

aws marketplace

IBM SPSS Statistics

Reviews, tips, and advice from real users



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Product Recap



IBM SPSS Statistics

IBM SPSS Statistics Recap

IBM SPSS Statistics is a powerful data mining solution that is designed to aid business leaders in making important business decisions. It is designed so that it can be effectively utilized by organizations across a wide range of fields. SPSS Statistics allows users to leverage machine learning algorithms so that they can mine and analyze data in the most effective way possible.

IBM SPSS Statistics Benefits

Some of the ways that organizations can benefit by choosing to deploy IBM SPSS Statistics include:

- **Ease of use.** SPSS Statistics enables users to simply and intuitively take control of their statistical needs. The solution is designed so that analysts who do not know how to code can easily make full use of the various tools and capabilities that SPSS Statistics has to offer. Its command language is so straightforward that it does not require users to undergo special training before they use it.
- **Comprehensive and flexible build.** SPSS Statistics is designed to be both a comprehensive and highly flexible analytics solution. It enables users to utilize a variety of integrations that make it easy for users to add features that they might feel they are missing.
- **Automation.** SPSS Statistics makes it simple for users to automate basic tasks that they might otherwise devote too much time worrying about. Tasks like calculation or data gathering can be delegated to the system while more conceptual tasks like data analysis are given to an organization's analysts to handle.

IBM SPSS Statistics Features

- **Intuitive user interface.** SPSS Statistics enables users to deploy an intuitive interface that makes the process of system management simple. Among the other components of this interface is a drag-and-drop feature that makes analysis and management possible for anyone who wants to use it.
- **Advanced data visualizations.** Analysts that employ SPSS Statistics gain access to tools that empower them to create and export data visualizations. These visualizations can be formatted in many different ways depending on what the user needs.
- **Local data storage.** SPSS Statistics has the ability to securely store data on a user's computer. This enables them to add layers of security that would not necessarily be present if the data was stored in the cloud.

Reviews from Real Users

IBM SPSS Statistics is a highly effective solution that stands out when compared to many of its competitors. Two major advantages it offers are the wealth of functionalities that it provides and its high level of accessibility.

An Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at a university writes, "The most valuable feature of IBM SPSS Statistics is all the [functionality it provides](#). Additionally, it is simple to do the five-way analysis that you can in a multidimensional setup space. It's the multidimensional space facility that is most useful."

A Director of Systems Management & MIS Operations at a university, says, "The SPSS interface is very [accessible and user-friendly](#). It's really easy to get information from it. I've shared it with experts and beginners, and everyone can navigate it."

Valuable Features

Excerpts from real customer reviews on PeerSpot:

- ✓ “In comparison with other software, I found IBM SPSS Statistics to be the best one from my perspective.”



EzzAbdelfattah

Associate Professor Of Statistics at a university with 10,001+ employees

- ✓ “The biggest benefit of the IBM SPSS Statistics tool for my customers and me is that it's very old, meaning they have more experience; when the tool was first released, we had customer service that created surveys with the customers asking which way they wanted to go, what they would see within the tool, and what would be helpful—IBM basically created the tool according to this knowledge.”



Lilyan Pinchas

Chief Technology Officer at Libi Technologies

- ✓ “SPSS is perfectly adequate if all you want are some results.”



Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

- ✔ “It is perfectly adequate if all you need are the results and not the trail of evidence.”



Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

- ✔ “The most valuable features mainly include factor analysis, correlation analysis, and geographic analysis.”



Md Masudul Hassan

Agricultural Finance and IT Researcher at Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

- ✔ “The most valuable feature is its robust statistical analysis capabilities.”



AbakarAhmat

Software Engineer at a university with 10,001+ employees

- ✔ “One feature I found very valuable was the analysis of variance (ANOVA).”



Olawunmi Ogunde

Business Intelligence Analyst at University of Huddersfield

What users had to say about valuable features:

“IBM SPSS Statistics is good for obtaining necessary results like cross tabs, correlation, regression, and chi-squared analyses. It is perfectly adequate if all you need are the results and not the trail of evidence..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

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“The product’s most valuable capability is to handle large datasets and ensure robust analysis simultaneously. We can write, save, and reuse the scripts for further procedures. We do not have to run the program file again on the different datasets..”

