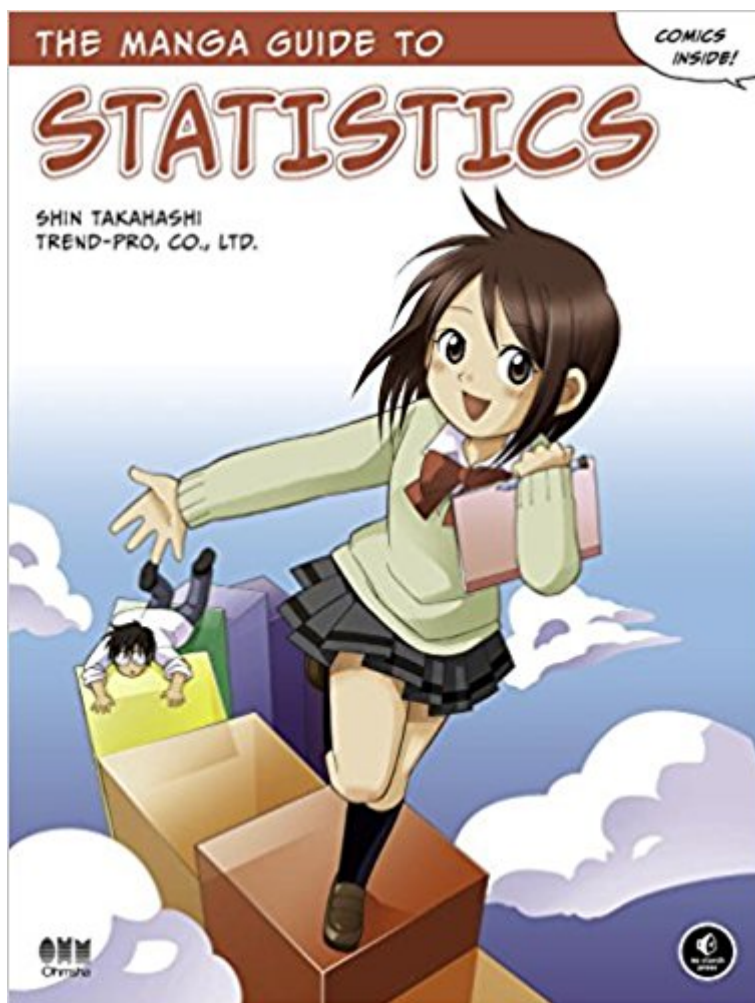


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The Manga Guide To Statistics



Synopsis

Think you can't have fun learning statistics? Think again. The Manga Guide to Statistics will teach you everything you need to know about this essential discipline, while entertaining you at the same time. With its unique combination of Japanese-style comics called manga and serious educational content, the EduManga format is already a hit in Japan. In The Manga Guide to Statistics, our heroine Rui is determined to learn about statistics to impress the dreamy Mr. Igarashi and begs her father for a tutor. Soon she's spending her Saturdays with geeky, bespectacled Mr. Yamamoto, who patiently teaches her all about the fundamentals of statistics: topics like data categorization, averages, graphing, and standard deviation. After all her studying, Rui is confident in her knowledge of statistics, including complex concepts like probability, coefficients of correlation, hypothesis tests, and tests of independence. But is it enough to impress her dream guy? Or maybe there's someone better, right in front of her? Reluctant statistics students of all ages will enjoy learning along with Rui in this charming, easy-to-read guide, which uses real-world examples like teen magazine quizzes, bowling games, test scores, and ramen noodle prices. Examples, exercises, and answer keys help you follow along and check your work. An appendix showing how to perform statistics calculations in Microsoft Excel makes it easy to put Rui's lessons into practice. This EduManga book is a translation from a bestselling series in Japan, co-published with Ohmsha, Ltd. of Tokyo, Japan.

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Grade 10 Up – Rui is introduced to statistics with heart-pounding excitement when she develops a crush on Igarashi, her father's market-research business associate. In an attempt to impress him, the teen asks her father for a personal tutor and is devastated when he enlists Yamamoto, a bespectacled geek, as her instructor. As Rui gamely struggles through some basic lessons, readers learn about distribution tables and deviation scores. Naturally, love finally blossoms. In a moment of frustration, Rui knocks off Yamamoto's glasses and sees his eyes for the first time, and hers fill with hearts. This manga textbook is written for those interested in understanding principles of statistics. Each of the seven chapters is organized into four sections: a cartoon, a text explanation to supplement the cartoon, an exercise that includes the answer, and a summary. Readers can learn much about the subject by just reading the cartoon, but they will gain a more thorough understanding by working through the other three sections in each chapter.

