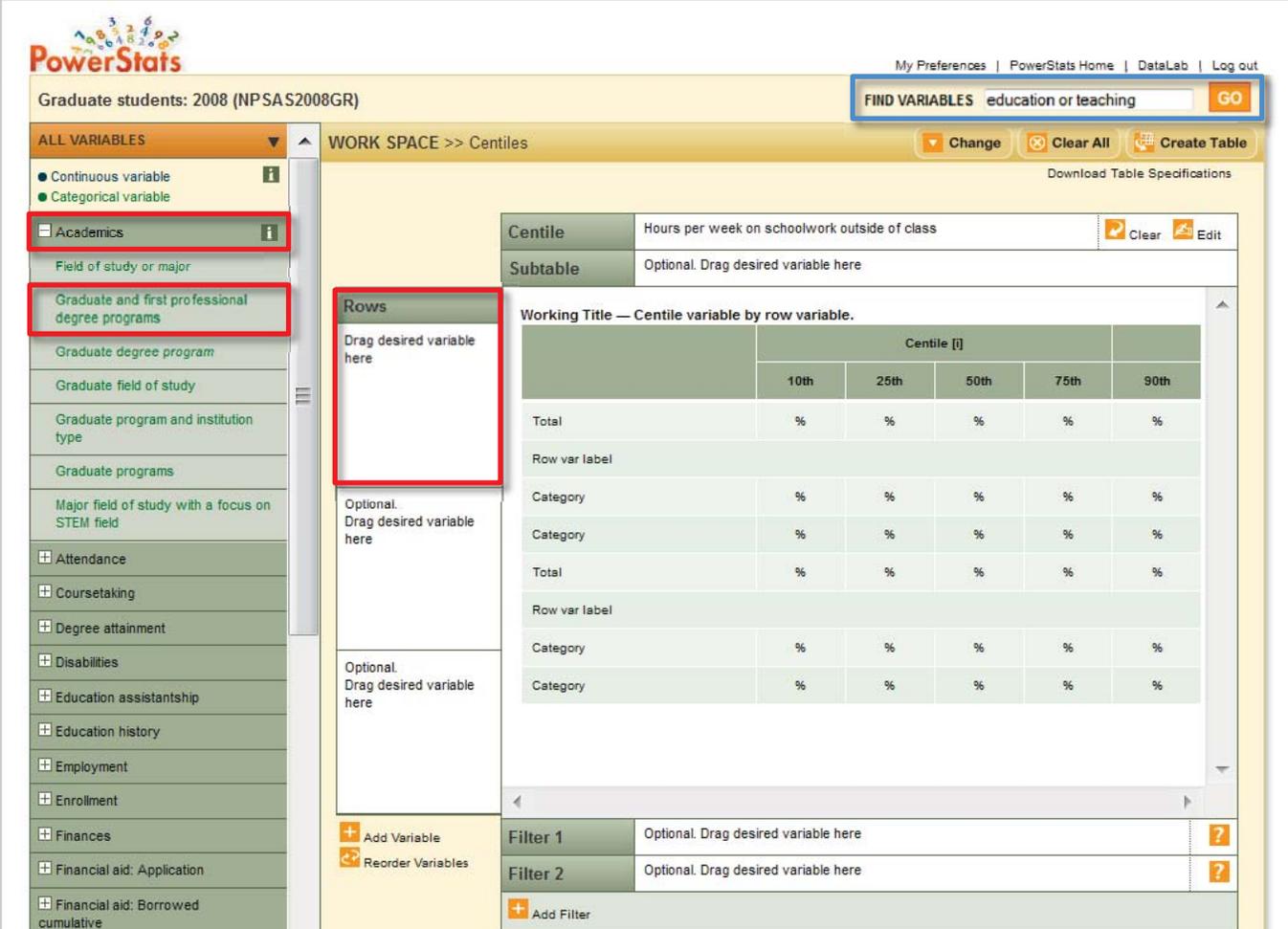
Independent variables in your research question should be added as row variables. (The dependent variable should be added as a column variable.)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Under *All Variables*, click  next to *Academics* to find the variable with the master's degree detail you need.
2. Click on *Graduate and first professional degree programs*.

TIP

The variable containing the master's degree detail you need can also be found by entering "education or teaching" into the find variables box.



The screenshot shows the PowerStats interface for the dataset 'Graduate students: 2008 (NPSAS2008GR)'. The 'ALL VARIABLES' list on the left has 'Academics' expanded to show 'Graduate and first professional degree programs'. The 'WORK SPACE' shows a 'Centile' table for 'Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class'. The table has columns for '10th', '25th', '50th', '75th', and '90th' centiles. The 'Rows' section is empty, with a prompt to 'Drag desired variable here'. The 'Filters' section is also empty, with prompts to 'Optional. Drag desired variable here'.

