

FISHER'S EXACT TEST



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CRITERIA:

- Both variables are dichotomous qualitative (2 X 2 table).
- Sample size of < 20 .
- Sample size of 20 to < 40 but one of the cell has expected value of < 5 .



FORMULA FOR FISHER'S EXACT TEST

$$\frac{(a + b)! (a + c)! (b + d)! (c + d)!}{N! a! b! c! d!}$$

Weird since you have to calculate for many tables, until one of the cell becomes 0, then total up all the p values.



Example


Distribution of Underweight and Normal Weight for Taxi Drivers and Bus Drivers

| | Underweight | Normal | Total |
|--------------|-------------|--------|-------|
| Bus Drivers | 8 | 11 | 19 |
| Taxi Drivers | 3 | 11 | 14 |
| Total | 11 | 22 | 33 |

There is an association between the prevalence of underweight and the type of vehicle driven by the public vehicle drivers.

In this analysis, it is a 2 X 2 table, cells with an expected value < 5 (4.67) and small sample size, therefore the best type of analysis possible is **Fisher's Exact Test**.

Step 1


$$\frac{(a+b)! (a+c)! (b+d)! (c+d)!}{N! a! b! c! d!}$$

$$p1 = \frac{19!14!11!22!}{33!8!11!3!11!}$$
$$= \frac{4.758 \times 10^{56}}{3.3471 \times 10^{57}} = 0.142$$

Step 2

Create 3 more extreme tables by deducting 1 from the smallest value. Continue to do so till the cell becomes zero;

| KB | N | | | KB | N | | | KB | N | |
|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|
| 9 | 10 | 19 | | 10 | 9 | 19 | | 11 | 8 | 19 |
| 2 | 12 | 14 | | 1 | 13 | 14 | | 0 | 14 | 14 |
| 11 | 22 | 33 | | 11 | 22 | 33 | | 11 | 22 | 33 |

$$p2 = 0.0434$$

$$p3 = 0.00668$$

$$p4 = 0.00039$$

Step 3

- ▣ Total $p = 0.142 + 0.0434 + 0.00668 + 0.00039$
 $= 0.19247$
- ▣ This is the p value for single-tailed test. To make it the p value for 2 tailed, times the value with 2; $p = 0.385$.
- ▣ p is bigger than 0.05, therefore the null hypothesis is not rejected.
- ▣ There is no association between occupation and UW ;-)