

A First Course In Business Statistics

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On the cover: A detail from a mixed-media, three-dimensional screen created by San Francisco designer Robert Hutchinson. The entire six-panel screen is 24 feet long and 8 feet high. It is one of many custom-made art screens created by Mr. Hutchinson.

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A First Course in Business Statistics

Preface

The fifth edition of *A First Course in Business Statistics* finds the authors continuing to try to walk the fine line between classical statistical inference and the "new wave" of business statistics. We note with interest the new texts that have adopted a "contemporary" approach, focused primarily on data analysis and emphasizing pre-inferential methods. Of course, something must be sacrificed in order to adopt this approach, which typically results in the delay of, and sometimes even the elimination of, the traditional inferential techniques. We continue to think it important to present inferential techniques and, in fact, to make them the theme of the text. However, we also recognize that the methods and focus of the applications of statistics in business are changing ever more rapidly. In particular, the worldwide quality movement is convincing profit and nonprofit organizations alike of the importance of applying statistical reasoning in all aspects of their operations. Thus, our objective is to achieve the appropriate blend of the contemporary and classical approaches. With that objective in mind, the following are the new features of the fifth edition:

- 1. Quality Improvement. The most important change in the fifth edition is the replacement of the Decision Analysis chapter with a new chapter on Methods for Quality Improvement (Chapter 12). In previous editions we treated the statistical aspects of quality in various case studies, examples, and exercises throughout the text. Because the issue of quality transcends statistical methods, we resisted devoting a chapter to the topic until we could develop a treatment of quality that covers more than just statistical control charts. With this edition we introduce a chapter on quality improvement, beginning with the history of the quality movement in the United States, introducing and explaining the concepts of "systems thinking" and "process management," and finally presenting the ultimate consequence of these concepts—the statistical control of systems. This chapter is longer and more encompassing than the typical treatment of statistical quality control; we believe that this more complete treatment of quality is essential to a comprehensive understanding of the quality movement that is sweeping the business world.
- 2. Processes and Measurement. Our treatment of quality really begins in Chapter 1. We have added the concept of a dynamic process to the traditional static population, so that the instructor who wishes to focus on process improvement early in the course and/or inferences about both populations and processes can now do so. We also introduce the concept of "variables" in Chapter 1. We do this by redefining the population to consist of "units" rather than "data," and then defining a variable to be the characteristic of these units. Data are then obtained by measuring the variable of interest. This will focus more attention on measurement and will make an easier transition to the concept of random variables and their probability distributions.

- 3. Types of Data. In the same vein, we have added more on the concept of measuring different types of variables in Chapter 2, introducing and defining the four types of data: nominal, ordinal, interval, and ratio. Also, Pareto analysis is introduced and a new section on time series plots has been added to Chapter 2.
- 4. Random Variables. The two chapters on discrete and continuous random variables have been streamlined into a single chapter (Chapter 5). This provides for a quicker transition from probability to statistical inference.
- 5. Estimation and Hypothesis Tests. The introduction to the classical inferential techniques of estimation and tests of hypotheses had made for a very long Chapter 8 in the fourth edition, especially with the (optional) material on Type II errors. In the fifth edition we have separated single-sample inference into two chapters: one on estimation (Chapter 7) and the second on tests of hypotheses (Chapter 8).
- 6. Multinomial Distribution. A chi-square test for probabilities from a multinomial distribution has been added to the chapter on comparing two or more proportions (Chapter 10).
- 7. Regression. Optional sections on multiple regression models and residual analysis have been added to Chapter 11, which included only material for simple linear regression analysis in the previous edition.
- 8. Exercises. New exercises have been added throughout, this time concentrating on new and better mechanical exercises in the Learning the Mechanics sections at the beginning of most exercise sets. Some new applied exercises have been added as well, especially accompanying the new material. We continue to introduce business terminology in the prologues of a portion of our Applying the Concepts exercises.
- 9. Data Sets on Disk. We have placed all of the large exercise data sets on a computer disk. The List of Exercise Data Sets (page xix) lists these data sets, indicates the exercise number, the page number, and the file names of the data sets. Instructors who adopt the text may obtain the disk by writing to Dellen Publishing Company, 400 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco, California 94133, or by calling 415-433-9900.

