Using SPSS For Windows

Susan B. Gerber Kristin Voelkl Finn

Using SPSS For Windows

Data Analysis and Graphics

Second Edition

With 105 Figures



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Preface

This book is a self-teaching guide to the SPSS for Windows computer application. It is designed to be used with SPSS version 13.0, although many of the procedures are also applicable to earlier versions of SPSS. The step-by-step format of this manual "walks" the reader through numerous examples, illustrating how to use the application. The results produced in SPSS are shown and discussed in most examples. Each chapter demonstrates statistical procedures and provides exercises to reinforce the text examples.

This book may be used in two ways – as a stand-alone manual for a student learning to use SPSS for Windows or in a course together with a basic statistics text. As a stand-alone manual, it is assumed that the reader is familiar with the basic ideas of quantitative data and statistical analysis. Thus, statistical terminology is used without providing extensive definitions. Most of the applications in this book are self-explanatory, although the reader will need to refer to a text for extensive discussion of statistical theory and procedures.

This book can also be an invaluable part of an undergraduate or graduate statistics course with a computer component and can be used easily with any elementary statistics book (e.g., *The New Statistical Analysis of Data* by Anderson and Finn, *Elements of Statistical Inference* by Huntsberger and Billingsley, *Understanding Statistics* by Mendenhall and Ott, or *Introduction to the Practice of Statistics* by Moore and McCabe). This manual provides handson experience with data sets, illustrates the results of each type of analysis described, and offers exercises for students to complete as homework assignments. The data sets used as examples are of general interest and come from many fields, for example, education, psychology, sociology, health, and sports. An instructor may choose to use the exercises as additional class assignments or in computer laboratory sessions. Complete answers to the

exercises are available to instructors from the publisher.

Chapter 1 of this guide describes how to start the SPSS application and how to create, upload, and manipulate data files. Chapters 2 through 6 address descriptive statistics, and chapters 10 through 15 address inferential statistics. Chapters 7 through 9 discuss probability and are included primarily to illustrate the bridge between descriptive and inferential statistics. If this manual is used strictly to teach (or learn) SPSS, these chapters may not be relevant.

This manual uses SPSS for Windows, Version 13.0. System requirements include: Microsoft Windows 98, Me, NT® 4.0, 2000 or XP operating system, Pentium®-class processor, 200MB hard drive space (for the SPSS Base only), at least 128MB RAM, and an SVGA monitor. Information on installing SPSS is provided with the software. The application includes a comprehensive Help facility; the user need only click on **Help** on the main menu bar within the open application.

Information on obtaining data files used in this manual are posted on the Springer-Verlag website, at http://www.springeronline.com.

Buffalo, New York

Susan B. Gerber Kristin Voelkl Finn

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