Ali Bin Tahir

Research Executive at NielsenIQ

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“SPSS is perfectly adequate if all you want are some results. If you only need the results, you do not require the trail of evidence on how you obtained those results. I mainly used it for cross tabs, correlation, regression, chi-squared tests, and similar analyses often seen in published papers; I used it for my papers as well. For wider uses I find Knime keeps me in touch with my data, however much I transform them..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

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“The most valuable features mainly include factor analysis, correlation analysis, and demographic analysis. I find the user interface to be intuitive and improved compared to earlier versions. IBM periodically updates their products, which enhances their usability and performance. Smoothness is crucial for researchers when using software, and in this regard, IBM SPSS is highly recommended..”

Md Masudul Hassan

Agricultural Finance and IT Researcher at Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

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“Predictive analytics is the most important part of analytics. There are four levels of analytics, starting with descriptive, then diagnostic, then predictive, and after that, there is prescriptive. Predictive is the main core of using statistical packages. Especially now in IBM SPSS Statistics, we start to have neural networks, support vector machines, classification trees, regression techniques, and generalized linear regression. This is the most important predictive analytics. Predictive analytics has four types: the statistical techniques, which is mainly regression; classification trees; neural or artificial intelligence techniques; plus the time series technique.

“Syntax is very important, especially as it is now related to the Python language. This is important to use the syntax, especially if you have replication for the process of analysis. The syntax will be important in this case, whether for updating data or for future data. We use the syntax file..”

EzzAbdelfattah

Associate Professor Of Statistics at a university with 10,001+ employees

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“There are so many features of the tool that are the most useful, such as decision trees, which we can't live without.

“Decision trees help by making all of our decisions in the company, such as deciding whether to go on a specific technology or to try and sell different products. Every decision we make we do with the decision trees.

“Custom Tables helps to enhance data analysis capabilities by basically recreating all the tables that you have from your current data; it's replacing a semantic layer for BI, so the same thing for IBM SPSS Statistics. It's designing the metadata.

“The biggest benefit of the IBM SPSS Statistics tool for my customers and me is that it's very old, meaning they have more experience. When the tool was first released, we had customer service that created surveys with the customers asking which way they wanted to go, what they would see within the tool, and what would be helpful. IBM basically created the tool according to this knowledge. It's very suitable, and they're very experienced, so there are no bugs, it's working great, and it's even implemented in every school here that teaches statistics.

“It provides efficient and accurate analytics, with quantifiable metrics..”

Lilyan Pinchas

Chief Technology Officer at Llibi Technologies

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Other Solutions Considered

“Recently, I have moved away from IBM SPSS Statistics and have been using KNIME instead. It's easier, particularly for students. I've been using R alongside KNIME as well..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

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“Besides IBM SPSS Statistics, I have used KNIME and recently started using R, which is free of charge and more powerful but cumbersome. RStudio is its front end, making it useful to scientists..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

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“In the past, I utilized SmartPLS. IBM is a renowned software company known for continuously developing and updating its products. In comparison to other software options, IBM stands out as a reliable solution. IBM's commitment to product development ensures that its offerings meet the evolving needs of users..”

Md Masudul Hassan

Agricultural Finance and IT Researcher at Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

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“I am currently learning to use R with a front end called RStudio, which is widely used by scientists. For beginners, KNIME is easier. This is based on my participation in a webinar by UK data service on R programming language..”

Laurence Moseley

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Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

“There is a package now called JASP that is trying to imitate IBM SPSS Statistics. It has an advantage of being open source or free. This will give competition with IBM SPSS Statistics. I did not try it with huge data. However, I used IBM SPSS Modeler for more than or almost 8 million records. With students now, we can use JASP as it is a free package and it is imitating IBM SPSS Statistics by using the measurement levels: nominal, ordinal, and scale. It is clearer for using this rather than other software, as they are not classifying the measurement level this way..”

