

Question for January 27, 2004

2) After evaluating student attitudes towards drug testing with an instrument called the “ATSDT” (Attitudes Toward High School Drug Testing), a researcher wants to test to determine if the mean of the students attitude measurements depart from a value of 3, the value for a “neutral attitude”.

The students sampled were high school students between grades 8 and 12 from the metropolitan New Orleans area. A sample of 620 students was used for the study. One question asked of the students was if they believed there was a need for testing for drug use in schools. Opinions were recorded on a 5 point scale (1=strongly disagree, 3=neutral, 5=strongly agree). The mean value of the score was 3.23 (standard deviation=0.68). How would the researcher determine if this score differs significantly from the neutral score value of 3?