

Psychological Statistics

Statistics:

Concerned with summarizing and making meaningful inferences from collections of data

Descriptive statistics:

The listing and summarizing of data in a practical, efficient way.

Examples of descriptive statistics:

- Graphs

Frequency distribution:

Shown in a graph (i.e. Normal Curve)

- Averages

Central Tendency:

Mean (average), Median (middle), Mode (most frequently occurring)

Variance:

How spread out are the scores? (Range)

Standard Deviation:

Measure of distance of scores from the mean

Correlation Coefficient:

Positive or Negative

Strong or Weak

Inferential Statistics:

Does research data support the hypothesis or are the results due to chance?

Statistical significance:

- Use one of several statistical formulas
- Looking for probability of .05 or .01

.05 means there is a 95% chance that the behavior found in research is caused by the independent variable.

.01 means there is a 99% chance that the behavior found in research is caused by the independent variable.