EzzAbdelfattah

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Associate Professor Of Statistics at a university with 10,001+ employees

“I used traditional tools where I would prepare data, click through menus, and use SQL Server for data visualization. We switched to IBM SPSS because it offers strong certification and aligns well with the standards we prioritize in our surveys. In terms of popularity, it stands out as the top choice in the market, especially in the research and university domains. Many different organizations and institutions use SPSS for statistical analytics. While there are other tools like MCLab and similar options available, SPSS is the most renowned and widely used among them..”

AbakarAhmat

Software Engineer at a university with 10,001+ employees

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ROI

Real user quotes about their ROI:

“They see value for their money, meaning a return on investment with this tool.

“They see the value in that it saves time when using the decision tree, as it helps you get the right decision and saves a lot of money..”

Lilyan Pinchas

Chief Technology Officer at Llibi Technologies

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“In terms of return on investment, both time and money are crucial for success. Collecting and analyzing data, preparing reports, and making decisions based on that data all require significant resources. Therefore, efficient data collection and analysis are essential. IBM software helps me streamline this process, saving time and money compared to other platforms due to its user-friendly interface and smooth performance..”

Md Masudul Hassan

Agricultural Finance and IT Researcher at Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

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“There is a physical return on investment (ROI) involved in this process. It includes conducting assessments, catering to end-users needs, and fulfilling specific requirements requested by government organizations, universities, and various entities. SPSS is employed to generate routine reports, which could be on a monthly or quarterly basis. By using SPSS for this purpose, there is no need to contract with external companies to produce these reports. This results in a significant ROI, estimated at around 50 percent..”

AbakarAhmat

Software Engineer at a university with 10,001+ employees

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Use Case

“I use it to analyze questionnaire surveys related to a product, solution, or application, such as open data services, which I provide to consumers and end-users. These surveys contain evaluation assessments, and I use SPSS to analyze the responses..”

AbakarAhmat

Software Engineer at a university with 10,001+ employees

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“I used SPSS mainly for tasks such as cross tabs, correlation, regression, and chi-squared tests, which are commonly seen in published papers. I also utilized it for my published papers a long while ago, but nowadays I tend to use Knime. It helps me to ensure good quality data..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

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“I have used IBM SPSS Statistics primarily for survey analysis. It did what was necessary, including crosstabs, correlation, regression, chi-squared, and similar analyses that you see in published papers. These are the types of analyses I have used it for in my research..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

[Read full review](#) 

“I do use IBM SPSS Statistics, and even my students are using it for their projects and reports while working on PhD or Master's degrees. They are analyzing data using it.

“In comparison with other software, I found IBM SPSS Statistics to be the best one from my perspective. It has some features, and especially the current version starts to add artificial intelligence techniques and facilitates the analysis. Every new version has new additions for some functions. I use it for whatever analysis is needed, not just a specific one. I use both IBM SPSS Statistics and IBM SPSS Modeler..”

EzzAbdelfattah

Associate Professor Of Statistics at a university with 10,001+ employees

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“I've used SPSS for my doctoral research and in my work as an academic and consultant. It's useful for getting reliable insights into survey data and performing quantitative data analysis. SPSS does the math for statistical research.

In theory, I could take the same data set, plug it into an Excel spreadsheet, and eventually get the same result. However, it would be unbelievably messy and the chances of getting accurate and reliable results are next to nil. They're just too complex. For example, if you're trying to do multivariate analysis to find correlations between complex and diverse data sets, you can make a scatter plot in Excel, but it's unlikely to yield satisfactory results.

I use both the formula-based input side of it and the more user-friendly side of it, depending on the context. Both of them produce more accurate, reliable, and easy-to-generate results than any other tool that's around. At the same time, SPSS isn't a tool you should use for simple, descriptive analytics.

If you only need to create a bar chart, it's not worth spending the time to clean your data set and go through all the work required to import it into SCSS. While it can obviously do all those functions, it's not designed to make pretty charts. In other words, it's the hardest way to do the simplest of tasks, but it is the easiest way to do the hardest of tasks..”

Patrick Scolyer-Gray

Founder & CEO at Pathbreaker Pty Ltd

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“Our customers' main use cases for this solution are everything that needs statistics calculations, then we do it there.

