

“TABLE MANNERS”

1. Always set up your table so the Dependent Variable is the column variable and the Independent Variable is the row variable.
2. Given #1, column percentages will usually occupy your attention as the information that describes whether or not your hypothesis is correct.

Interpretation (Questions to ask.)

1. Are there differences in the distribution of the dependent variable for the different categories of the independent variable?
 - A. How big are the differences?
 - B. How stable are the differences?
2. IF differences are observed, are these differences the expected differences? Are they consistent with the hypothesis? (Be careful here. There’s a difference between “Democrats are more likely to vote for Gore than Republicans are” and “Democrats will vote for Gore while Republicans will vote for Bush”.)