Data Derby 2024 General Rules

Welcome to the Data Derby 2024! This year's Data Derby will be held at TBD, MN on April 20th.

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The 2024 competition theme:
The Cost of Education!

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Would you like to know the trend of education cost over years? Would you like to see any ties between education cost and early career salaries? Join us for this year's Data Derby!

More information is on this year's competition website:
https://www.minnesotatechresources.org/minnesota-data-derby

General Rules

The datasets and questions will be released on March 11th, 2024. The data and questions will be shared on March 11th via https://www.minnesotatechresources.org/minnesota-data-derby. There will be two data Q&A Zoom sessions, one on April 2nd 3-4pm and the other one on April 9th 3-4pm over Zoom https://minnstate.zoom.us/j/93759380740.

This year, the Data Derby will have the Novice division, Advanced division and Graduate division. The Novice division includes high school students, and college students who have taken no more than one year of database, data analytics and statistics related courses, and with minimal programming experience (e.g. coding in Python, R, etc.). Students who are familiar with spreadsheets, Tableau and other visualization tools are welcome to compete in the Novice level. The Advanced division includes college students with more than one year of related courses and with advanced programming experience. The Graduate division includes graduate students. A Novice team will be moved to the advanced level or graduate level if they answered any question designed only for the advanced level or graduate level. Faculty advisor will determine the team participation level. **Please indicate your participation level upon registration.**

Students will form teams of 2-4 to participate. Student teams will have about 5 weeks to work on the data, and create a presentation showing your data processing, data analysis, data visualization, results and conclusions. On April 20th, each team will be presenting their findings in-person to the judges.

The use of AI or ChatGPT is strongly discouraged in this event. Student teams need to show their work of data processing and analysis to the judges.

Judging

The Novice team presentations are limited to 10 minutes each with 5 minutes of Q&A, and the Advanced level and Graduate level presentations will be 15 minutes each with 5 minutes of Q&A. During the presentations, please do NOT release any information of your institution affiliation, and your faculty advisor's name. A penalty of 25% of the scores may be given if any of that information are released during the presentations.

During your presentation, please clearly state your data processing methods, data analysis methods, data visualization, your findings and your conclusion. The judges will be judging the presentations based on rubrics, which will be sent out to the faculty advisors at the beginning of April.

Please submit your draft presentation to boern.vang@metrostate.edu by April 12th. Note, teams do not need to send the complete draft. The final version can be somewhat different from the draft version. Teams should include their participation level (Novice, Advanced, or Graduate level) in their draft.

Awards

Awards will be given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places of each participation level.