

Statistics 1 - 2011/12 Coursework – Youth Visitors to Portuguese Protected Areas

Analysis of the data provided in the file 'PA_Youth Visitors.SAV' with SPSS for Windows software. Writing of a small report (maximum 20 pages) with the most important results and main conclusions of the data analysis.

PA_Youth Vistors. SAV file: the database consists of 202 observations on several variables collected from a survey of male and female young visitors to Portuguese Natural Parks or orther Protected Areas aged 13 to 34.

Three classes of information were collected.

- The first class concerns the personal information on interviewee: age, gender, household members, education, household net monthly income and region of residence, among others.
- The second part of the questionnaire is about interests and preferences when visiting natural parks or other protected areas: if the respondents did spent any weekend outside home during the last year, if this weekend was in contact with nature and if they would be interested in spending holidays and/or weekends in contact with nature, visiting protected areas, during the next year. This part of the questionnaire includes a list of twelve different activities and respondents were asked to select the ones they most prefer to pratice in natural environments.
- The third part concerns the frequency of visits to Portuguese protected areas (PPA) during the last two years and the importance of six different motives that justify their visits: "Cultural and religious motives", "Contact with nature", "Practice adventure sports", "Social contacts (family and friends)", "Live nearby" and "To improve social status". For these 6 items a continuous scale between 0 and 10 was used, where 0 = No importance at all, and 10 = Extremely important. Finally, respondents were asked to give their self perceived position in an Environmental attitude scale from 0 = not concerned at all about the environment to 30 = totally concerned about the environment.

Your report should answer the following questions:

- 1. How can this sample be characterized in terms of demographic characteristics? Describe the information collected using appropriate graphical presentations and tables.
- 2. Which are the socio-demographic characteristics of those who have spend at least a weekend outside home and in contact with nature?
- 3. Which is the most preferred activity practiced in natural environments? Construct a bar graph to answer this question.
- 4. How would you describe the sample distribution of the Environmental attitude scale in terms of localization, dispersion, skewness and kurtosis?
- 5. Does the distribution of the Environmental attitude scale vary for different genders? Use boxplots to answer this question.
- 6. Is there any association between the frequency of visit to natural parks or other PPA and the education level?
- 7. Draw a mean profile graph for the importance of the 6 motives that influence the visits to natural parks or other PPA and interpret the results.
- 8. Do respondents with different occupations have similar mean profiles for these 6 aspects? What about those who own a car when compared to the ones not owning a car?
- 9. Which of the 6 aspects that influence the visits to natural parks and other PPA better explain the variation of the Environmental attitude scale?
- 10. Is there any linear association between age and the Environmental attitude scale? Answer this question using the appropriate graph and statistical measure.
- 11. Fit a simple linear regression model to the Environmental attitude scale using age as independent variable and interpret the results.
- 12.(Optional) Fit a multiple linear regression model to the Environmental attitude scale using age and the 6 visit motives as independent variables and interpret the results.

Your report should have a business report format, include an <u>Introduction</u> and also a <u>Conclusion</u> with the most important results from your analysis. You should include in your report only those SPSS outputs you find important to describe the data and support your analysis; everything else should be omitted or included in the appendix.

Delivery date: 24th of October



Visitors to Portuguese Protected Areas

Questionnaire n. _____

A. Personal information on intervewee	
Age:	
B. Interest and preferences when visiting PPAs	
1.1. How many of these weekends were spent in contact with nature?	rested nd other
4. Please, choose from the following list the activities you would like to practice in natural	
environments.	
 Hiking Riding Sailing Cycling Outdoor and aventure sports Water sports Camping Sauna and flora observation Thematic rotes, panoramic exhibitions and photography Circuits in historic villages Circuits to archaeological centres Astro observation Astro observation 	

C. Visits to PPAs and Environmental attitudes

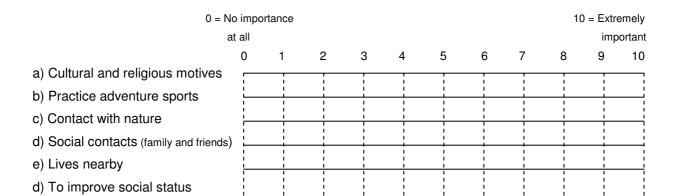
1. How frequent where your visits to Portuguese Naturonal Parks or other protected areas during the last two years?

3. Only a few times (one or twice per year)4. Quite often (less than once per month)

5. Regularly (at least once per month)

2. How important are the following six reasons in justifying your visits to natural parks or other PPA in the last two years?

Use the following continuous scale, choosing any value between 0 and 10, where



3. Environmental attitude scale: how would you positioned yourself in the following discrete Environmental attitude scale from 0 to 30, where <u>0 means you are not concerned at all about environmental problems and 30 means you are totally concerned about the environment?</u>

Not concerned at all about the environment

Totally concerned about the environment

0 5 10 15 20 25 30