

Describing statistics: using prepositions

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a The chart shows that only 18% men work less than 15 hours a week.
b The chart shows that only 18% of men work less than 15 hours a week.
- 2 a If we look at the figures for people between 20 and 30 years old, ...
b If we look at the figures for people between 20 to 30 years old, ...

There are several key prepositions which are used when describing statistics:

- **X% of something**

*Only 28% **of** customers said that they were satisfied with the service.*

- **between X and Y**

*The rate rose dramatically **between** July 2005 **and** February 2006.*

- **the figure/percentage/total, etc. for a group or category**

*Looking at the figures **for** winter and summer ...*

*If we compare the percentages **for** skilled and unskilled workers ...*

*The average income **for** government employees is ...*

- **at a level/rate**

*Inflation has remained **at** roughly the same **level** over a number of years.*

*They can obtain loans **at** cheaper **rates**.*

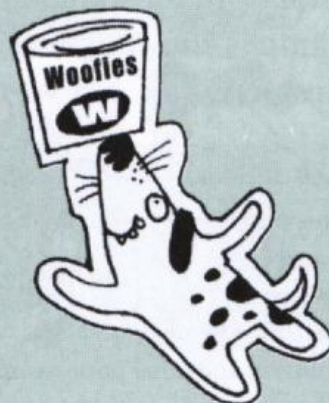
- **be highest / come top / rank second, etc. with X**

*Football scored **highest with** 68% of the vote.*

*Paris is **second** in the table **with** 76 million passengers per year.*

2 Correct the mistake below.

**80% dogs
said they preferred
Woofies**



80%

3 Are these sentences right or wrong? Correct those with mistakes.

- 1 France has the greatest number at 12 million, followed by Italy.
- 2 The percentage fluctuated between 3.5 to 4%.
- 3 The total value is approximately 18,000 yen from the current exchange rate.
- 4 Data is only available of the UK.
- 5 The drop-out rate reached a peak of 18% in 2001.
- 6 The table shows the annual usage for families in three income bands.
- 7 Africa was the least popular destination by only 6% of flights.
- 8 12% interviewees had consulted a doctor in the previous week.