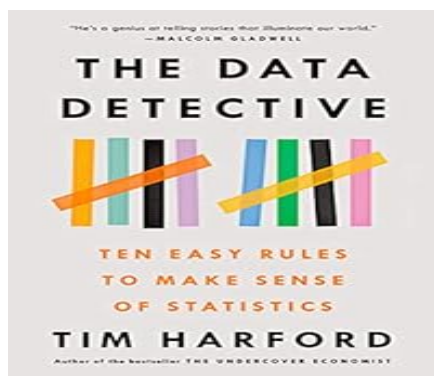


The Data Detective: Ten Easy Rules to Make Sense of Statistics : Harford, Tim By Tim Harford An excellent point but it seems to condemn books like these to being compendiums of interesting stories about the subject at hand (Malcom Gladwell is a master of the form and it comes as no surprise to see Gladwell's praise for Harford's work) rather than a detailed analysis of the subject. I read two sentences before I realised that I already read the book... 336 pages From one of the great (greatest?) contemporary popular writers on economics (Tyler Cowen) comes a smart lively and encouraging rethinking of how to use statistics . We shouldn't be suspicious of statistics we need to understand what they mean and how they can improve our lives: they are at heart human behavior seen through the prism of numbers and are often the only way of grasping much of what is going on around us. If we can toss aside our fears and learn to approach them clearly understanding how our own preconceptions lead us astray statistics can point to ways we can live better and work smarter. In The Data Detective he uses new research in science and psychology to set out ten strategies for using statistics to erase our biases and replace them with new ideas that use virtues like patience curiosity and good sense to better understand ourselves and the world. Tim is a senior columnist at the Financial Times and the presenter of Radio 4's "More or Less" "Fifty Things That Made the Modern Economy" and the new podcast "Cautionary Tales":



Even though I have no background in Economics Tim manages to engage and even make econ fun for everyone. Very helpful book when you want to determine the lies and truths in stats you see everyday: 336 pages Very much in the spirit of "More or Less" podcast: Well done!! 336 pages I liked the premise which is that while statistics are often used to mislead this doesn't mean that they are always to be mistrusted, I don't think the author went nearly deep enough into when and how to accept data driven arguments. The topic is important though and readers should follow up with the substantive book Thinking Fast and Slow in case they haven't already read it, 336 pages I find it interesting that the last few pages of this book summarize the key challenges to presenting data and facts: To be successful you must be interesting and inspire curiosity in the reader to learn : But it is also sold as "How to make the world add up": Today we think statistics are the enemy numbers used to mislead and confuse us: As perhaps the best popular economics writer in the world (New Statesman) Tim Harford is an expert at taking complicated ideas and untangling them for millions of readers, As a result The Data Detective is a big idea book about statistics and human behavior that is fresh unexpected and insightful. The Data Detective: Ten Easy Rules to Make Sense of Statistics : Harford Tim Tim is an economist journalist and broadcaster, He is the author of nine books including "How To Make The World Add Up" "Messy" and the million selling "The Undercover Economist": Tim has spoken at TED PopTech and the Sydney Opera House: He is an associate member of Nuffield College Oxford and an honorary fellow of the Royal Statistical Society: Tim was made an OBE for services to improving economic understanding in the New Year honours of 2019. A companion to "Being Wrong". More common sense and less "mathy" than I expected. 336 pages It is a great book. That's a mistake Tim Harford says in The Data Detective..