Smoking and voting

Suggested teaching exercise using the CLOSER training dataset

Does smoking make you less likely to vote in general elections?

1. **Cross-tabulating smoking and voting**

Try cross-tabulating the variable at age 42 which looks at smoking, against the variable which asks whether the cohort member voted in the general election in May 1997.

What conclusion can we draw from the table?

Perhaps another characteristic, linked both to voting and smoking, might explain this apparent relationship? Try cross-tabulating social class at age 42 against the same voting variable.

Similarly, try cross-tabulating that same social class variable against smoking. What should we conclude from this table?

2. **What other analyses might you do to explore this issue further?**

We could do a three way crosstab to look at smoking, class and voting.

What can you conclude from this quite complex table? What other tests or analyses could you do to examine this relationship more thoroughly?