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Statistics In Plain English, Third Edition



Synopsis

This inexpensive paperback provides a brief, simple overview of statistics to help readers gain a better understanding of how statistics work and how to interpret them correctly. Each chapter describes a different statistical technique, ranging from basic concepts like central tendency and describing distributions to more advanced concepts such as t tests, regression, repeated measures ANOVA, and factor analysis. Each chapter begins with a short description of the statistic and when it should be used. This is followed by a more in-depth explanation of how the statistic works. Finally, each chapter ends with an example of the statistic in use, and a sample of how the results of analyses using the statistic might be written up for publication. A glossary of statistical terms and symbols is also included. New features in the third edition include: a new chapter on Factor and Reliability Analysis especially helpful to those who do and/or read survey research, new "Writing it Up" sections demonstrate how to write about and interpret statistics seen in books and journals, new section on understanding the distribution of data (ch. 1) to help readers understand how to use and interpret graphs, many more examples, tables, and charts to help students visualize key concepts. Statistics in Plain English, Third Edition is an ideal supplement for statistics, research methods, and/or for courses that use statistics taught at the undergraduate or graduate level, or as a reference tool for anyone interested in refreshing their memory about key statistical concepts. The research examples are from psychology, education, and other social and behavioral sciences.

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Customer Reviews

A very helpful primer/intro to statistics. Generally well-written and intuitively presented. It succeeds where most introductory texts fail: the author has a genuine understanding of how and in what way statistics are simply not intuitive to the average individual. He keeps the math and greek symbols to a minimum, focusing on simple illustrative examples that help build intuition. So why the average review? I'd really like to give this book a higher grade. The problem is there are too many errors and inconsistencies that make reading it a frustrating experience. It strikes me as a book that was written by someone who is knowledgeable and passionate about the subject and was able to devote a huge amount of time towards the project. But then, having gotten 97% of the way there, the editing and proofing process was not given the same attention to detail. I read the Kindle version of the 3rd edition which doesn't include page numbers, so unfortunately my examples below refer to locations. (Incidentally, as with many Kindle editions, there is a very large number of additional formatting issues and typos that further distracted from the reading experience. My opinion is that responsibility for this type of problem is shared between the publisher, the author, and . Examples below are of problems that I assume exist in both the Kindle and traditional versions.) Chapter 4, location ~1131: "A full 50% of the distribution falls between the mean and 1 standard deviation above the mean in this group of scores (see Figure 4.4)" -> Figure 4.4 doesn't show this Chapter 5, location ~1233: "If I told you that I had a z score of 1.0 on my last spelling test, what would you think of my performance? What you would know for sure is that..."

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