Business Statistics: Quantitative Methods and Techniques

Lecture 2: Introduction to Business Statistics

Overview of Business Statistics

- Business statistics is a broad topic.
 - Statistics
 - Computer Science
- Business statistics is widely applied.
 - Marketing
 - Human resource management
 - Economics
 - Finance
 - Health, sports, and politics
- Business statistics combines qualitative reasoning with quantitative tools.
 - Identify key business problems
 - Translate data analysis into decisions
 - Improve business performance

Overview of Business Statistics

- Business statistics begins with understating the business context.
 - Ask the right questions
 - Identify the appropriate analysis
 - Communicate information
- Numerical results are not very useful unless they are accompanied with clearly stated actionable business insights.
- There are three different types of analytics techniques.
 - Descriptive analytics: what has happened?
 - Predictive analytics: what could happen in the future?
 - Prescriptive analytics: what should we do?



Introduction to statistics

- What is statistics?
 - aim: making statements about real world phenomena
 - "statistics is a way to get information from data"
 - collecting, analyzing and interpreting data...
 - ...in order to get insight into phenomena...
 - ...to assist in decision making processes



Intuition check: Purchase history





Some Basic Concepts

- Population: The entire set of things of interest.
 - Parameter: A property descriptive of the population
 - Population mean
- Sample: The part of the population.
 Typically this provides the data we will look at.
 - Estimate: A property of a sample
 - Sample mean



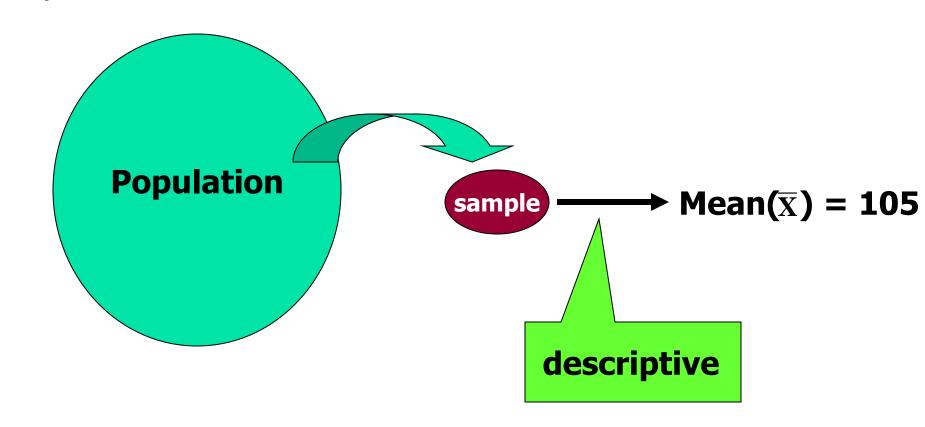
Descriptive Statistics:

 Summarize/describe the properties of samples (or populations when they are completely known)

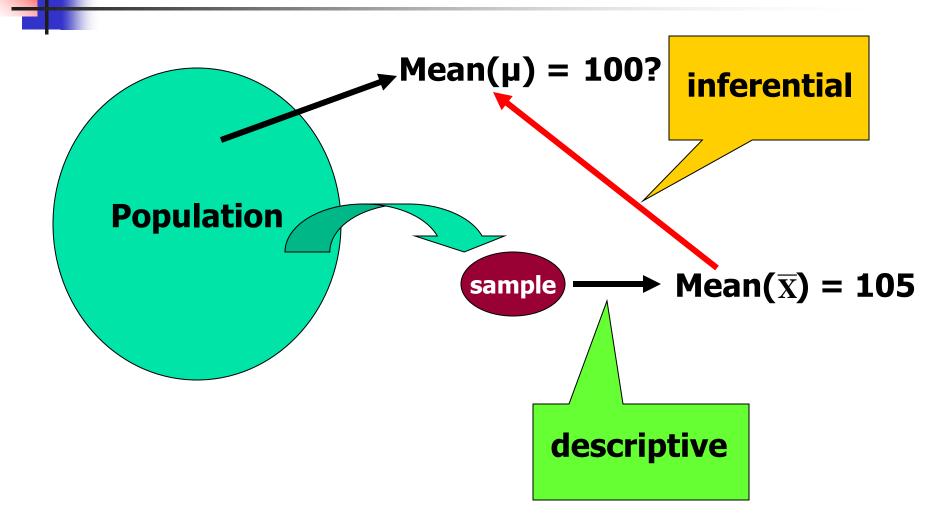
Inferential Statistics:

 Draw conclusions/make inferences about the properties of populations from sample data





Descriptive vs. Inferential Statistics





Some Basic Concepts

Variable:

- Something that varies
- A condition or characteristic that can have different values
- Constant

Types of Variables

- Nominal
- Ordinal

Categorical var. (범주형 변수) (Qualitative 정성)

- Interval
- Ratio

Numerical var. (수치형 변수) (Quantitative정량)

Types of Variables

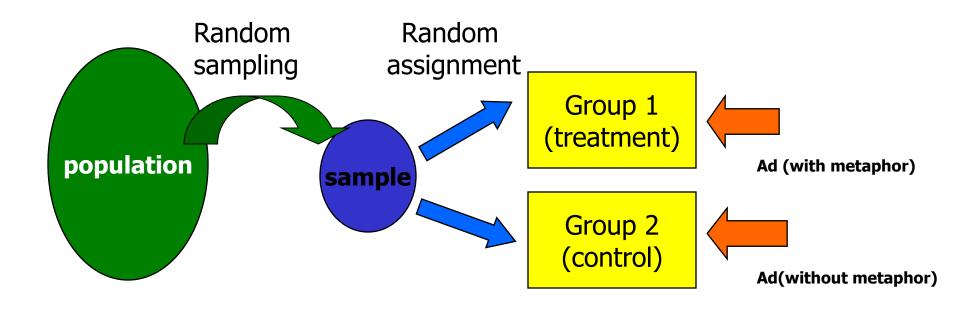
- Dependent variables (Y):
 - Outcomes/Responses
 - Predicted variables
- Independent variables (X):
 - Aka factors in experimental designs
 - Aka predictors/covariates







We want to test the effect of visual metaphor on consumers' advertising response.



Y = Consumer preference (1-10)X = Ad (0 = no, 1 = yes)

Univariate vs. Multivariate

Univariate

Only one DV, can have multiple IVs

Multivariate

Multiple DVs, regardless of number of IVs