

Project Title: 2021W2 UBC TA SEI Surveys

Course Audience: 114
Responses Received: 7
Response Ratio: 6%

Report Comments**Recommended Minimum Response Rates**

| Class Size | Recommended Minimum Response Rates based on 80% confidence & $\pm 10\%$ margin |
|------------|---|
| < 10 | 75% |
| 11 - 19 | 65% |
| 20 - 34 | 55% |
| 35 - 49 | 40% |
| 50 - 74 | 35% |
| 75 - 99 | 25% |
| 100 - 149 | 20% |
| 150 - 299 | 15% |
| 300 - 499 | 10% |
| > 500 | 5% |

Creation Date: **Thursday, May 26, 2022**

TA Questions

| Question | N | n | SD | D | N | A | SA | N/A | IM | DI |
|---|-----|---|----|---|---|---|----|-----|-----|-----|
| The teaching assistant was well prepared. | 114 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 4.2 | 0.5 |
| The teaching assistant was helpful. | 114 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 4.2 | 0.5 |
| The teaching assistant was considerate of students. | 114 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 4.2 | 0.5 |
| The teaching assistant was easily understood. | 114 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 4.2 | 0.5 |
| The teaching assistant was an effective instructor. | 114 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4.3 | 0.6 |

| Question | %Favourable |
|---|-------------|
| The teaching assistant was well prepared. | 83% |
| The teaching assistant was helpful. | 83% |
| The teaching assistant was considerate of students. | 83% |
| The teaching assistant was easily understood. | 83% |
| The teaching assistant was an effective instructor. | 80% |

Explanatory Note

Percent Favourable Rating

This is the percentage of respondents who rated the instructor a 4 or 5 (Agree or Strongly Agree).

Interpolated Median

The data collected for Student Experience of Instruction (SEI) are ordinal in nature, with a natural order (from 1 to 5). While the mean may be used as a measure of central tendency for such data, it is not an appropriate or accurate representation of SEI data (cf. Stark & Freishtat, 2014). The usual measure of central tendency for ordinal data is the median. As a result, we have been reporting the mean and the median for the last several years. After considerable thought and data modeling, we now believe that the interpolated median is the best representation of the data, since it takes the frequency distribution into account.

Consider the following example from 2015W, the two course sections have identical mean (3.8). However, the instructor in section 2 received 77% favourable (4-5) ratings, compared to 53% for the instructor in section 1. The Interpolated median values of (3.7 and 4.2), much better reflects the distribution of the scores above and below their respective median. Furthermore, the interpolated median is better correlated with percent favourable rating; such that an interpolated median of 3.5 on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, corresponds to 50% favourable rating.

Frequency Distribution

| Response for University Module Item | Section 1 | Section 2 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 5 = Strongly agree | 5 | 5 |
| 4 = Agree | 3 | 5 |
| 3 = Neither agree nor disagree | 6 | 0 |
| 2 = Disagree | 1 | 2 |
| 1 = Strongly disagree | 0 | 1 |
| | | |
| Mean | 3.8 | 3.8 |
| Median | 4.0 | 4.0 |

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|
| Interpolated Median | 3.7 | 4.2 |
| Percent favourable rating | 53% | 77% |

Dispersion Index

The dispersion index is a measure of variability suitable for ordinal data (Rampichini, Grilli & Petrucci 2004). This dispersion index has values between zero and 1. A zero dispersion index indicates that all respondents in the section rated their experience of instruction the same. An index value of 1.0 is obtained when the respondents are split evenly between the two extreme values (Strongly Disagree & Strongly Agree), a very rare occurrence. In SEI data at UBC, the index rarely exceeds 0.85, and mostly for evaluations not meeting the minimum recommended response rate.