

*IDENTIFYING STATISTICAL CONCEPTS
ASSOCIATED WITH HIGH AND LOW
SELF-EFFICACY TO TEACH STATISTICS:*

*USING THE **SETS** INSTRUMENT WITH
PRE-SERVICE MIDDLE GRADES
TEACHERS*

Leigh M. Harrell-Williams, University of Memphis

M. Alejandra Sorto, Texas State University

Rebecca L. Pierce, Ball State University

Lawrence M. Lesser, The University of Texas at El Paso

T.J. Murphy, Northern Kentucky University

CONTINUING THE FUN FROM YESTERDAY'S WORLD STATISTICS DAY



<https://worldstatisticsday.org/>

THE RESEARCH TEAM

Supported in part by CAUSE
(under NSF DUE #0618790)



Leigh M. Harrell-Williams
University of Memphis



M. Alejandra Sorto
Texas State University



Rebecca L. Pierce
Ball State University



Lawrence M. Lesser
The University of Texas
at El Paso



Teri J. Murphy
Northern Kentucky
University

Self-Efficacy, Attitudes, and Beliefs

Teacher efficacy affects

- teacher motivation
- willingness to use more innovative techniques
- student achievement
- time spent teaching certain concepts

(Czerniak, 1990;
Riggs & Enochs, 1990;
Wenta, 2000).

Existing Instruments Measured

- attitude towards statistics (SATS, ATS)
- efficacy for learning/doing statistics (CSSE, SELS)
- statistical knowledge (SCI, CAOS)
- statistics anxiety (STARS)

SETS DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Identified representative behaviors from GAISE and state standards items

Draft items created for instrument using language aligned with GAISE and state standards

Revised item wording based on input from practicing elementary & middle school teachers

MIDDLE GRADES SETS INSTRUMENT

26 items in this format:

Please rate your confidence in teaching middle grades students the skills necessary to complete the following tasks successfully:

Scale of 1 “Not at all confident” to 6 “Completely confident”

MIDDLE GRADES SETS INSTRUMENT

Appendix - All Items on the Middle Grades SETS Instrument

The instrument below uses the two-factor structure presented in [Harrell-Williams et al. \(2014\)](#). Applying the language of [Friel, Curcio, and Bright \(2001\)](#), the two-factor structure in the column headings represents levels A and B, respectively, of the preK-12 GAISE ([Franklin et al. 2007](#)). Readers interested in using the SETS instrument should contact the authors.

Factor 1 Items: “Reading the Data”	Factor 2 Items: “Reading Between the Data”
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Collect data to answer a posed statistical question in contexts of interest to middle school students.2. Recognize that there will be natural variability between observations for individuals.3. Select appropriate graphical displays and numerical summaries to compare individuals to each other and an individual to a group.4. Create dotplot, stem and leaf plot, and tables (using counts) for <i>summarizing</i> distributions.5. Use dotplot, stem and leaf plot, and tables (using counts) for <i>describing</i> distributions.6. Create boxplots for <i>summarizing</i> distributions.7. Use boxplots, median, and range for <i>describing</i> distributions.8. Identify the association between two variables from scatterplots.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">12. Distinguish between a question based on data that vary and a question based on a deterministic model (for example, specific values of rate and time determines a particular value for distance in the model $d = r \times t$).13. Identify what variables to measure and how to measure them in order to address the question posed.14. Describe numerically the variability between individuals within the same group.15. Create histograms for summarizing distributions.16. Use histograms for comparing distributions.17. Compute interquartile range and five-number summaries for summarizing distributions.18. Use interquartile range, five-number summaries, and boxplots for comparing distributions.19. Recognize the role of sampling error when making conclusions based on a random sample taken from a population.

SETS DEVELOPMENT PROCESS (CONT.)

2010 - 2011

Data Collection Study
for Validation Purposes

2012

Analysis of Data for
Psychometric
Properties of
Instrument

2013

Evaluation of “Easiest”
and “Hardest” Items

WHAT
INFORMATION
CAN
WE LEARN
FROM THE DATA?

