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PREFACE

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There are many authors who are eager to have their own book published so that it will be available for their own use. When we were in graduate school, the three of us searched for a text like the one before you; unfortunately, such a book did not yet exist. We amassed a pool of examples to help us present the results of our work for our classes, for conference papers, and for publications, prizing those examples that were well written and complete. Because so many of our examples inconsistently reported elements of the analysis, we often had to do further research with various statistics texts. Once this research was complete, we found that we were using our own past work as the best example of what to do with our current research write-ups.

Of course, this book goes well beyond what we prepared for ourselves in graduate school. To complete this text, we scoured more than 5,000 additional empirical studies across several disciplines in the social sciences to find examples of well-written results. In it, you will find examples generated from such disciplines as psychology, communication, journalism, public health and health communication, mass communication, political science, sociology, as well as law and ethics.

This book will be an important supplemental text for anyone enrolled in an advanced undergraduate statistics class or a graduate class in methods or statistics. Moreover, it will be indispensable to anyone writing a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation based on an empirical study, as well as to the countless others writing papers for classes or for state, regional, national, or international conferences. For each test statistic we cover, we offer a format for how to write up the results of an analysis using that statistic, and follow this suggested format with one or more examples of how these tests have been written up for publication in the social sciences. These recent examples were chosen for their completeness, clarity, and readability, and we hope that they may even serve to model to readers how these statistics can be used appropriately in real-life research.

In contrast with those books that provide invaluable information about theories, ideas, and paradigms, our book is strictly