
Addressing Social Justice and Equity in the Statistical Education of Teachers through Statistics Activities

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We present the work of the MODULE(S²) RAC's statistics team who have developed statistics activities that engage pre-service teachers in analyzing data relevant to social justice and equity issues. The activities include data from general societal issues and education-specific issues. Examples include racial gaps in job search success and unemployment, the relationship between school district poverty and test scores, and car insurance pricing trends related to minority percent in various Zip codes (adjusted for claim rates). We take care to discuss the pitfalls of a deficit-based view of these issues. These activities provide a model as to how secondary teachers can address issues of equity and social justice in their math classrooms. We are teaching mathematics teachers to enact equitable pedagogies that foster critical thinking and teach students to be active participants in democracy. We are doing this by using data sets and analysis methods that an active, critically-thinking citizen could use.