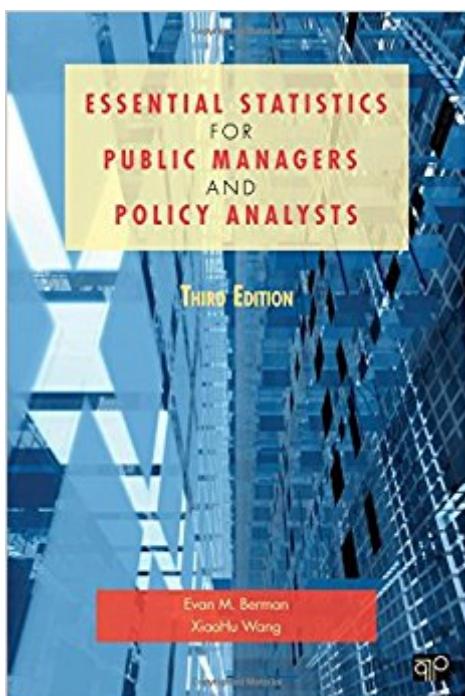


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Essential Statistics For Public Managers And Policy Analysts



Synopsis

Known for its brevity and student-friendly approach, this new third edition of Essential Statistics provides students with a strong conceptual foundation, but continues to stress application. Class-tested learning objectives, key term lists, and numerous tables, figures, and charts further enhance skill acquisition. Fully updated, this edition touts: two new chapters on applications in performance management and analysis and ANOVA; new coverage of essential nonparametric alternatives to conventional inferential statistics; and additional material on performance management, going beyond an emphasis on performance measurement.

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Customer Reviews

"This is the perfect text to use with future public administrators, non-profit agency directors, policy analysts, and health care analysts. It is very user-friendly. The workbook and online resources, too, are excellent." -- M. Raymond Alvarez "I highly value the clarity and straightforwardness of the book, and particularly like the fact that Essential Statistics does not force us to use one particular statistical software platform. The topics are discussed in a comprehensive fashion, such that the book can transition from the student bookcase to the professional library without problem. We tell our students that this is a `keeper.'" -- Fernando De Paolis "Essential Statistics for Public Managers and Policy Analysts is a very useful presentation of statistics in the context of public administration, and at the right level. It gives a welcome refresher for my graduate students who have not taken statistics recently, while also being appropriately challenging for students who are more up-to-date

in their statistics education." -- David Oliver Kasdan

Evan M. Berman is university chair professor at the National Chengchi University (Taipei, Taiwan) Doctoral Program in Asia-Pacific Studies, and the Department of Public Administration. Prior to moving to Taiwan, he was the Huey McElveen Distinguished Professor at Louisiana State University, and professor of public administration at the University of Central Florida and the University of Miami. Evan Berman is widely recognized a leading scholar of his generation and has published widely on topic of productivity, performance and human resources management in the U.S. and abroad. He has taught quantitative methods and research methods for over twenty years the result of which is this book. Berman has served as a policy analyst for the National Science Foundation. The conceptual and non-mathematical approach is inspired by a background in physics. XiaoHu Wang is Professor of Public Administration at City University of Hong Kong. Previously, he was Professor of Public Administration at the University of Central Florida (UCF). He has more than 20 years of experience teaching statistical methods, public budgeting, and financial management. He has been working with many U.S. governmental and nonprofit agencies as project manager, analyst, or performance evaluator. His applications of statistical methods in research and practice have helped many governments and nonprofits improve their performance and operations. He serves on editorial boards of several academic journals and chaired American Society of Public Administration's Section on Public Performance and Management. He is the winner of multiple teaching and research awards at UCF.

I found this book to be very helpful. For my undergraduate degree I majored in biology and chemistry and I thought I had a fairly strong understanding of statistical analysis; I worked as a analytical chemist for two years and I aced my Quantitative Analysis courses; however, this book furthered my understanding substantially. I purchased this book for a statistics class that was required of me for an MPA program. It is a very friendly book that is surprisingly easy to read, especially for stats. It is great for laying out concepts, why you would utilize each test, and the circumstances at which you would use them. I appreciate it for that. I was so accustomed to plugging and chugging variables that I had forgotten the very concepts and meanings of the statistical equations I used. What I don't like about this book though is that it holds to being a brief introductory book. It does not flesh out the formulas, you have to buy the workbook to explore that option and that's something as a graduate student I cannot afford easily. It does what it intends to very well. It provides the essentials. Nothing more, nothing less. If you want to explore further, there

are plenty of footnotes within the book that will help you begin; however, you should not expect this book to be exhaustive by any means. I give the book 5/5 for achieving its aims and being an easy read. You will need a more rigorous book though after you finish this.

Love this book! This is a must have for any public policy manager or employee! I rented this for class and now am going to buy it. Its a must-add for my collection.

I really like the chart at the beginning that tells you what statistical tests to use based on the kinds of data you're working with.

Great textbook, written in plain and understandable language. A must read for policy analysts

This book covers how to calculate most of the statistics you will need to understand while acknowledging that the calculation process is what computers are for. More importantly, it covers when each statistical tool should and should not be used. It also helps you to know which rules you can bend and still get reliable data (because the world we work in does not always - ever? - give us a situation that can be a perfectly controlled double-blind experiment).

Book for school it was ok.

This book breaks down most of the confusing stats jargon in a way that almost anyone can understand. I really struggled with stats in college and this book combined with SPSS made me wonder why I ever thought it was so difficult! I highly recommend this book for anyone looking to measure program performance or for those working on a thesis or dissertation that deals with quantitative analysis. However, this book does not break down the stats equation but expects you to have software, such as SPSS to do that for you. It focuses more on interpreting data that has already been calculated with software. The book also details case studies to help you determine which type of process/test to use to maximize validity. All in all, I highly recommend this book.

This book does a great job of providing clear definitions and speaking to the reader in a way that is easy to understand. I have no background in statistics, but the writing is totally clear to me. Excellent resource.

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