Working Title — Centile variable by row variable.					
	Centile [i]				
	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th
Total	%	%	%	%	%
Row var label					
Category	%	%	%	%	%
Category	%	%	%	%	%
Total	%	%	%	%	%
Row var label					
Category	%	%	%	%	%
Category	%	%	%	%	%

6. SELECT FIRST ROW VARIABLE: VARIABLE INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONS

3. The Variable Information screen, which includes the three tabs shown below and to the right, appears. Click the *View descriptive statistics* tab and scroll through the categories to confirm this variable contains the categories you need.

4. Return to the *Use variable* tab and click *Row*.

TIP

You can also select *Graduate and first professional degree programs* as your row variable by dragging it to the *Row* box in the *Work Space*. The Variable Information screen and its tabs will not appear using this method.

Use variable tab

Graduate and first professional degree programs X CLOSE

Print variable information

The detailed graduate and first-professional degree program in which the student was enrolled in the 2007-08 academic year. Based on the student interview; if not available, based on the institutional records. See GRADPGM for a collapsed version of this variable.

Variable categories are: Not in a degree program; Master of Science (MS); Master of Arts (MA); Master of Education or Teaching; Master of Business Administration (MBA)...and Post-baccalaureate certificate.

Use variable View descriptive statistics Get more info

Click an option below to use this variable.

Row Centile Subtable Filter

TIP: You can also drag and drop this variable to the workspace.

View descriptive statistics tab

Value	Percentage	Value label
0	6.7	Not in a degree program
1	16.3	Master of Science (MS)
2	9.1	Master of Arts (MA)
3	13.3	Master of Education or Teaching
4	12.5	Master of Business Administration (MBA)
5	1.0	Master of Public Admin or Policy
6	1.5	Master of Social Work (MSW)
7	0.9	Master of Fine Arts (MFA)

Get more info tab

Use variable View descriptive statistics Get more info

Name: GRADGPG
Label: Graduate and first professional degree programs
Applies to: All graduate and first-professional respondents.
Variable source: NPSAS:08 Interview, NPSAS:08 Institutional Records

6. SELECT FIRST ROW VARIABLE: OPTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

5. The Options screen appears.
Click *Make My Own Categories*.

OPTIONS X CLOSE

MAKE MY OWN CATEGORIES +

USE DEFAULT CATEGORIES -

Graduate and first professional degree programs

The following categories will be added to your table. Unselect the categories you do not wish to include.

- Not in a degree program
- Master of Science (MS)
- Master of Arts (MA)
- Master of Education or Teaching
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Public Admin or Policy
- Master of Social Work (MSW)
- Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
- Master of Public Health (MPH)
- Other masters degree program
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Doctor of Education (EdD)
- Doctor of Science or Engineering

6. SELECT FIRST ROW VARIABLE: OPTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

6. Create the first category by checking the box next to *Master of Business Administration (MBA)* and then scrolling down to the bottom of the window to click *Create Group*.

7. Create the second category by checking the box next to *Master of Education or Teaching* and then scrolling down to the bottom of the window to click *Create Group*.

Select	No.	Category
<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Not in a degree program
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Master of Science (MS)
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Master of Arts (MA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Master of Education or Teaching
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	Master of Business Administration (MBA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Master of Public Admin or Policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Master of Social Work (MSW)
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Master of Public Health (MPH)
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	Other masters degree program
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
<input type="checkbox"/>	11	Doctor of Education (EdD)

Graduate and first professional degree programs

Combine existing categories into new categories. Unselected categories will be excluded from your analysis.

View descriptive statistics

Select	No.	Category
<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Not in a degree program
<input type="checkbox"/>	1	Master of Science (MS)
<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Master of Arts (MA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	Master of Education or Teaching
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	Master of Business Administration (MBA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Master of Public Admin or Policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Master of Social Work (MSW)
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Master of Public Health (MPH)

New category label:

Create Group

Save

New category label:

Create Group

Save

6. SELECT FIRST ROW VARIABLE: OPTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

8. Create the third category by checking the boxes next to all remaining master's degree programs, scrolling down to the bottom of the window to provide a label in the *New Category Label* box, and clicking *Create Group*.
9. Review all of the groups created for accuracy and then click *Save*.

Select	No.	Category
<input type="checkbox"/>	0	Not in a degree program
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	Master of Science (MS)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2	Master of Arts (MA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3	Master of Education or Teaching
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	Master of Business Administration (MBA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5	Master of Public Admin or Policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6	Master of Social Work (MSW)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	7	Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8	Master of Public Health (MPH)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9	Other masters degree program

USE DEFAULT CATEGORIES

You've created the following groups:

Click to delete.