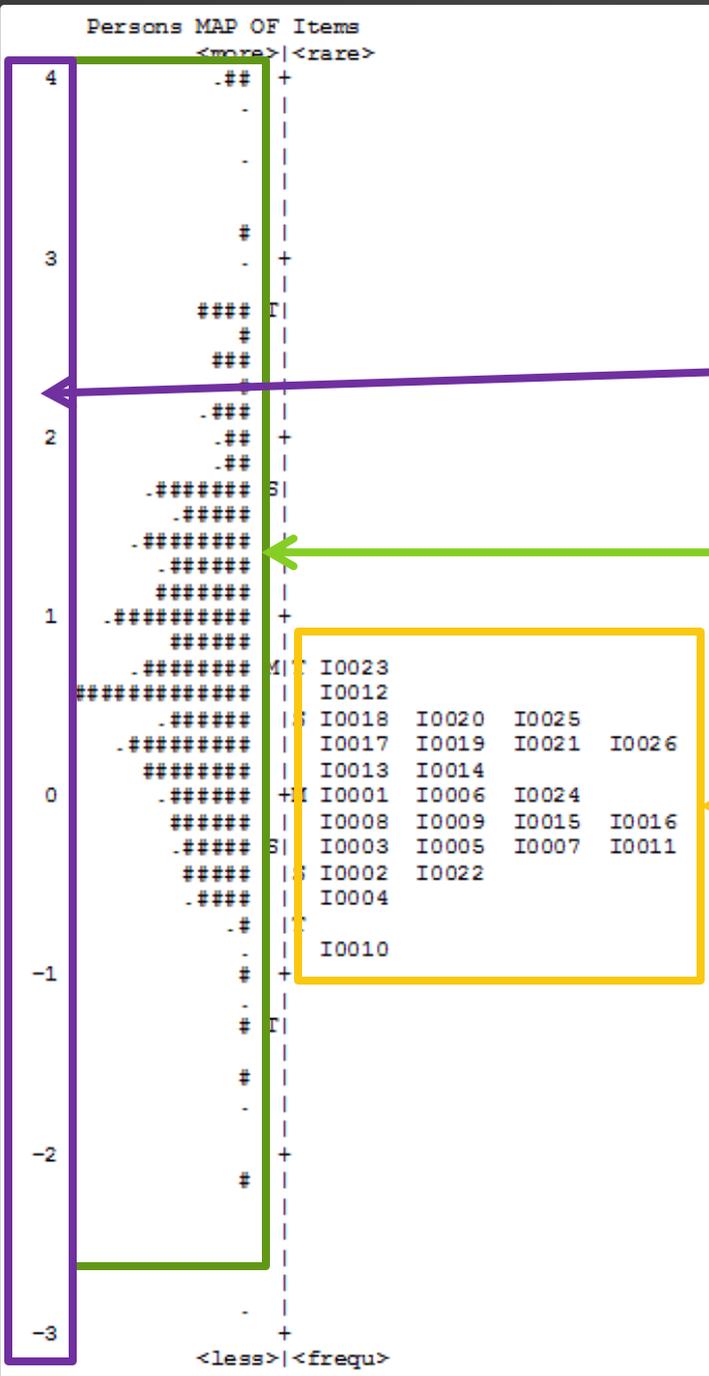


USING THE WRIGHT MAP

Estimates for items and persons are in logits

Distribution of persons

Distribution of items



FOCUS ON ITEMS

```

| Items
|
|
|
1 | +
|
|T I0023
| I0012
|S I0018 I0020 I0025
| I0017 I0019 I0021 I0026
| I0013 I0014
0 | +M I0001 I0006 I0024
| I0008 I0009 I0015 I0016
| I0003 I0005 I0007 I0011
|S I0002 I0022
| I0004
|T
|-1 | I0010
| +
|
|

