EVALUATION OF THE TEACHING OF STATISTICS IN THE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN LAVRAS, MINAS GERAIS, BRASIL

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Some basic knowledge of statistics has become necessary for people being able to interpret data. In order to evaluate the teaching of Statistics in the primary schools, some interviews were made to mathematics teachers of private and public schools in Lavras (MG). The interviews were based on a stratified and random sample. Parts of the answers were analyzed only quantitatively and for the others we carried out unilateral tests for proportions, at a 5% significance level. Results showed that the majority of teachers have taken some Statistics courses during their undergraduate program; however, their approach to the topic in these courses was strictly descriptive, exceeded in formalism and did not take into account the contextualization and interdisciplinary that Statistics can provide. Considering these results we suggest the need to plan both short and long term courses and workshops directed at teachers, to motivate them towards the introduction of this topic in primary schools.