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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, ...
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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.

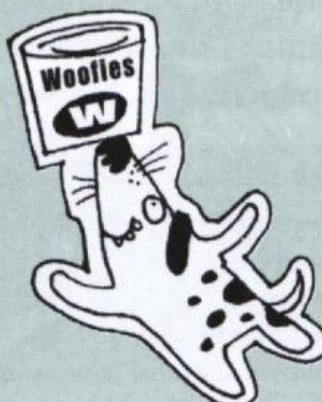
- **be highest / come top / rank second, etc. with X**

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.