Two way tables and association

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A sample from this topic. The complete topic collection contains three different resources and worked solutions.

Read the explanation and worked example. Show your working; use a calculator only where asked.

What you will practise

• Compare categorical variables using proportions within appropriate groups.

• Explain a method and check the reasonableness of a result.

Useful starting skills: Use the prerequisite operations and representations shown in the worked example.

A two-way table records two categorical variables. Row or column totals identify the relevant denominator for a conditional proportion.

Compare percentages within groups when group sizes differ. An association means the distribution of one variable changes across categories of the other; it does not establish causation.

Worked example

Group A has 18 yes,12 no; Group B has 12 yes,28 no. Compare yes rates.

A:18/30=60%.

B:12/40=30%.

Answer: A has the higher sample yes rate.

Try it yourself

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. A row has 7 yes and 13 no. Find its yes percentage.

2. A table has rows[10,20] and[15,5]. Find row totals and grand total.

Answers and explanations

Check the method as well as the final answer. An alternative correct method is also valid.

1. 35%

7/20×100.

2. 30,20; 50

Add within rows, then combine.

Curriculum reference: VC2M10ST03

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