- 4 Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- 3 Master of Education or Teaching
- 1+2+5+6+7+8+9 Other Master's Degree Program

Save

USE DEFAULT CATEGORIES

New category label:

Create Group

6. SELECT SECOND ROW VARIABLE

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Type "year received bachelor's degree" in the *Find Variables* box and click *Go*.
2. Under *Search Result*, drag *Year received bachelor's degree* to the second box under *Rows*.

PowerStats Usage Statistics | My Preferences | PowerStats Home | DataLab | Log out

Graduate students: 2008 (NPSAS2008GR) FIND VARIABLES year received bachelor's degr GO

ALL VARIABLES Change Clear All Create Table

WORK SPACE >> Centiles Download Table Specifications

Centile: Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class Clear Edit

Subtable: Optional. Drag desired variable here

Rows

Graduate and first professional degree programs

Optional. Drag desired variable here

Optional. Drag desired variable here

Filter 1: Optional. Drag desired variable here ?

Filter 2: Optional. Drag desired variable here ?

Working Title — Centile include zeros for Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class by Graduate and first professional degree programs.

	Centile [i]				
	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th
Total	%	%	%	%	%
Graduate and first professional degree programs					
Master of Business Administration (MBA)	%	%	%	%	%
Master of Education or Teaching	%	%	%	%	%
Other Master's Degree Program	%	%	%	%	%

6. SELECT SECOND ROW VARIABLE: OPTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

- The Options screen appears. Click *View descriptive statistics* to view the minimum and maximum values for this variable.
- The research question asked about those who received their bachelor's degree before 1997, between 1997 and 2004, and after 2004. Enter start and end values accordingly and then click *Save*.

TIP

Descriptive statistics can help in deciding a start value to enter.

Also remember that values are inclusive.

Adding an end value in your final row is optional.

DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS [X CLOSE]

Value	Percentage	Label
Continuous	100.0	Positive values, see statistics below

Minimum	Maximum	Average	Standard Deviation
1952.00	2008.00	1999.67	7.88

OPTIONS [X CLOSE]

Year received bachelor's degree

Enter values and labels below to make your own categories. **Values are inclusive** It may be helpful to view descriptive statistics for this variable.

View descriptive statistics

Start Value	End Value	Label	
1952	1996	1952 <= X <= 1996	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear row
1997	2004	1997 <= X <= 2004	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear row
2005		X >= 2005	<input type="checkbox"/> Clear row
			<input type="checkbox"/> Clear row

+ Add row

Save

6. SELECT ROW VARIABLES

TIP

The *Work Space* displays the row variables selected.

The screenshot shows a software interface for data analysis. It features a main table with columns for Centile (10th, 25th, 50th, 75th, 90th) and rows for various degree programs and years. Three red boxes highlight specific row variables: 'Graduate and first professional degree programs', 'Year received bachelor's degree', and 'Year received bachelor's degree' (with sub-rows for 1952-1996, 1997-2004, and X >= 2005). The interface also includes sections for Rows, Subtable, and Filter, with icons for Clear, Edit, Add Variable, and Reorder Variables.

Centile		Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class				
Subtable		Optional. Drag desired variable here				
Rows	bachelor's degree.	Centile [i]				
		10th	25th	50th	75th	90th
Graduate and first professional degree programs		%	%	%	%	%
Year received bachelor's degree	Graduate and first professional degree programs					
	Master of Business Administration (MBA)	%	%	%	%	%
	Master of Education or Teaching	%	%	%	%	%
	Other Master's Degree Program	%	%	%	%	%
	Total	%	%	%	%	%
	Year received bachelor's degree					
	1952 <= X <= 1996	%	%	%	%	%
	1997 <= X <= 2004	%	%	%	%	%
	X >= 2005	%	%	%	%	%

7. RUN YOUR TABLE

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Click *Create Table*.

WORK SPACE >> Centiles

Change Clear All **Create Table** Download Table Specifications

Centile	Hours per week on schoolwork outside of class					Clear	Edit
Subtable	Optional. Drag desired variable here						
Rows Graduate and first professional degree programs Clear Edit Year received bachelor's degree Clear Edit Optional. Drag desired variable here	Centile [i]						
		10th	25th	50th	75th	90th	
	Total	%	%	%	%	%	
	Graduate and first professional degree programs						
	Master of Business Administration (MBA)	%	%	%	%	%	
	Master of Education or Teaching	%	%	%	%	%	
	Other Master's Degree Program	%	%	%	%	%	
	Total	%	%	%	%	%	
	Year received bachelor's degree						
	1952 <= X <= 1996	%	%	%	%	%	
	1997 <= X <= 2004	%	%	%	%	%	
	X >= 2005	%	%	%	%	%	
	Filter 1	Optional. Drag desired variable here					?
	Filter 2	Optional. Drag desired variable here					?
	+ Add Filter						

+ Add Variable
↔ Reorder Variables

YOUR TABLE

Graduate students: 2008 (NPSAS2008GR)

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