“I use the Custom Tables module in IBM SPSS Statistics.


“The government office of education is one of my customers for IBM SPSS Statistics, but basically, every enterprise in the country almost uses IBM SPSS Statistics.

“Regarding the ability to handle large data sets, the tool has that ability, as we are using very large data sets.

“I'm not using the reporting feature of IBM SPSS Statistics; I'm using Cognos on IBM SPSS Statistics data to build the reports..”

Lilyan Pinchas

Chief Technology Officer at Lbi Technologies

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Setup

The setup process involves configuring and preparing the product or service for use, which may include tasks such as installation, account creation, initial configuration, and troubleshooting any issues that may arise. Below you can find real user quotes about the setup process.

“It is easy to set up the solution; just click through the installation process.

“If I were to rate the setup from one to ten, I would give it a nine, meaning it's very easy..”

Lilyan Pinchas

Chief Technology Officer at Libi Technologies

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“I did not have to perform the initial setup as it was handled by the university's tech people. There was no problem for me during the setup. Similarly for Knime, which has very strong support, education, lots of pre-built modules available as drag-and-drop, videos, an active Consultation Hub and many extensions which are simple to install and which just seem to work..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

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“The solution is easy to install. We use other tools to deploy the models and we exported the models to other languages, then implement them through the database solutions that our clients have. Most of our clients use either Oracle or SQL but none of them use an IBM solution. The most time-consuming part of the process is preparing the data for modeling..”

Verified user


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Founder and General Manager at a tech services company with 1-10 employees

“The initial setup was not hard. It's not hard to install the solution. By following the installation instructions, you can easily install it on your system. I would rate it an eight, where ten is the easiest. The whole deployment process took around 40 minutes.

In my experience with SPSS, I have worked with both straightforward and complex setups. The complexity depends on the analysis you're conducting..”

Olawunmi Ogunde

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Business Intelligence Analyst at University of Huddersfield

“I believe that the initial setup is simple. The problem of SPSS Statistics, it is not to click the icon to do the installation. The problem of Statistics is to know which statistical analysis you have to use.

Some people used to say that they know how to use SPSS Statistics, but they do not know which type of analysis to use. The manufacturer of the tool may want to do something to include training in the initial setup so that the users know more about the tool that they are using. .”

EzzAbdelfattah

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Associate Professor Of Statistics at a university with 10,001+ employees

“The initial setup is pretty straightforward. Although I'm not an SPSS admin, per se, I was part of the SPSS installation. Basically what happens when you install any SPSS statistics package is a company involves both the admin guy and also the technical consultant who will be working on it so that they can work in tandem and make the installation perfect.

I was involved with the installation team, as well. It is pretty simple. It's not that complex. I think the versatility of IBM SPSS Statistics tool is very evident, it's good. You have the ability to fetch and analyze the different sets of data, whether it is a CSV from a separated value, or other data from the Oracle database, or other older database such as Dbase or redundant spreadsheets like Lotus 1,2,3 or Excel. You have everything. On that count, I gave IBM a nine out of 10. But there are drawbacks too, because IBM SPSS is not able to fetch the data from new databases like SAP HANA or SAP BW HANA. SAP HANA got introduced in 2011, but it became famous more in 2015.

The same is the case with BW HANA, the business warehouse for HANA, and any statistical tool which is not capable of fetching data from this volume, this database. SAP HANA is a numerary database. So any statistical tool which is not able to fetch data from these databases will not be able to sustain itself in the market for long. But yeah, there are some workarounds where people fetch the data from HANA into some of the data sets and transfer the same data set into SPSS to work through the indirect path. But SPSS has to pull up its socks to fetch data from heterogeneous environments, whether it be SAP, HANA or whether it is a MongoDB or anything, any RDBMS, or DBMS on this earth. That kind of flexibility should be there in SPSS..”

Verified user[Read full review](#) 

Database Consultant at a pharma/biotech company

Customer Service and Support

“The technical support is not very useful. You can find help on the internet but if you really have a problem then it can take a while before you get a solution..”

