

Biased Households?

Household sizes for pupils answering CensusAtSchool are as follows:-



Size of Household	Percentage of Households
2	2.9
3	14.4
4	43.8
5	25
6	9.2
7	3
Above 7	1.7

Here is a sample of the raw data from the school including household size. Look carefully at this data and explain why the data about household size could be misleading.

Gender	Date of Birth	Postcode	Household Size	Under 18 Females	Under 18 Males
F	12/02/89	FN4 7UG	4	1	1
F	23/05/91	FN4 5EF	3	0	1
M	14/11/90	FN4 9UH	5	1	2
F	13/11/90	FN4 9ED	7	2	2
F	03/07/90	FN3 5ER	4	2	0
M	15/03/91	FN4 7UG	4	1	1
M	27/09/92	FN4 9UH	5	1	2
M	03/12/89	FN4 9ED	7	2	2
F	12/12/91	FN4 7ES	4	1	1
M	29/06/90	FN4 7UG	4	0	2
F	02/01/88	FN4 9UK	3	1	1

Do you have any ideas about how to sort this problem out so the data is more accurate? This is not very easy at all especially as in CensusAtSchool where this data came from a variety of schools, some who sent in data for all their pupils and some who sent in just one year or 1 classes data.

Whenever you are given data in tables or graphs look for details of how and where it was gathered and study it carefully to determine whether it has inbuilt problems like the data above.