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Increasing Engagement by Using Modern Data Sets for Contexts in Introductory Statistics:

Fostering Productive Struggle in Statway Lessons.

Statway is a two-term course through which students both fulfill their developmental math requirements and achieve college-level math credit. A part of the Carnegie Math Pathways initiative, involving a network of 58 colleges nationwide, Statway has been shown to double students' success rates in half the time. A key element of this success is the deep engagement of network faculty working together to continuously improve the curriculum. Reflecting the 2016 GAISE, a focal area of this work is the improvement of Statway lesson contexts and, in particular, the use of modern data sets.

In this presentation we will share an exemplar lesson that was recently rewritten to employ sports-related data sets from 2014, including raw win/loss data and winning percentage, at home and away, for every team in four professional sports. We will discuss how the use of these data sets supports students' developing understanding of the statistical analysis process and distributions, while engaging them in productive struggle in meaningful inquiry grounded in the context. Attendees will receive copies of the data sets and see examples of how students engage the lesson. We will also discuss the process that is employed to develop and test lessons using modern data sets in the Statway network. (Received September 16, 2016)