

In statistics, a **hypothesis** is a claim or statement about a property of a population. This means that **population symbols will be used** (μ , σ , and p). Yes, all hypothesis tests are written in greek.

Step 1: Write down what's given

i.e. sample standard deviation, sample size, population proportion

Step 2: Figure out what table & formula you should use

For now we will only use the Z formula, but in the *real world* there are several options.

Step 3: Draw the picture!

- Left tailed is less than
- Right tailed is greater than
- Two tailed is equal to or not equal to

Step 4: Use the tables to find the critical value and add it to the picture

- Use α to find the critical value in a one tailed test
- Use, $\alpha/2$ to find the critical value in a two tailed test

The critical value represents the probability of rejecting H_0 when H_0 is actually true.

Examples

Use a normal curve and determine the critical value for the following:

A) Right tail test, $\alpha = 0.05$

B) Two tail test, $\alpha = 0.05$

C) Left tail test, $\alpha = 0.05$



Step 5: Write the hypothesis

- The null hypothesis H_0 always has an equal sign $=$. It represents the previously assumed value.
- The alternative hypothesis has either a less than sign $<$, greater than sign $>$ or not equal to sign \neq . It represents a change and is usually the claim.

Examples

Claim 1: The mean age of Middlesex County College students is different from 20.8 years.



H_0 : _____

H_1 : _____

Claim 2: The mean amount of coffee dispensed by a vending machine is less than 8 ounces.



H_0 : _____

H_1 : _____

Claim 3: The mean amount of time that students require to graduate from MCC is more than 2.5 years.



H_0 : _____

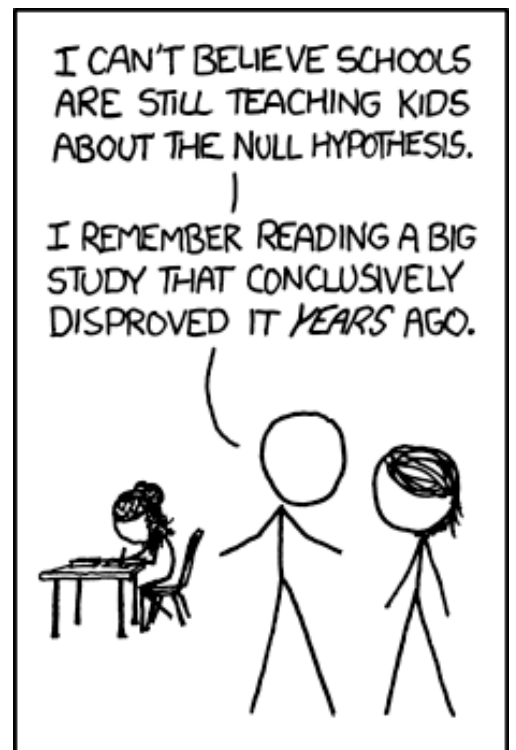
H_1 : _____

Your Turn

1. The average age of disk jockeys is less than 27.6 years.



2. The average time to complete a test is more than 45 minutes.



Step 6: Use formula to find the test statistic Z , t , X^2 etc. Right now we will

$$z = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}} \quad \text{use:}$$

Step 7: Decide whether to reject or fail to reject the null hypothesis.

- If the test statistic falls in the shaded critical region, reject H_0
- If the test statistic does NOT fall in the shaded critical region, "Fail to reject" H_0

Memory tool:
Reject H_0 if the
Math is "shady"

Examples – reject or fail to reject?

1) Right tail test with critical value of $z = 1.645$ and test value of $z = 1.72$



2) Left tail test with critical value of $z = -1.96$ and test value of $z = -1.25$



3) Two tail test with critical values of $z = 2.575$ and -2.575 ; test value of $z = 2.83$



Step 8: State your conclusion:

	Original claim is the null hypothesis	Original claim is alternative hypothesis
Reject H_0 <i>(The Test statistic is Shady)</i>	<p>“There is sufficient evidence to warrant rejection of the claim that... (original claim)”</p> <p><i>This is the only time that the original claim can be rejected.</i></p>	<p>“The sample data supports the claim that...(original claim)”</p> <p><i>This is the only time that the original claim can be supported</i></p>
Fail to reject H_0	<p>“There is NOT sufficient evidence to warrant rejection of the claim that... (original claim)”</p>	<p>“There is NOT sufficient sample evidence to warrant rejection of the claim that...(original claim)”</p>

Source: Triola, M. F. (2003). *Elementary Statistics* (9th ed.), Pearson Education, Inc.

Problem 1: The manufacturer of a certain type of ATM machine reports that the mean ATM withdrawal is \$60. The manager of convenience store believes that it is less than \$60. He obtains a sample of 35 withdrawals and finds the sample mean is \$52. Assume the population standard deviation is \$13. Test the manager’s claim at the 0.05 level.

Problem 2: In 1990, the average farm size in Kansas was 694 acres. A researcher claims that the size has increased. A sample of 40 farms had a mean of 731 acres. Assume the population standard deviation is 212 acres. Test the claim at the 0.05 level of significance.

Problem 3: In 2004, the mean monthly cell phone bill in the US was \$50.64. A market researcher believes that this figure has changed. A sample of 12 cell phones had a mean of \$65.01. Assume the population standard deviation is \$18.49. Test the claim that the amount has changed, using a 0.05 level of significance.