Verified user

Advanced analytics at a manufacturing company with 10,001+ employees

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“IBM SPSS’s website provides multiple documentation for technical support and guidance. It is easy for new users to learn because of user-friendly designs consisting of drop-down menus. The users can select if they want to run a statistical analysis or hypothesis testing easily. Additionally, we can write the script using the programming language..”

Ali Bin Tahir

Research Executive at NielsenIQ

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“We haven't had to call IBM tech support. I called IBM once for a discount but never for support. When we switched from a single user to a tiered license a few years back, I recommended adopting special pricing for schools. IBM could verify this easily by looking at the users' school email addresses. Customer service was pretty smooth. Once we opened a ticket, they connected us to their sales, and we got the pricing we were looking for. .”

Verified user

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Director, Systems Management & MIS Operations at a university with 201-500 employees

“I have not used the IBM technical support for SPSS Statistics directly. I am working with SPSS since version eight back in the eighties or early nineties. So it is now version 27 and I have been working with the product for 20 versions. I have become very familiar with this product and all its changes over that period of time. Because of that, it is not necessary for me to contact the customer support. .”

EzzAbdelfattah

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Associate Professor Of Statistics at a university with 10,001+ employees

“Their customer service is pretty good. IBM is always customer oriented. I worked at IBM earlier, I know what kind of customer service they have. I worked in IBM at a prior date in India. They're very customer oriented, very customer focused. They don't let their customers down, even if the customer is bad, they'll politely try to resolve the issue. They focus on resolving the issue rather than getting into egos and all that stuff. I rate nine out of 10 on tech support. It's awesome..”

Verified user

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Database Consultant at a pharma/biotech company

“I've had a chance to work with the IBM support, and my impression is that it's fine; it's similar to all other vendors. I'm business partners with other vendors, but it's not the best support I've ever had.

“If I were to rate the support from one to ten, I would give it a seven.

“To achieve a ten for support, I think they should improve the levels of support; the first level of support is where technical knowledge is not sufficient, and the ticket must go through first level, then second level, then third level..”

Lilyan Pinchas

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Chief Technology Officer at Llibi Technologies

Other Advice

“While IBM SPSS Statistics is a good product, it is very expensive and might be a better fit for those with a sufficient budget. KNIME provides a desktop version free of charge, which helps users get started..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

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“I believe it's suitable for anyone to confidently use for research purposes, given its wide range of capabilities. Overall, I highly recommend it due to its user-friendly interface, making it accessible to all. Overall, I would rate it ten out of ten..”

Md Masudul Hassan

Agricultural Finance and IT Researcher at Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

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“I recommend to those who plan to use IBM SPSS Statistics to use it because it's a really good tool.

“I would recommend using it because it's very good, and I really have no issues with it, especially compared to other tools.

“On a scale of one to ten, I rate IBM SPSS Statistics a nine..”

Lilyan Pinchas

Chief Technology Officer at Llbi Technologies

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“I suspect that SPSS is used by many in universities or other organizations with budgets for it. In that context it is often free of charge to end users, with costs covered by the organization, not the individual researcher. This represents a significant financial saving for researchers. After they graduate, it is different.

I have not been involved in purchasing it for a long time since it is provided by the university where I work.

On an SPSS functionality scale I'd rate the solution six out of ten..”

Laurence Moseley

Emeritus Professor of Health Services Research at University of South Wales

[Read full review](#) 

“It requires some training or following a few tutorials on YouTube to understand the product functionality. If you are already interested in learning new languages, it offers more versatility and comprehensive data analysis.

It is an expensive tool. For individual users, especially non-students, there might not be a free option available. It has a subscription-based model without an option for one-stop payment. Certain areas need some guidance and learning for users to understand the functionality. However, it is a great tool in terms of versatility and types of analysis.

I rate it an eight out of ten..”

Ali Bin Tahir

Research Executive at NielsenIQ

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“Data is now transferred from structured data to semi-structured data to unstructured data. IBM SPSS Statistics is mostly working with structured data. However, if you are having unstructured data, IBM SPSS Statistics is not able up to now to work with it. [Here](#) we have to use IBM SPSS Modeler as it is able to work with different kinds of data. However, I think for the future, these two packages need to improve or to give the ability to use unstructured data. This is the future of data now. You are now working with social data, such as Facebook and YouTube and similar platforms. This kind of data needs special treatment, which is not included in IBM SPSS Statistics as it uses only structured data.

