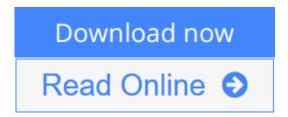


Damned Lies and Statistics: Untangling Numbers from the Media, Politicians, and **Activists**

By Joel Best



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Here, by popular demand, is the updated edition to Joel Best's classic guide to understanding how numbers can confuse us. In his new afterword, Best uses examples from recent policy debates to reflect on the challenges to improving statistical literacy. Since its publication ten years ago, Damned Lies and Statistics has emerged as the go-to handbook for spotting bad statistics and learning to think critically about these influential numbers.



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From the Inside Flap

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"In our era, numbers are as much a staple of political debates as stories. And just as stories so often turn into fables, so Best shows that we often believe the most implausible of numbers--to the detriment of us all."—Peter Reuter, co-author of *Drug War Heresies: Learning from Other Vices, Times and Places*

About the Author

Joel Best is Professor of Sociology and Criminal Justice at the University of Delaware. His many books include *Everyone's A Winner: Life in Our Congratulatory Culture* and *Stat-Spotting: A Field Guide to Dubious Data*, both from UC Press.

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