

# Occupations and Month of Birth

*how to participate in our survey*

## Focus Question

Are particular months of birth more likely to lead to certain occupations? For instance, in which month will most tax accountants be born?

## Confidentiality

Please note when collecting any information, please only do so under the following conditions:

- the information is permitted to be published by the company or group
- it is not in breach of any confidentiality agreements or of any local laws
- the sample size is large enough not to inherently identify any one individual.
- the respondents have agreed to participate

A way around this the last is to not identify the company or group - however you may still do so if desired.

## Survey Methods

Smaller groups, without resorting to a computer, could simply do a hand count (if you are all in the same occupation), or you could print a simple survey with these 2 questions:

- 1) What is your occupation
- 2) What month were you born

If you are part of a company or other organisation and have access to computer records you can use this data, subject to the conditions above.

Likewise at university or college lectures, a simple hand count might produce interesting results.

However, whilst interesting results can be amusing, they are quite useless unless comparisons and contrasts are made, so please identify the group and method used. For example:

*Group:* Geology intake at XYZ University, lecture attendees.

*Method:* hand-count

*Group:* Human Resource Personnel at ABC company

*Method:* computer records of staff ('data - tab separated text')

*Group:* members of XYZ pub drinking club.

*Method:* hand count.

*Group:* membership of CCC association

*Method:* membership list ('data - comma separated text')

As we are looking at seasonal variations, please also supply the nearest degree of latitude - for instance if you live in the London (UK) area, it is 50 degrees North. You can look this up in many places on the internet - if you just type 'Latitude of (your city name)' into Google, it will usually display this straight away without you going to another web site. Remember, co-ordinates are stated in degrees North or South (Latitude) and degrees East or West (Longitude). We are only interested in the latitude co-ordinate.

## Respondents

An ideal number for good statistical validity is at least 100 respondents, but any number will do as we will add this to the general pool.

## Format of results

So we can analyse the data appropriately, we would like numbers in the following format:

Month	Occupation	Numbers
January	Carpenter	2
January	Accountant	4
February	Solicitor	1
March	Carpenter	3
March	Accountant	2
March	Salesperson	5

When pasting data into our survey form, you can export from a spreadsheet, but only as a text file with formats 'tab separated text' or 'comma separated text'. There is no capability to upload a file directly, so open the text file with notepad or similar, then copy and paste it into the form where indicated.