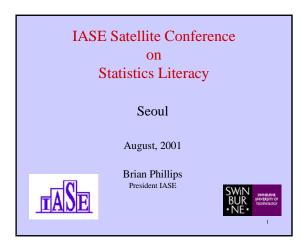
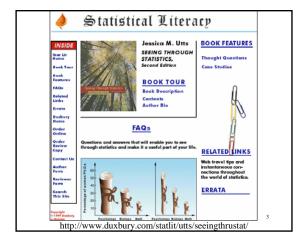
Statistics Literacy 8/2001



Statistics literacy

- The term "statistics literacy" does not have a single accepted meaning, but in general it refers to people's
 - ability to interpret, critically evaluate, and communicate statistical information,
 - data-related claims, or chance-related phenomena which they may encounter in diverse life contexts.
- Some level of statistics literacy may be desirable not only from all school or university graduates, but also of all adults, regardless of their educational and personal backgrounds.
- A set of basic skills, understandings, and dispositions, that all citizens need to be critical consumers of quantitative information in the world around them:
 - Being able to interpret graphs and tables.
 - Being able to read and make sense of statistics in the news, media polls, etc. 2
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Some FAQ about Statistical Issues in Life Jessica Utts- Seeing Through Statistics

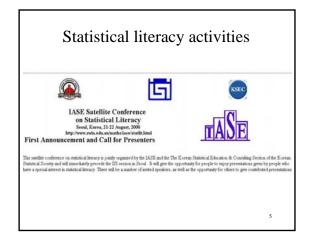
How can I increase my chances of winning the lottery?

I feel like the "experts" are always coming up with conflicting information about what's good or bad for you. Why does the latest study always seem to contradict previous wisdom? Chocolate/wine is good!!

In public opinion polls, how can a **few thousand people** possibly represent the millions of people in a country?

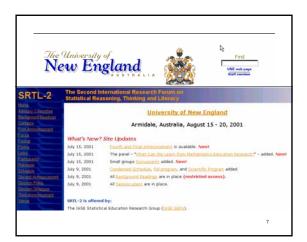
I had a vivid dream about a plane crash and the next day there was one. That couldn't have just happened by chance, could it?

I don't think it's fair that my auto insurance is so high just because I'm a young male. I've never had an accident or a ticket. My sister had a speeding ticket, so why does she pay so much less?





Statistics Literacy 8/2001







From Milo Schield

- I just received word that the W. M. Keck Foundation approved a three-year \$500,000 grant proposal to "extend statistical education to include statistical literacy": "critical thinking about arguments that use statistics as evidence." The focus is on using statistics for life, not just for very select jobs.
- · I am looking for people interested in statistical literacy
 - to write and trial materials
 - rates and percentages, the reading of rates and percentages in tables and graphs
 - the classification of graphs, the description of graphs, etc.
 - More advanced materials: ratio, prediction and explanation, confounding, etc.

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