13 Describing statistics: using prepositions

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

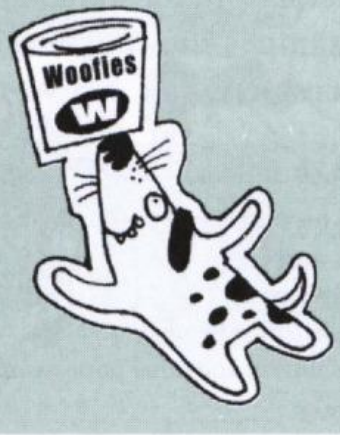
1 a The chart shows that only 18% men work less than 15 hours a week.
  b The chart shows that only 18% of men work less than 15 hours a week.
2 a If we look at the figures for people between 20 and 30 years old, ...
  b If we look at the figures for people between 20 to 30 years old, ...

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.

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