The fifth edition of *A First Course in Business Statistics* maintains the same objectives as the earlier editions. It is constructed to provide greater flexibility in designing a one- or two-course introductory sequence. This text contains the material that is usually presented in a one-quarter or one-semester introductory course in statistics. It is intended for use in the traditional one-quarter or one-semester business statistics course that is offered in many two-year colleges. It may also be used in a single introductory business college course that stresses the understanding and application of concepts along with the ability to apply some of the basic statistical methods for analyzing data. For example, instructors who would like to emphasize processes and process improvement might cover all of Chapter 1, followed immediately by the first four sections of Chapter 12, Methods for Quality Improvement. Then later, after covering the relevant sections of Chapter 6–10, return to Chapter 12 and cover the last four sections on

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statistical process control. Or, an instructor who wishes to devote significant time to exploratory data analysis might cover all topics in Chapters 2 and 3 and omit either the regression chapter (Chapter 11) or the quality chapter (Chapter 12).

Alternatively, this text is designed for a first course in a two-course sequence where the instructor desires the freedom to devise a second course of his or her choosing. Since most phenomena in business and economics are described by multivariable statistical models, a prime candidate for a (nonsurvey) second course in business statistics is one that provides coverage of model building and multiple regression analysis. Consequently, we are simultaneously publishing the fourth edition of *A Second Course in Business Statistics: Regression Analysis*, by William Mendenhall and Terry Sincich. This text provides in-depth coverage of regression analysis, analysis of variance, and time series and is intended for the second course in the sequence.

We have maintained the features of this text that we believe make it unique among introductory statistics texts for business courses. These features, which assist the student in achieving an overview of statistics and an understanding of its relevance in the solution of business problems, are as follows:

- Case Studies. (See the list of case studies on page xvii.) Many important concepts are emphasized by the inclusion of case studies, which consist of brief summaries of actual business applications of the concepts and are often drawn directly from the business literature. These case studies allow the student to see business applications of important statistical concepts immediately after the introduction of the concepts. The case studies also help to answer by example the often asked questions, "Why should I study statistics? Of what relevance is statistics to business?" Finally, the case studies constantly remind the student that each concept is related to the dominant theme—statistical inference.
- 2. Where We've Been . . . Where We're Going . . . The first page of each chapter is a "unification" page. Our purpose is to allow the student to see how the chapter fits into the scheme of statistical inference. First, we briefly show how the material presented in previous chapters helps us to achieve our goal (Where We've Been). Then, we indicate what the next chapter (or chapters) contributes to the overall objective (Where We're Going). This feature allows us to point out that we are constructing the foundation block by block, with each chapter an important component in the structure of statistical inference. Furthermore, this feature provides a series of brief résumés of the material covered as well as glimpses of future topics.
- 3. Many Examples and Exercises. We believe that most students learn by doing. The text contains many worked examples to demonstrate how to solve various types of problems. We then provide the student with a large number (more than 700) of exercises. The answers for odd-numbered exercises are included at the end of the text. The exercises are of two types:
 - a. Learning the Mechanics. These exercises are intended to be straightforward applications of the new concepts. They are introduced in a few words and are unhampered by a barrage of background information designed to

make them "practical," but which often detracts from instructional objectives. Thus, with a minimum of labor, the student can recheck his or her ability to comprehend a concept or a definition.

b. Applying the Concepts. The mechanical exercises described above are followed by realistic exercises that allow the student to see applications of statistics to the solution of problems encountered in business and economics. Once the mechanics are mastered, these exercises develop the student's skills at comprehending realistic problems that describe situations to which the techniques may be applied.

4. On Your Own . . . The chapters end with an exercise entitled "On Your Own" The intent of this exercise is to give the student some hands-on experience with a business application of the statistical concepts introduced in the chapter. In most cases, the student is required to collect, analyze, and

interpret data relating to some business phenomenon.

5. Using the Computer. We continue to encourage the use of computers in the analysis of real data via the "Using the Computer" feature at the end of most chapters. A demographic data base, consisting of 1,000 observations on 15 variables, has been described in Appendix C and is available on diskette from the publisher. Each "Using the Computer" section provides one or more computer exercises that utilize the data in Appendix C and enhance the new material covered in the chapter.

6. A Simple, Clear Style. We have tried to achieve a simple and clear writing style. Subjects that are tangential to our objective have been avoided, even though some may be of academic interest to those well versed in statistics. We have not taken an encyclopedic approach in the presentation of material.

7. Footnotes and Appendix A. Although the text is designed for students with a noncalculus background, footnotes explain the role of calculus in various derivations. Footnotes are also used to inform the student about some of the theory underlying certain results. Appendix A presents some useful counting rules for the instructor who wishes to place greater emphasis on probability. Consequently, we think the footnotes and Appendix A provide an opportunity for flexibility in the mathematical and theoretical level at which the material is presented.

