



Chapter 4

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

In This Chapter

- EasyRefresher™: Basic Business Statistics
- Statistical Formulas
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Excel 2000 provides an almost countless number of tools you can use to analyze data and make meaningful statements about it. However, without understanding the purpose and design of the tools and the details of how to use them, they offer little help. This chapter supplies the background information required to determine which statistical tool to use and how to use it to find the information you need. The first part of this chapter defines some important statistical terms used in the calculations. The second part of the chapter details each function in turn and provides examples illustrating the type of data each function requires and the type of result you can expect. The last part of this chapter describes the statistical analysis tools included in the Analysis ToolPak add-in.

EasyRefresher™: Basic Business Statistics

To determine which function to use and to insert the correct variables in the correct places, you need to know some key statistical terms. This section describes these terms.

The science of statistics makes a fundamental distinction between two types of data sets, population data and sample data. A population is the set of all elements of interest, while a sample is a subset of that population, drawn to make inferences about the characteristics of the population. For example, if you want to describe the average number of televisions

