

STATISTICS 101

WHAT IS STATISTICS?

- “Statistics is a way of reasoning, along with a collection of tools and methods designed to help us understand the world.”
- Statistics is the science of gaining information through data collection.
 - this information is usually used collaboratively with other disciplines such as: psychology, sociology, marketing, etc.
 - basically EVERYTHING!!!

WHAT IT IS NOT

- **Statistics is not math!!!**
- Statistics uses simple math to help interpret our results.
- Statistics is not just points per game or a batting average.

HOW IS STATISTICS USEFUL?

- Knowledge of the past is helpful in assessing the present and predicting the future.
- Conducting a survey (sample) can give valid information about that population.

IMPORTANT POINT

- Statistics is based on variation.
- All reasonable data have variation.
- Example: People’s heights.