

Data Analysis 101: Answer Key

Scenario 1:

Your Head Start program has collected program-wide data on staff attendance at health and safety training sessions that have occurred this year. Which technique will you use to pull together the information and look for trends?

- Aggregate Disaggregate Data Over Time Multiple Sources

Compiling or pulling together data is referred to as “aggregating.” Use this technique when you need to summarize data in an easy-to-read graphic or table.

Scenario 2:

Your Head Start program wants to examine the program-wide rate of playground incidents in an effort to ensure staff are doing all they can to keep children safe. What technique will you use to determine if the rate is higher this year than in the past?

- Aggregate Disaggregate Data Over Time Multiple Sources

Comparing data over time is an excellent way to look for trends. To know if trends are up or down from previous quarters or years, it is important to look back on the past.

Scenario 3:

Your Head Start program is interested in the percentage of staff who attended health and safety trainings in relation to the rate of incidents on those playgrounds. What technique will you use to investigate further?

- Aggregate Disaggregate Data Over Time Multiple Sources

Investigating relationships between two or more sources of data can often pinpoint connections or insights that are not garnered from looking at one source alone.

Scenario 4:

Your Head Start program has compiled program-wide data on the rate of playground incidents. You need to know more about which centers have the highest rates of incidents. What technique will help you get to these details?

- Aggregate Disaggregate Data Over Time Multiple Sources

Breaking apart data to look at patterns and details helps you dig deeper into specifics. When you need to find the source of a data anomaly, disaggregating can help you identify it.