

DATA AND ITS TYPES

We have talked in class about the different types of data. Again, it is important to recognize where our data come from, how they were collected, and the values that they can take on so that we may find appropriate means of describing them.

Data from a medical study contain values of many variables for each of the people who were subjects of the study. What are the data types of the following variables? In your responses be specific.

1. Gender (female or male)
2. Age (in days)
3. Race (African-American, Asian, Caucasian, Other)
4. Smoker (yes or no)
5. Level of calcium in the blood (micrograms per milliliter)

List *five* variables that might be of interest to an archaeologist who is in the process of conducting a dig—actually doing some digging, collecting objects, finding structures, *etc.*. Provide justification for each of your choices—*i.e.* why would the archaeologist care or how does the information help the archaeologist? Determine the data type of each of the variables you provide.