```

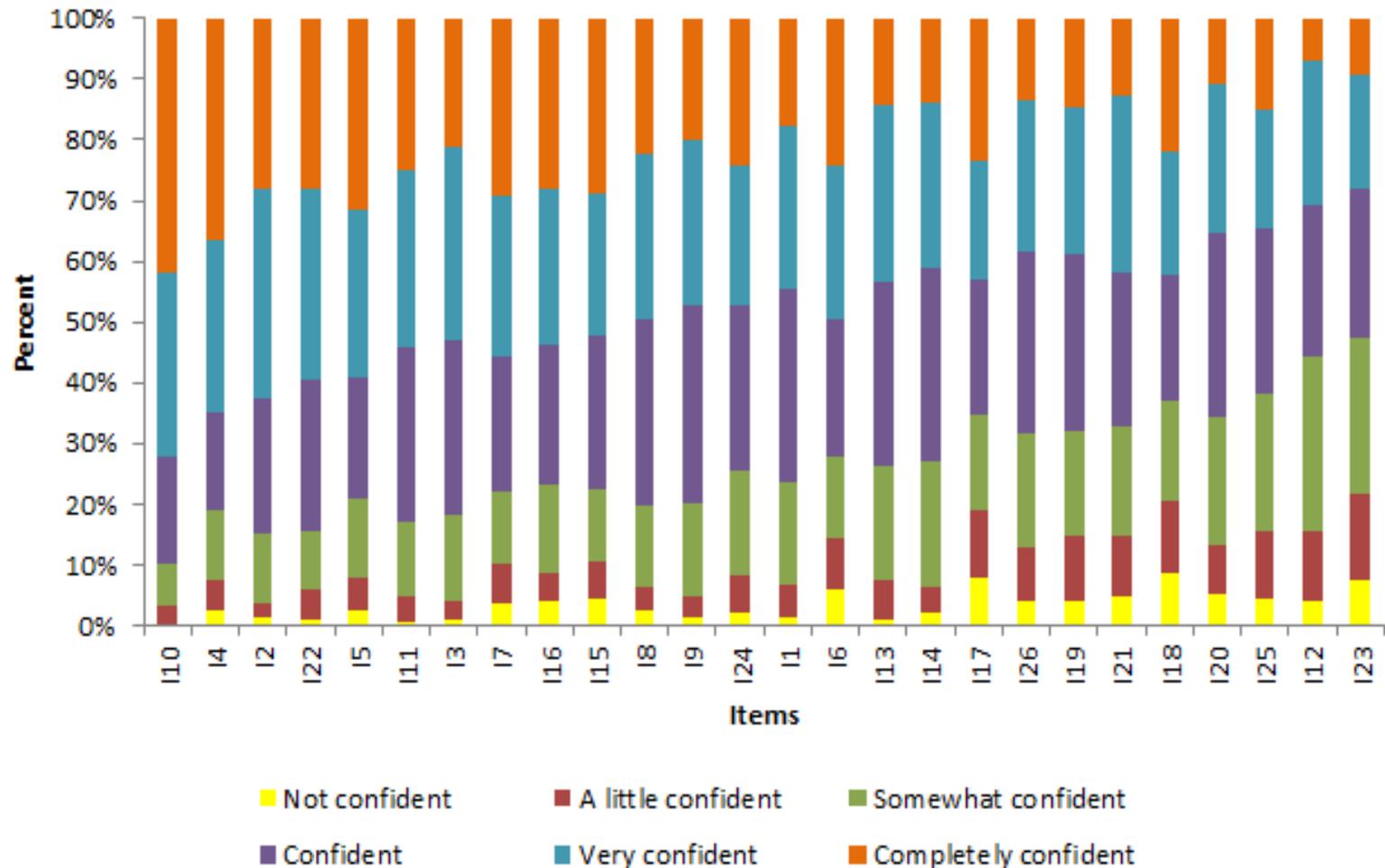


Level B items



Level A items

RESPONSES FOR EACH CATEGORY BY ITEM



ITEMS WITH HIGHEST EFFICACY RATINGS

Item #	Difficulty Estimate	S.E.	Item Description
5	-0.34	0.06	Use dotplot, stem and leaf plot, and tables (using counts) for describing distributions.
22	-0.41	0.06	Recognize that a sample may or may not be representative of a larger population.
2	-0.48	0.06	Recognize that there will be natural variability between observations for individuals.
4	-0.50	0.07	Create dotplot, stem and leaf plot, and tables (using counts) for summarizing distributions.
10	-0.90	0.07	Recognize that statistical results may be different in another class or group.

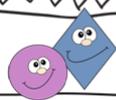
ITEMS WITH LOWEST EFFICACY RATINGS

Item #	Difficulty Estimate	S.E.	Item Description
23	0.74	0.06	Interpret measures of association.
12	0.61	0.06	Distinguish between a question based on data that vary and a question based on a deterministic model.
25	0.43	0.06	Distinguish between "association" and "cause and effect."
20	0.41	0.06	Describe numerically the strength of association between two variables using linear models.
18	0.36	0.06	Use interquartile range, five-number summaries, and boxplots for comparing distributions.
21	0.31	0.06	Explain the differences between two or more groups with respect to center, variability, and shape.

SUMMARY OF TRENDS

- ▶ Statistical topics where PSTs report feeling more efficacious:
 - ▶ generalizability of results
 - ▶ variability among results (2 items)
 - ▶ creating and using graphs and/or tables to summarize a distribution of univariate data (2 items)

Name _____

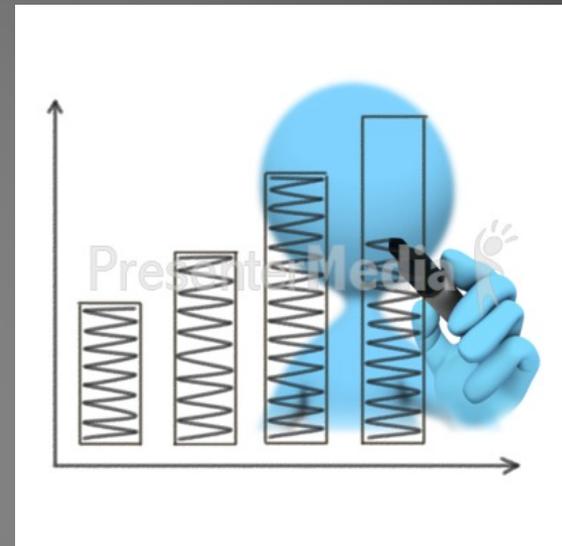
Which Shape is Your Favorite?  

