A Comparison of Standards for K-12 Statistics Education in the U.S., Canada, and New Zealand

Katherine Taylor Halvorsen khalvors@smith.edu Department of Mathematics & Statistics Smith College JMM, January 7, 2011

U.S. Common Core (CC) Mathematics Standards	Western & Northern Canadian Protocol (WNCP) Curriculum	New Zealand Curriculum Mathematics Standards
WHO		
For ALL students K-12 STEM students will finish CC in K-10 and take more advanced math in Grades 11 & 12	A Grades K-9 curriculum for ALL students and two curriculum strands starting at Grade 10: 1.Apprenticeship/workplace math, and 2.Foundations of math & precalculus	A national curriculum for ALL students, Years 1-13.
WHEN		
By January 2011, CC officially adopted by 38 states and DC; two states have tentatively adopted, and two more are considering adoption.	Developed in British Columbia and adopted by BC, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Yukon and NW Territories in 1993. Adopted by Nunavut, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland in 2000. Grades 10-12 implementation in 2010-	Implementation in English- medium schools completed in 2010. Maori-medium school implementation begun in 2010.
WHAT	2012.	
Standards for Practice and	Standards for Content	Standards for Practice and
Standards for Content	Standards for Content	Standards for Content

Common Core Standards (U.S.)	Western & Northern Canadian Protocol (WNCP) Curriculum	New Zealand
Primary School Standards: K-5	Grades 2-5	Levels 1, 2, & 3
Statistics in K-5 contained in	The Data Analysis strand first	Statistical investigations:
"Measurement and Data" strand.	introduced in Grade 2.	Using the statistical enquiry cycle
The summary overview at each	General overview statement at	posing and answering questions;
grade level states, "Represent	each grade states: Collect, display	gathering, sorting and counting,
and interpret data."	and analyze data to solve	and displaying category data;
Data analysis in K-5 supports	problems.	discussing the results.
mathematical ideas, particularly	Specific skills include gathering	Statistical literacy:
number and operations, but	and recording data about self and	Interpreting statements made by
statistical thinking is not	others, constructing and	others from statistical
developed.	interpreting pictographs, line	investigations and probability
The CC does not introduce the	plots, and bar graphs.	activities; comparing statements
four-step process in K-5:		with the features of simple data
formulate a question; design and		displays; and evaluating the
implement a data collection plan;		effectiveness of different displays
analyze the data; interpret the		in representing the findings of a
results of the analysis in context.		statistical investigation

Common Core Standards (U.S.)	Western & Northern Canadian Protocol (WNCP) Curriculum	New Zealand
Middle school: Grades 6-8	Middle School: Grades 6-9	Levels 3 & 4
Statistics and probability strand	Data analysis strand continued	Data analysis strand continued
introduced in grade 6.	through grades 6 to 9.	through levels 3 & 4
In MS students work with	Grade 6: Draw and interpret	Statistical investigations:
descriptive statistics,	line graphs; select and use	Conducting investigations using
distribution, variability, random	method for data collection,	the statistical enquiry cycle;
sampling, univariate	graph data and analyze graph.	gathering, sorting, and displaying
comparisons of two data sets,	Grade 7: Mean, median, mode,	multivariate category and whole
and patterns of association in	range, effects of outliers, circle	number data and simple time-
bivariate data sets.	graphs.	series data to answer questions;
	Grade 8: Critique data collection	identifying patterns and trends in
CC does not introduce the four-	methods.	context, within and between data
step process in 6-8: formulate a	Grade 9: Recognize design	sets; communicating findings,
question; design and implement	effects on data collection, select	using data displays.
a data collection plan; analyze	and defend choice of census	Statistical literacy: Evaluating the
the data; interpret the results of	versus sample	effectiveness of different displays
the analysis in context.		in representing the findings of a
		statistical investigation, and
		evaluating statements made by
		others about the findings of
9/3/2011		statistical investigations.

Common Core Standards (U.S.)	Western & Northern Canadian Protocol (WNCP) Curriculum	New Zealand
High School: Grades 9-12	High School: Grades 10-12	High School: Levels 5-12
The Statistics and Probability	Apprenticeship and Workplace	Level 5: Plan and conduct
Strand:	Mathematics:	surveys and experiments
Summarizing and interpreting	Grade 11: Solve problems that	(consider sources of variation)
categorical and quantitative data	involve creating and interpreting	and evaluate statistical
(for one and for two variables,	graphs, including: bar graphs,	investigations undertaken by
includes interpreting linear	histograms, line graphs, circle	others.
models)	graphs.	Level 6: Plan and conduct
	Grade 12: Mean, median, mode,	investigations using the
Understand and evaluate random	outliers, weighted mean, trimmed	statistical enquiry cycle (manag
processes underlying statistical	mean, percentiles	sources of variation through
experiments.	Foundations of Mathematics	random sampling) and evaluate
r ⁻	Grade 11: Standard deviation;	reports in the media.
Make inferences and justify	normal distribution, z-score;	Level 7: Conduct surveys and
conclusions from sample surveys,	confidence interval & level, margin	experiments, evaluate data
experiments, and observational	of error	collection methods, make
studies.	Mathematics Research Project:	informal inferences, and identi
	includes collecting data and	sampling and non-sampling
The CC does not introduce the	interpreting data with statistical	errors.
four-step process in 9-12. 9/3/2011	methods.	Level 8: Similar to AP Statistics