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Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra

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THE USE OF STATISTICAL SYMBOLS IN SCIENTIFIC PAPERS¹

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Abstract: *Although statistical symbols are systematically settled in the application of the statistical method, according to the international standards in scientific and vocational papers their unified application is lacking in education sciences, which disorientate readers to a certain extent. Oversights occur mostly with younger readers. The reasons for this should be sought in: inadequate training of students for applying the statistical method during their undergraduate and postgraduate studies, insufficient commitment of authors of pedagogical statistics textbooks to this issue, and in unsatisfactory experience of researchers.*

Key words: *Statistical symbols, statistical measures, statistical phenomena, statistical formulas scientific papers.*

Writing academic papers requires the responsibility of the author toward his/her own language, and possessing linguistic knowledge, a developed culture of expressive language, the sense of professional obligation to fulfill all elements of linguistic correctness. However, beside this, authors of papers must be familiar with communication by language of statistical symbols. Scientific style of writing is a result of the author's ability to express and communicate his/her thoughts, intelligence, perceptions and opinions. This includes a uniform use of statistical symbols, which usually follow the author of some statistical textbook. We have observed that in scientific and vocational papers, statistical measures are marked with various signs.

In different sciences, we use different sets of symbols: mathematical, logic, cartographic, ortographic, chemical, proofreading, statistical, etc. Logic symbols denote: belonging, equivalence, implication, not belonging, inclusion, exclusion, encompassment, non encompassment, intersection, union, etc. Mathematical symbols are used as: symbols denoting numbers, points, lines, lengths, vectors, triangles, angles, etc; symbols determining facts or relations (biger, smaller, equal, inequal, absolute value); operational symbols – calculation signs (plus, minus, equals, square root, logarithm, etc.). Statistical symbols are used to: denote statistical measures and statistical phenomena.

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