

Step 6

Survey analysis ice breaker

This is an icebreaker exercise that we used at the beginning of a class that was devoted to identifying key findings from the 244 surveys our students had collected.

Examining a single question made it easier for our students to focus on the actual work of analysis. (We carefully selected a survey question that provided data that directly answered our research question.) They were not distracted by all the data that we received. We wanted the students to experience the process of analysis at the start of the class so they would understand that the point of the class was doing this work of analysis, not remembering all the data we collected

Tools for Change Analysis Icebreaker:

Research Question: What is the relationship between people's efforts to improve the community environment of Rye Town and their satisfaction with the town and the government?

Sample survey question:

I would be civically engaged –or more civically engaged--if (choose one):

_____ I was paid for my time 19/244 (19 respondents out of 244 chose this answer)

_____ I was more satisfied with my community 29/244

_____ I believed my efforts would improve the community 103/244

_____ my community had a nationally recognized program of civic engagement
24/244

Examine the results of the survey question above and answer the following questions in a sentence or two:

- a) If someone asked you to explain this result in a sentence or two what would you say?

For example; “The most common reason given for why people who took our survey were not more civically engaged was that they did not believe they could do anything to improve the community.”

- b) How does this result contribute to answering your research question?
- c) *Bonus*: Given this result, name two things that the local government should do now?