EXAMPLE 6 Analyzing a Historical Probability

The graph shows the probability that there will be at least 1 inch of snow on the ground on December 25. The estimates are based on data over a 30-year period. How do these data correlate with the latitude of each location?



SOLUTION

Enter the latitude and probability of snow for each city into a spreadsheet. Then use the spreadsheet to make a scatter plot as shown. The scatter plot indicates only a slight correlation between latitude and the probability of snow.







Latitude seems to be a weak predictor of snow on December 25. What other factors can you use to improve the prediction?