8. Supplementary Material. A solutions manual, a study guide, a Minitab supplement, an integrated companion software system, a computer-generated test system, and a 1,000-observation demographic data base are available.

- a. Solutions Manuals (by Nancy Shafer Boudreau). The solutions manuals present detailed solutions to most exercises in the text. Many points are clarified and expanded to provide maximum insight into and benefits from each exercise. The student's manual provides solutions to the odd-numbered exercises while the instructor's manual provides solutions to the even-numbered exercises.
- b. Study Guide (by Susan L. Reiland). For each chapter, the study guide includes (1) a brief summary that highlights the concepts and terms introduced in the textbook; (2) section-by-section examples with detailed solutions; and (3) exercises (with answers provided at the end of the study

Dry test declars 2% of dry from people to be drug users.

Juhat is the prob that from 6 randoms, at least one will be called a user?

(a) (x≥1) = 1 - p(x=0)

(b) (.02)° (.98)°

(c) (1) (1) (.98)°

(d) (1) (1) (.98)°

(e) (1) (1) (.98)°

(f) (1) (1) (.98)°

(g) (1) (

b) If 60 people are chosen, what is the prob that no mistakes will be nade?

o (60) (.02) (.78) 60

o (1) (1) (.98) 60

op (x=0) = . 298

guide) that allow the student to check mastery of the material in each section.

Minitab Supplement (by Ruth K. Meyer and David D. Krueger). The Minitab computer supplement was developed to be used with Minitab Release 7.0, a general-purpose statistical computing system. The supplement, which was written especially for the student with no previous experience with computers, provides step-by-step descriptions of how to use Minitab effectively as an aid in data analysis. Each chapter begins with a list of new commands introduced in the chapter. Brief examples are then given to explain new commands, followed by examples from the text illustrating the new and previously learned commands. Where appropriate, simulation examples are included. Exercises, many of which are drawn from the text, conclude each chapter.

A special feature of the supplement is a chapter describing a survey sampling project. The objectives of the project are to illustrate the evaluation of a questionnaire, provide a review of statistical techniques, and illustrate the use of Minitab for questionnaire evaluation.

DellenStat (by Michael Conlon). DellenStat is an integrated statistics package consisting of a workbook and an IBM PC floppy diskette with software and example sets of data. The system contains a file creation and management facility, a statistics facility, and a presentation facility. The software is menu-driven and has an extensive help facility. It is completely compatible with the text.

The DellenStat workbook describes the operation of the software and uses examples from the text. After an introductory chapter for new computer users, the remaining chapters follow the outline of the text. Additional chapters show how to create new sets of data. Technical appendices cover material for advanced users and programmers.

DellenStat runs on any IBM PC or close compatible with at least 256K of memory and at least one floppy disk drive.

- e. DellenTest. This unique computer-generated random test system is available to instructors without cost. Utilizing an IBM PC computer and a number of commonly used dot-matrix printers, the system will generate an almost unlimited number of quizzes, chapter tests, final examinations, and drill exercises. At the same time, the system produces an answer key and student worksheet with an answer column that exactly matches the column on the answer key.
- f. Data Base. A demographic data set was assembled based on a systematic random sample of 1,000 U.S. zip codes. Demographic data for each zip code area selected were supplied by CACI, an international demographic and market information firm. Fifteen demographic measurements (including population, number of households, median age, median household income, variables related to the cost of housing, educational levels, the work force, and purchasing potential indexes based on the Bureau of the Census Consumer Expenditure Surveys) are presented for each zip code area.

Some of the data are referenced in the "Using the Computer" sections. The objectives are to enable the student to analyze real data in a relatively large sample using the computer, and to gain experience using the statistical techniques and concepts on real data.

Acknowledgments

We owe thanks to the many people who assisted in reviewing and preparing this textbook. Their names are listed below. We particularly acknowledge the editorial assistance of Susan L. Reiland, the administrative support of Jane Oas Benson, and the typing and assistance of Brenda Dobson and Karen Lundquist. Without these four, we never could have completed this work. We are also indebted to Professor Richard W. Andrews of the University of Michigan and his teaching assistants for using and critiquing a preliminary version of our new chapter on Methods for Quality Improvement (Chapter 12). Their comments and suggestions resulted in numerous improvements to the chapter.

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