

Confidence Intervals for the Population Proportions (p)

Assumptions : Binomial Event, $np \geq 5$, $nq \geq 5$

1. Find $\hat{p} = \frac{x}{n}$, $\hat{q} = 1 - \hat{p}$

2. Determine the critical value $\pm z_{\alpha/2}$

Calculate $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ where $\alpha = 1 -$ (Confidence Level)

Look for $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ in body of the table (use Table A-2 “backwards”)

The corresponding z score is the critical value.

3. Calculate $E = z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}\hat{q}}{n}}$

4. $\hat{p} - E < p < \hat{p} + E$

Confidence Intervals for the Population Mean (μ)

Assumptions : Central Limit Theorem applies, \bar{x} is known or can be calculated

1. Choose z or t : If σ is known use the Normal Distribution ($z_{\alpha/2}$)

If σ is unknown use the Student’s t Distribution ($t_{\alpha/2}$)

2. Determine the critical value using either Table A-2 or A-3

To find $z_{\alpha/2}$: Calculate $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ where $\alpha = 1 -$ (Confidence Level)

Look for $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ in body of the table (use A-2 “backwards”)

The corresponding z score is the critical value.

To find $t_{\alpha/2}$: $\alpha = 1 -$ (Confidence Level)
 ROW = degrees of freedom = $n - 1$
 COLUMN = α under “Area in two tails”

3. Calculate $E = \frac{z_{\alpha/2} \sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ or $E = \frac{t_{\alpha/2} s}{\sqrt{n}}$

4. $\bar{x} - E < \mu < \bar{x} + E$

Sample Size (n) Needed to Estimate the Population Proportion (p)

$$n = \frac{\left(z_{\alpha/2} \right)^2 \hat{p} \hat{q}}{E^2}$$

$z_{\alpha/2}$: Calculate $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ where $\alpha = 1 -$ (Confidence Level)

Look for $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ in body of the table (use Table A-2 “backwards”)

The corresponding z score is the critical value.

\hat{p} = estimated proportion from a prior study. If \hat{p} is unknown, use 0.5

$\hat{q} = 1 - \hat{p}$

E : Margin of Error (usually given)

Sample Size (n) Needed to Estimate the Population Mean (μ)

$$n = \left[\frac{z_{\alpha/2} \sigma}{E} \right]^2$$

$z_{\alpha/2}$: Calculate $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ where $\alpha = 1 -$ (Confidence Level)

Look for $\frac{\alpha}{2}$ in body of the table (use Table A-2 “backwards”)

The corresponding z score is the critical value.

σ : use s from a sample or $\frac{\text{range}}{4}$ (Range Rule of Thumb)




E : Margin of Error (usually given)

Hypothesis Testing for Claims about a Proportion

Assumptions : Binomial Event, $np \geq 5$, $nq \geq 5$

- Write the claim symbolically in terms of p .
- Write the opposite symbolically in terms of p .
- Identify the Null and Alternative Hypothesis : H_0 must contain $=, \geq,$ or \leq
 H_1 must contain $\neq, <, \text{ or } >$
- Choose the Significance Level (α). This is usually given in the word problem.

Identify the test type :

Symbol in H_1	Test Type	
<	left tailed	
>	right tailed	
\neq	two tailed	

- Find the Critical Value z_{CRIT} using Table A-3

z_{CRIT} : ROW = bottom row

Column = α and Test Type

- Calculate the Test Statistic : $z_{TEST} = \frac{\hat{p} - p}{\sqrt{\frac{pq}{n}}}$

- Draw the bell curve to locate both the Critical Region(s) and the Test Statistic.



- Reject H_0 if the Test Statistic lies beyond the Critical Value.
- Write the conclusion using the chart on p. 397.
- Calculate p-value

Left Tailed Test : p-value = area to the left of z_{TEST}

Right Tailed Test : p-value = area to the right of z_{TEST}




Two Tailed Test : p-value = $2 \times$ (area outside z_{TEST})

Hypothesis Testing for Claims about a Mean

Assumptions : Central Limit Theorem applies

- Write the claim symbolically in terms of μ .
- Write the opposite symbolically in terms of μ .
- Identify the Null and Alternative Hypothesis : H_0 must contain $=, \geq,$ or \leq
 H_1 must contain $\neq, <, \text{ or } >$
- Choose the Significance Level (α). This is usually given in the word problem.

Identify the test type :

Symbol in H_1	Test Type	
<	left tailed	
>	right tailed	
\neq	two tailed	

- Choose z or t : If σ is known use the Normal Distribution (z)

If σ is unknown use the Student's t Distribution (t)

- Find the Critical Value using Table A-3 (We only use one or the other, not both!)

z_{CRIT} : ROW = bottom row

column = α and Test Type

t_{CRIT} : ROW = $n-1$

column = α and Test Type

- Calculate the Test Statistic (We only use one or the other, not both!)

$$z_{TEST} = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_{\bar{x}}}{\frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}}$$

$$t_{TEST} = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_{\bar{x}}}{\frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}}$$

- Draw the bell curve to locate both the Critical Region(s) and the Test Statistic.



- Reject H_0 if the Test Statistic lies beyond the Critical Value.
- Write the conclusion using the chart on p. 397.
- Calculate p-value if z_{TEST} was used (see Step 10 at left)