square	trapezoid	triangle	hexagon

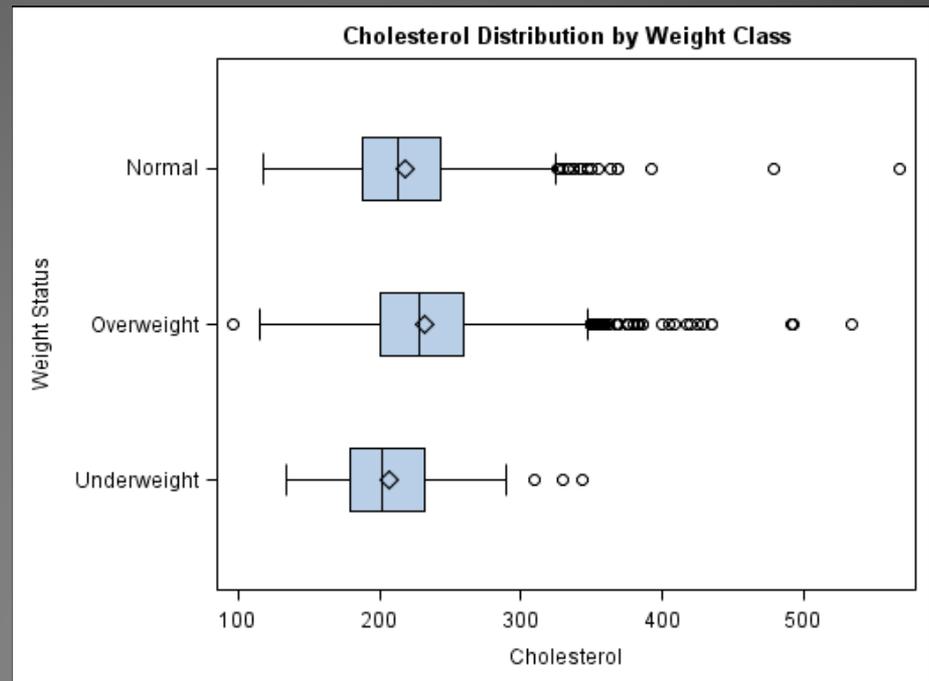
My data shows that...

15				
14				
13				
12				
11				
10				
9				
8				
7				
6				
5				
4				
3				
2				
1				
	square	trapezoid	triangle	hexagon

©2012 Debbie Candau Graphics by Debbie Candau



- ▶ Statistical topics where PSTs report feeling less efficacious:
 - ▶ question generation
 - ▶ association (2 items)
 - ▶ group comparisons (3 items)



ONGOING WORK

- ▶ Validation study for High School SETS instrument
- ▶ Investigation of why PSTs feel more/less confident about teaching certain statistical topics



TO GET SETS

Email Rebecca Pierce
rpierce@bsu.edu

SETS REFERENCES

Harrell-Williams, L.M., Sorto, M.A., Pierce, R.L., Lesser, L.M., & Murphy, T.J. (2015). Identifying statistical concepts associated with high and low levels of self-efficacy to teach statistics in middle grades. *Journal of Statistics Education*, 23(1), 1–20.

Harrell-Williams, L.M., Sorto, M.A., Pierce, R.L., Lesser, L.M., & Murphy, T.J. (2014). Validation of scores from a measure of teachers' self-efficacy to teach middle grades statistics. *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*, 32(1), 40–50.

SETS REFERENCES

Harrell-Williams, L.M., Sorto, M.A., Pierce, R.L., Lesser, L., & Murphy, T.J. (August 2012). Measuring confidence to teach statistics to middle and high school grades: The development and validation of the SETS instruments. Webinar for Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE).

Harrell, L.M., Pierce, R.L., Sorto, M.A., Murphy, T.J., Lesser, L.M., & Enders, F.B. (2009). On the importance and measurement of pre-service teachers' efficacy to teach statistics: Results and lessons learned from the development and testing of a GAISE-based instrument. *Proceedings of the 2009 Joint Statistical Meetings, Section on Statistical Education*. Alexandria, VA: American Statistical Association.