Yamamoto provides Rui with easy-to-understand examples and graphic illustrations, making the subject less intimidating. The book progresses in difficulty, beginning with data types and advancing to tests of independence. Clearly, readers need a solid understanding of mathematics to grasp these concepts. The art is charming and the humor engaging. Readers will enjoy following Rui as she struggles with math concepts while showing off her new school uniform and realizing her romantic feelings for her tutor. A fun and fairly painless lesson on what many consider to be a less-than-thrilling subject. – Barbara M. Moon, Suffolk Cooperative Library System, Bellport, NY Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

"The art is charming and the humor engaging. Readers will enjoy following Rui as she struggles with math concepts while showing off her new school uniform and realizing her romantic feelings for her tutor." – School Library Journal
"Provides accurate, clearly related statistical content as the underlying schoolgirl-crush story line unfolds...Recommended." – Choice Magazine

I love this. I've took enough stat class in my life, and I've used some stat stuff at work. This book is great to explain the basic information about stat. There are some terminology that I didn't know as well. I like their approach of using daily stuff to explain stats. Also, towards the end, there are small practice problem for you to do. Is nothing much but at least to start some where. It's easy reading, and I enjoy it. I'll probably will start my collection with other "Manga Guide to..."

Parent - Reviewed book -- for a statistics book it was a delightful read and learned new things. Thanks Shin Takahashi !
Student - Reviewed book -- the content is interesting, fun and easy to follow while helping me with not only statistics but Micro Soft Excel as well, however - some of the functions in Excel do not seem to correlate any longer, but still gives a very good gist of the application. Thank you - hope this helps.

Coming from the perspective of manga. It will be strikingly beneficial if the guide is targeted at real novice and beginners. One way for the artist/author to achieve this is by asking fundamental questions pertaining to the topic of the book. One example is the fundamental motivation of calculating the standard deviation and what the standard deviation means or what it is suppose to do for the layman.

Great fun.

I have never been a big manga fan, and I truly suck at math, statistic included. But I've always wanted to know at least a little math, and statistics seems to be among the more interesting areas (perhaps because of how stats can be abused in government, the marketplace, etc.). I have read "The Cartoon Guide to Statistics" and found it fun, useful book. But I think "Manga" is better. For one thing, as white Westerner, I was utterly charmed by the Japanese flair in the book. My favorite example is when the tutor told a recalcitrant Rui, "You dampen my spirits." I would love to think that somewhere in America we have a math tutor who would say such a thing. I doubt we do. The art and narrative is relentlessly cute (in a way I approve of...after all, who doesn't love the Japanese gape-mouthed pillow cushion of a monster, Domo?). And the statistics instruction is, while kept basic enough, comprehensive enough to have made me feel like I was picking up valuable knowledge. There's probably nothing here that a real statistician would find compelling, but for a young person or an older person who's never properly learned any statistics, this book is the spoonful of plum wine that helps the standard deviations go down. As to unadulterated usefulness, that might come in the last chapter and appendix, which demonstrates how an Excel spreadsheet can be used to figure out statistical data. Another reviewer commented that the longish-winded explanations the tutor gives to how statistics work, the formulae that are used to work them out, are unnecessary because most of those functions are easily accomplished with computers now. That's a fair point, but I disagree. I still think there is something importantly organically with connecting on

an understanding level with what computer functions are up to that helps maintain the meaning of those functions for us better. I might liken it to photography--sure, a digital autofocus camera might effortlessly take better pictures than we could with a manual focus old Nikon SLR. But what we learn composing the hands-on way might make us understand and appreciate the product of technology all the more. In this perhaps the book is just capturing something I imagine to be a flavor of Japan...a country with profound traditions, and incredible technological prowess. Even manga artwork seems to be a fusion of traditional minimalism with something very vanguard and hip. In other words, not only is "The Manga Guide to Statistics" a good work of pedagogy, but it's a darn fine work of pop art as well.

I love it! Nice quality and work for my purposes. Will buy from them again.

This book is a good supplement to a college level statistics textbook, but is weak by itself in my opinion. It really helped me understand some concepts which I had already learned but did not know the "why" to.

Direct, simple and hands on. Really, if you hated statistics in class but know you need them get yourself this book,

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