

USES AND MISUSES OF STATISTICAL METHODS
IN FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING
EDUCATIONAL POLICIES IN A CENTRALLY
CONTROLLED EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

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The Greek government that took office in the Spring of 1990 decided to make changes at all levels of education in Greece.

In order to make the intended changes more easily acceptable to voters the Ministry of Education decided to send out questionnaires to all persons that could be affected (directly or indirectly) by the intended changes.

As far as university education was concerned questionnaires were sent to all faculty members of all the universities in Greece, to university students (through their representatives) and to interested parents.

For primary and secondary education similar questionnaires were sent to teachers (through their unions) to parent groups and to students.

The negative aspects of the results of the approaches and the methodology employed, as well as the misuse of statistical methods by the government in order to achieve its political objectives are discussed.