

# Risk Perception and Risk Reality Survey

We all face risks in our everyday lives. Often, we do not accurately perceive the level of risk we introduce into our lives when we engage in an activity, or we believe the possibility of an event such as an earthquake introduces far more or less risk in our lives than it warrants. In this activity, you will survey friends and family to find out how they perceive various risks. You will also collaborate on the compilation and analysis of data collected by the class. The survey is on the back of this paper.

## Before Class:

Before you come to class, record the average of each row of data as instructed in the survey.

## In Class:

All students will have their averaged data placed on a spreadsheet of class data, and you will receive a copy of the spreadsheet, along with the actual risk numbers.

## Plot the data: USE THIS FORMAT ONLY!!

Using class data, plot the actual risk on the y-axis and the team average perceived risk on the x-axis.

Label each point on each graph with the identity of the risk it represents.

Draw a line on the graph that represents perfect correlation, that is, actual risk = perceived risk

Using RED color, circle the data points that have a high actual risk, but a low perceived risk.

Using BLUE color, circle the data points that have a low actual risk, but a high perceived risk

Write a thoughtful, insightful and logical discussion of the results of your survey and class data. Include explanations for large differences between actual and perceived risk, as well as for relatively accurate perceptions of risk.



toxic waste												
drug abuse												
living in poverty												

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