6

Creating Effective Tables

1. Write a title for table 6A: "Median age of the U.S. population, 1960 to 2000."

3. Provide footnotes to table 6B.
    Spell out EPA (Environmental Protection Agency).
    Spell out ppmv (parts per million volume).
    Cite the data sources.

5. Design a table for each of the following topics.
    a. Title: "Average monthly commuting costs ($) by mode of transportation, time, place, population." Table structure: Mode of transportation in the rows with a column for monthly commuting costs. Items in the rows organized in ascending or descending order of cost. Note citing data source.
    b. Title: "Age, gender, race, and educational attainment composition of [fill in who, when, and where for study sample]." Table structure: Demographic variables in the rows, with units specified in row header for age, and subgroup relations for the other variables shown with indented row headings. Columns for number of cases and percentage of cases. Note citing data source.
    c. Title: "Number of people (thousands) receiving college degrees by gender, 1990 to 2000, place." One row for each year between 1990 and 2000 (chronological order), one column for each gender. Note citing data source.
    d. Title: "Pearson correlation coefficients between height, weight, percentage body fat, systolic blood pressure, and resting pulse, [W's]." Table structure: One row and one column for each variable with label indicating units, or footnote label for abbreviated units. Correlations reported in the below-diagonal cells (see *Writing about Numbers,* table 6.7, p. 116, for an example). Symbols in the table cells to identify $p < 0.05$, with a note to explain the meaning of the symbol. Another table note to define unit abbreviations.
    e. Title: "Comparison of estimated dates for various artifacts, selected sites in North Africa and Europe." Artifacts arranged in the rows, in ascending or descending order of estimated date within blocks by geographic region. Column spanner for each site with a column for each dating technique below. Footnotes citing data sources, references about dating methods.

f. Title: "Percentage of women using specific types of contraceptives, by 10-year age groups, [W's]." Table structure: One row for each contraceptive type, in desending order of overall frequency, one column for each age group. Notes specifying (a) that each woman could use more than one type; (b) data source.