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Chapter 2 Reading Guide

1. What are some of the author’s quotes about statistics? What do statistics “just do”?
2. What is internal validity?
3. What is the difference between reliability and internal validity?
4. What are nominal, ordinal, and interval data?
5. Why is it important to sometimes standardize our statistics?

The Myth of the Vanishing Voter- McDonald and Popkin-2001
1. What was the widely believed myth that the authors are addressing in this article?
2. What is meant by VAP? How is it calculated?
3. What is meant by VEP? How is it calculated?
4. How does calculating voter turnout differ when one uses VEP versus VAP?
5. What main conclusion do the authors present?