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Writing Introductions, Results, and Conclusions

SOLUTIONS

1. “In 2000 in the United States, human resources comprised by far the largest single category of federal outlays (61% of the \$1.8 trillion spent that year; figure 7.2b). The second largest category—national defense—accounted for only about one quarter as much of all outlays (16% of the total). Net interest, physical resources, and other functions together amounted for the remaining 23%.

“The relative shares of those functions changed substantially over the second half of the twentieth century (figure 7.7b). As recently as 1970, national defense was the modal category, comprising more than half of all federal outlays in 1960, and edging out human resources in 1970 (42% and 39%). Since that time, human resources have dominated, accounting for 53%, 49%, and 62% of all federal outlays in 1980, 1990, and 2000, respectively. Over the same period, the concurrent shares of outlays going to national defense were 23%, 24%, and 16%.”

3. “Generally, respondents were more likely to understand the ways AIDS can be transmitted than ways AIDS cannot be transmitted (table 6.2). On average, English speakers answered 91.7% of the “likely” transmission question correctly, compared to an average of 59.8% of “unlikely” questions correct. Similar patterns were observed among Spanish speakers.

“Although all language groups scored high on the question about transmission via sexual intercourse, for the other three likely transmission modes, incorrect answers were more common among Spanish speakers, especially those who answered the questionnaire in Spanish. For example, only two-thirds of that group knew that the AIDS virus is very likely to be spread via shared IV drug needles, compared to 92% of English speakers and 91% of Spanish respondents who completed the questionnaire in English.

“Responses to questions about transmission via casual contact were more troubling (bottom panel of table 6.2), with fewer than two-thirds of respondents knowing the correct answers to those questions. Most striking was the widespread misconception about transmission from a medical provider: only one-third knew that such spread is unlikely. Differences across language groups were sizeable and statistically significant for all but the medical provider question.”