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Statistics in Research

Writing a research paper has been shown to an intelligent summary of a complex idea. According to Craig Hospital, “statistics are used to describe something or to examine differences among groups or relationships among characteristics” (Craig). With these general concepts in mind, one needs to understand that a five-level relation exists between statistics and research papers. The five levels are as follows: descriptive statistics, level of significance, control, proof, and validity.

According to Craig Hospital, the five levels are descriptive statistics, level of significance, control, proof, and validity, and each level has a different effect on the research paper. Descriptive statistics involve the use of the following terms: Median (middle number in a sorted sequence of numbers), Mode(number that occurs most in a list of numbers), Mean(total average of all values), and standard deviation (the spread of the data or information). These terms are used as well as other statistical definitions to describe what you convey in your paper. “Statistical Significance” is something used in statistics to show the general relationship with two or more variables or groups (i.e., two groups of people) (Craig Hospital). This concept leads to the next level which is control. When the term “control” is referenced in connection to research papers, one must understand that the variables need constants attributed to them. This understanding leads to simplicity in the experiment or process. Even though simplicity is needed, a “proof” needs to be provided to explain the process that has been established. Additionally, proof helps other researchers replicate the findings mentioned. Finally, validity can be defined either in terms of the previous levels or by the definition that the writer/experiment manager needs to ensure that the paper and research tests what it says it should (Craig Hospital).

Works Cited

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