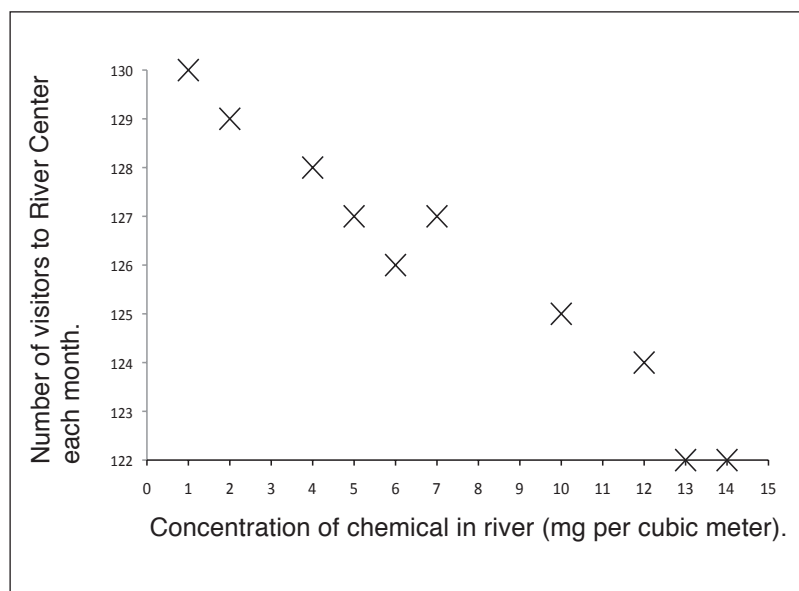


Muddying The Waters

The manager of the Riverside Center is concerned about visitor numbers. He is certain the Center's popularity has been badly affected by an increase in river pollution. He feels the local Environmental Agency should do something about it.

To support his argument he measured the chemical concentration in the river each month. He also counted the number of people visiting the Center over several months. He used the results to draw this chart.



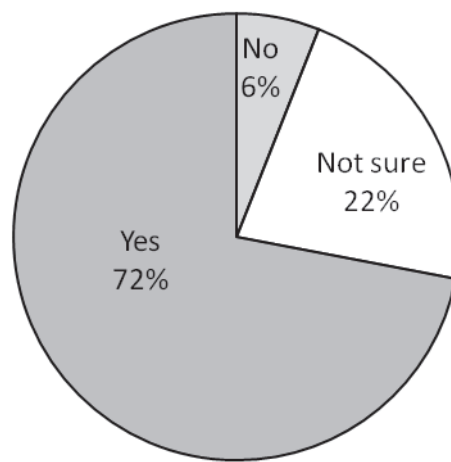
Scatter chart: Chemical concentration and number of visitors

At the same time the manager asked 18 visitors this question:

'The odor you can smell originates from the pollution in the river. Is it spoiling your enjoyment of the Center?'

He displayed the results as a pie chart.

Pie chart showing the percentage of visitors whose enjoyment was spoiled.



The centre manager writes to the Environmental Officer to try to get something done about the river pollution.

Dear Environmental Officer,

Please find enclosed two charts.

The scatter plot clearly shows that the increase in the concentration of the chemical in the river has caused a real drop-off in visitor numbers to the Center over the last year.

The pie chart proves that people (not surprisingly) don't like the acrid smell of pollution wafting up from the river.

The river needs to be cleaned up; it's not good for the environment and it's certainly not good for my business. Please let me know what action you intend to take.

Yours faithfully,

Manager, Riverside Center

Tasks

1. Describe in detail what you think the two charts show.

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2. Do you think the Riverside Center Manager's argument is fair?
Explain your reasoning.

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