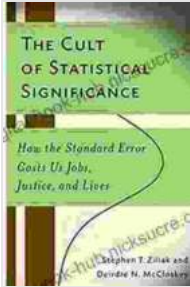


How the Standard Error Costs Us Jobs, Justice, and Lives: Economics, Cognition, and the Tyranny of Statistical Significance



The Cult of Statistical Significance: How the Standard Error Costs Us Jobs, Justice, and Lives (Economics, Cognition, And Society) by Tilman Borgers

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1010 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 341 pages



The standard error is a measure of statistical uncertainty. It is used to estimate the amount of error in a statistical sample and to make inferences about the population from which the sample was drawn. The standard error is often used in economics, psychology, and other social sciences to make inferences about the effects of different interventions or treatments.

However, new research suggests that the standard error may be costing us jobs, justice, and lives. This article explores the history and impact of the standard error, and suggests ways to mitigate its potential harm.

The History of the Standard Error

The standard error was first developed in the early 1900s by the statistician Ronald Fisher. Fisher was interested in developing a way to measure the variability of a sample and to make inferences about the population from which the sample was drawn. The standard error is a measure of the standard deviation of a sample, and it can be used to estimate the confidence interval for a population mean. In other words, the standard error can be used to determine the range of values within which the true population mean is likely to fall.

The standard error has become a widely used statistic in economics, psychology, and other social sciences. It is used to make inferences about the effects of different interventions or treatments, and it is often used to determine whether or not a particular result is statistically significant.

The Impact of the Standard Error

The standard error has a significant impact on our lives. It is used to make decisions about who gets jobs, who goes to prison, and who gets access to healthcare. However, the standard error is not always accurate, and it can lead to unfair and unjust outcomes.

Economics

In economics, the standard error is used to estimate the effects of different economic policies. For example, the standard error might be used to estimate the impact of a tax cut on economic growth. However, the standard error is not always accurate, and it can lead to policies that do not have the intended effects. For example, a study by the Congressional Research Service found that the standard error was used to justify the Bush tax cuts, which did not lead to the promised economic growth.

Criminal Justice

In criminal justice, the standard error is used to estimate the risk of recidivism for defendants. The risk of recidivism is a measure of the likelihood that a defendant will commit another crime after being released from prison. The standard error is used to determine whether or not a defendant should be released on bail or parole. However, the standard error is not always accurate, and it can lead to people being held in jail or prison unnecessarily. For example, a study by the National Institute of Justice found that the standard error was used to justify the use of risk assessment tools that were biased against Black defendants.

Health Disparities

In healthcare, the standard error is used to estimate the effects of different treatments. For example, the standard error might be used to estimate the impact of a new drug on blood pressure. However, the standard error is not always accurate, and it can lead to treatments that are not effective or that have harmful side effects. For example, a study by the National Institutes of Health found that the standard error was used to justify the use of a drug that was later found to cause heart problems.

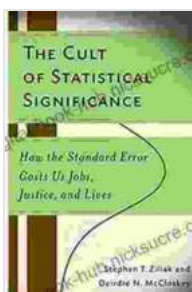
Mitigating the Harm of the Standard Error

The standard error is a useful statistic, but it is important to be aware of its limitations. The standard error is not always accurate, and it can lead to unfair and unjust outcomes. There are a number of ways to mitigate the harm of the standard error. These include:

- Using other measures of statistical uncertainty, such as the Bayesian credible interval.

- Replicating studies to confirm results.
- Being cautious about making inferences from small samples.
- Educating policymakers and the public about the limitations of the standard error.

The standard error is a powerful tool that can be used to make inferences about the world around us. However, it is important to be aware of its limitations. The standard error is not always accurate, and it can lead to unfair and unjust outcomes. By taking steps to mitigate the harm of the standard error, we can help to ensure that it is used to promote justice and equality.



The Cult of Statistical Significance: How the Standard Error Costs Us Jobs, Justice, and Lives (Economics, Cognition, And Society) by Tilman Borgers

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1010 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 341 pages





Tough Cookies Don't Crumble: The Unbreakable Spirit of Those Who Overcome Adversity

Life is full of challenges. We all face them, in one form or another. But for some people, the challenges are so great that they seem insurmountable. They may come in...



The California-Born Diners, Burger Joints, and Fast Food Restaurants That Changed the World

California is known for many things, but its fast food scene is one of its most iconic. From In-N-Out to McDonald's, some of the most well-known fast food...