“IBM SPSS Statistics is working well with structured data like regular data from Excel and similar sources. However, when you start to use unstructured data or something such as videos and sound, in this case, you will be in need for a tool that is not able to be used with IBM SPSS Statistics. I would rate this review as an 8..”

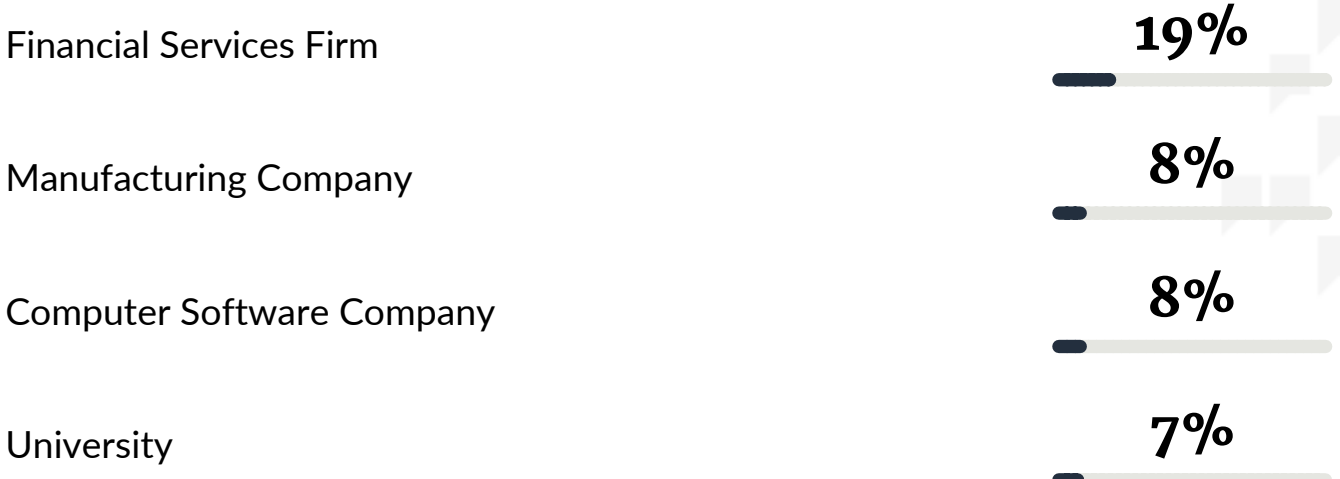
EzzAbdelfattah

Associate Professor Of Statistics at a university with 10,001+ employees

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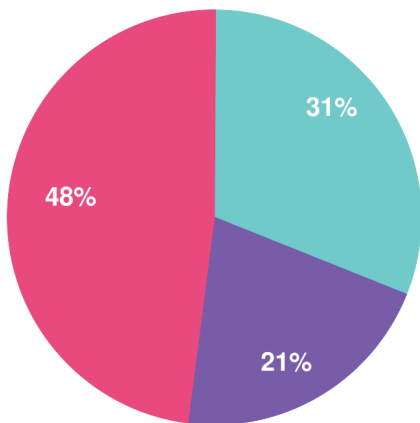
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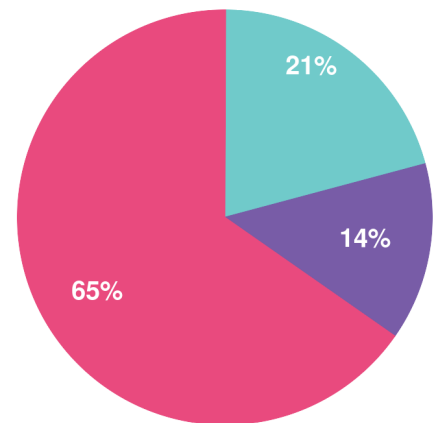


Company Size

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Large Enterprise Midsized Enterprise Small Business

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