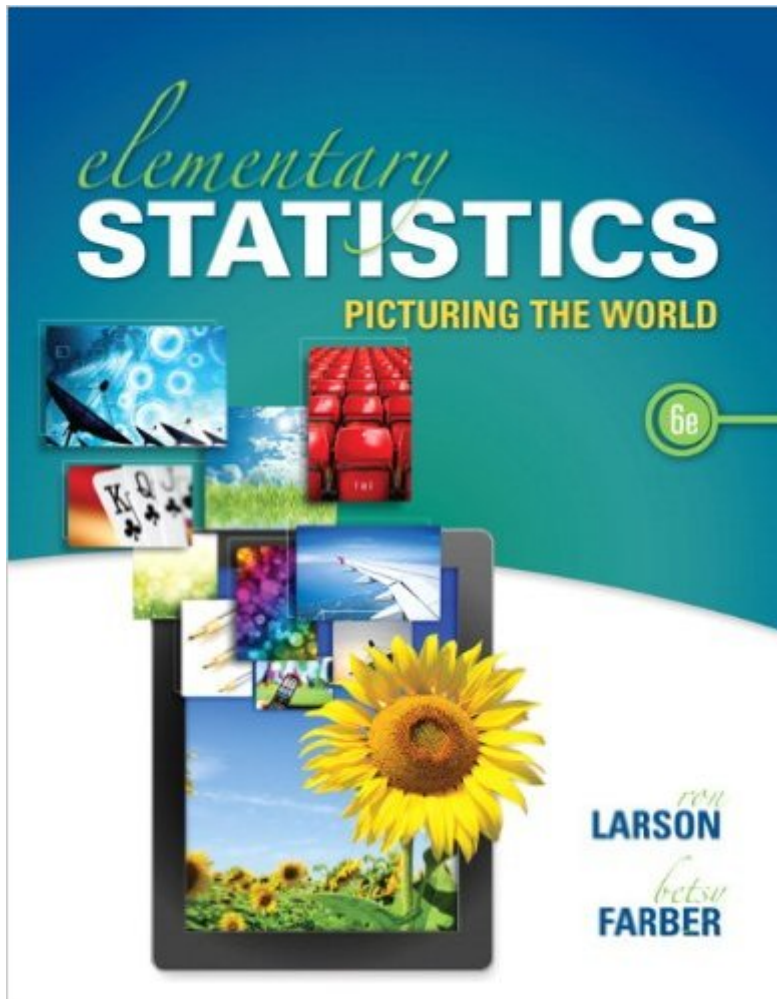


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Elementary Statistics: Picturing The World (6th Edition)



Synopsis

Statistics opens a window to the modern world, and this market-leading text makes it easy to understand! Larson and Farber's Elementary Statistics: Picturing the World, Sixth Edition, provides stepped out instruction, real-life examples and exercises, and the use of technology to offer the most accessible approach. The authors carefully develop theory through strong pedagogy, and examples show how statistics is used to picture and describe the world. In keeping with the premise that students learn best by doing, it includes more than 210 examples and more than 2300 exercises, to make the concepts of statistics a part of students' everyday lives.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars See all reviews (67 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

While most reviews for this book have concerned themselves with the quality of the copy received, or the lack of access to the MyStatLab, my review will focus on the helpfulness of this text in understanding elementary statistics. This version is riddled with errors, particularly in chapters 7 and 9, where numerous definitions go unexplained, and numerous problems can not be solved given the information provided in the Appendix; these include, but are not limited to: missing values for confidence intervals for specified sample sizes, lack of definitions for such terms as x-naught, and limited explanation of margin of error and standard error for correlation. Furthermore, many of the tables and charts are printed at such a size that the details necessary to fully comprehending the theme of the chapter are impossible to discern. All this is in addition to the lack of access to MyStatLab, a bafflingly poor organization of the necessary appendix information, and the general lack of coherence between the chapters. I understand well that math is a cumulative science,

meaning that a student must master with a certain degree of proficiency the chapter prior in order to understand the chapter following, but the manner in which the information is presented and organized in the Larson+Farber text makes this impossible: it is tree, after tree, after tree, without any inclination that a forrest exists outside of the three to four sentences which preface each chapter. In order to succeed on any cumulative final or qualitative statistical analysis, it is necessary for a student to gain at least a moderately nuanced understanding of the forrest as well as the trees, but this text woefully misses the mark.

The book itself is reasonably easy to understand and follow, but it does jump around as one reviewer mentioned, and there are some glaring typos. 3 weeks into an online Stats course taught 100% from the textbook, I have not found myself needing to reach out for extra help. Keep in mind, the full-price "new" non-rental hardcover edition is ONLY the bare book and supplemental CD with some additional course material and data sets. It does NOT come with a Pearson Access Code for MyStatLab, XLSTAT for Pearson, or any other product. The CD also seems to require a specific older version of Quicktime for Windows to install; you will be met with an error trying to install without Quicktime, and also if you install the most recent release. I gave up and am digging through files in the disk's directories instead. This book might have gotten another star if I had not found Pearson customer support to be so bad; beyond useless, I would have been happier if they had not had a support number listed. For a textbook that retails for \$225 before expensive software add-ons, SOME level of helpful support should be a requirement. I spent the better part of 3 days back and forth with them both over the phone and e-mail, attempting to get information about an Access Code for XLSTAT Pearson edition, a product their Excel instructions that accompany the text claim is available to anyone that purchases this edition of the book. Not a single support rep out of the 6 I dealt with was able to offer one ounce of help; every one of them zeroed in on random keywords in my questions and pasted the boilerplate support response without reading further. My final online interaction was closed out as "solved" without even replying to me.

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