SEND FEEDBACK

Descriptive vs. Inferential Statistics

In this section, we learned about how **Inferential Statistics** differs from **Descriptive Statistics**.

Descriptive Statistics

`Descriptive statistics` **is about describing our collected data** using the measures discussed throughout this lesson: measures of center, measures of spread, shape of our distribution, and outliers. We can also use plots of our data to gain a better understanding.

Inferential Statistics

`Inferential Statistics` **is about using our collected data to draw conclusions to a larger population**. Performing inferential statistics well requires that we take a sample that accurately represents our population of interest.

A common way to collect data is via a survey. However, surveys may be extremely biased depending on the types of questions that are asked, and the way the questions are asked. This is a topic you should think about when tackling the first project.

We looked at specific examples that allowed us to identify the

1. **Population** - our entire group of interest.
2. **Parameter** - numeric summary about a population
3. **Sample** - subset of the population
4. **Statistic** - numeric summary about a sample

Looking Ahead

Though we will not be diving deep into inferential statistics within this course, you are now aware of the