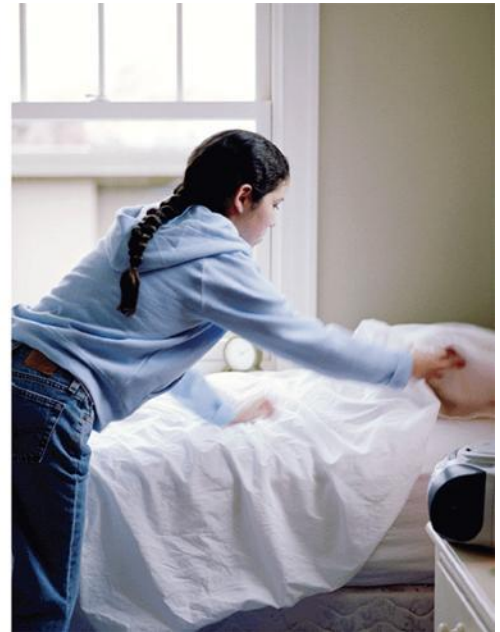


1

Statistics



1.4 Statistics and Technology

Statistics and Technology

In recent years, electronic technology has had a tremendous impact on almost every aspect of life. The field of statistics is no exception.

The field of statistics uses many techniques that are repetitive in nature: calculations of numerical statistics, procedures for constructing graphic displays of data, and procedures that are followed to formulate statistical inferences.

Computers and calculators are very good at performing these sometimes long and tedious operations.

Statistics and Technology

Throughout this textbook, as statistical procedures are studied, you will find the information you need to have a computer complete the same procedures using MINITAB and Excel software.

Calculator procedures will also be demonstrated for the TI-83/84 Plus calculator.

Statistics and Technology

Note

There is a great temptation to use the computer or calculator to analyze any and all sets of data and then treat the results as though the statistics are correct. Remember the adage: “Garbage-in, garbage-out!” Responsible use of statistical methodology is very important. The burden is on the user to ensure that the appropriate methods are correctly applied and that accurate conclusions are drawn and communicated to others.