



Cornell University
Office of Statistical Consulting

Colleges of Human Ecology and Agriculture and Life Sciences
Division of Nutritional Sciences

StatNews #14: SPSS/SYSTAT Site License

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SPSS is a statistical software package that is widely used on campus but can be very expensive to purchase. The academic pricing for an individual copy containing the three most important modules costs \$1185. While students can purchase an SPSS graduate pack at a much more reasonable price from the Campus Store, this price is not available to faculty, staff, computer labs and servers. Several departments, administrative services, and research groups have purchased either site licenses or individual copies at a total cost to the Cornell community far exceeding what a global Cornell site license would actually cost.

To find a solution to this situation, the Office of Statistical Consulting and the Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research are working closely with SPSS. The SPSS company has grown substantially over the last few years and has bought other software companies, including SYSTAT and BMDP. SPSS' willingness to make SPSS and SYSTAT widely available at Cornell makes us hope to have a solution in place by January. If you need to purchase or upgrade SPSS or SYSTAT for yourself, your department or research group, or if you are a current user of SPSS or SYSTAT, please contact Françoise Vermeylen, (fmv1@cornell.edu or 255-8211) so that we can have a better grasp of the need on campus and help you save money. If you would like some additional information or would like to try either SPSS or SYSTAT, we would be glad to help you.

SPSS software is composed of several modules of which the base, advanced, professional and tables modules are the most commonly used. Over recent years, SPSS has evolved from a mostly command driven package primarily aimed at social scientists to a very user friendly software with capabilities that make it now useful for a much wider audience. It is available for Windows, Macintosh, and Unix. The latest Windows version has been much enhanced with the addition of General Linear Model and Logistic Regression procedures.

SYSTAT is a general-purpose statistical software package which offers advanced statistical procedures and high quality graphics. It is available for Windows and Macintosh.

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