

MATHEMATICS 360-255-LW

Quantitative Methods II

Martin Huard

Fall 2009

XVII – Inferences for Two Proportions

1. According to a survey by Health Canada, 8.2% of the 12- to 17-year-olds interviewed admitted to illicit drug abuse during the month before a survey in 1995. The corresponding percentage was 10.9% for a survey in 2002. Assume that these estimates are based on random samples of 1800 and 2000 such your persons for 1995 and 2002 respectively.
 - a) Construct a 99% confidence interval for the difference between the population proportions of 12- to 17-year-olds who used illicit drugs in 1995 and 2002.
 - b) At the 1% level of significance, can you conclude that the proportion of all 12- to 17-year-olds using illicit drugs in 1995 was less than that in 2002? Try with both approaches, the classical and the p -value.
2. In a survey of working parents (both parents working), one of the questions asked was “Have you refused a job, promotion, or transfer because it would mean less time with your family?” Two hundred men and 200 women were asked this question. Fifty-eight men and forty-eight women responded “yes”.
 - a) Construct a 90% confidence interval for the difference in the proportion of men and women who answered “Yes”.
 - b) Based on this survey, can we conclude that there is a difference in the proportion of men and women responding “yes” at the 10% level of significance? Try with both approaches, the classical and the p -value.
3. A random sample 76 adults ages 18-24 showed that 11 had donated blood within the past year, while a random sample of 156 adults who were at least 25 years old had 18 people who had donated blood within the past year.
 - a) Construct a 95% confidence interval for the difference in the proportion of adults who give blood for the two age groups.
 - b) Using a 5% level of significance, can you conclude that there is a difference in the proportion of adults who donate blood in the two age groups? Try with both approaches, the classical and the p -value.
4. A random sample of 1434 male high school students showed that 82 had attempted suicide at least once in the 12 months preceding the survey; while 159 out of 1457 randomly selected high school females had done so.
 - a) Construct a 98% confidence interval for the difference in the proportion of men and women who attempted suicide at least once in the 12 months preceding the survey.
 - b) At the 2% level of significance, test the claim that male and female high school students are equally likely to attempt suicide? Try with both approaches, the classical and the p -value.

5. A random sample of 2000 American adults showed that 658 had a college degree. Another sample of 1500 Canadians revealed that 542 had a college degree.
 - a) Construct a 94% confidence interval for the difference in the proportion of Canadians and Americans who have a college degree.
 - b) Using a 4% level of significance, can we conclude that the proportion of Canadians who have a college degree is higher than the proportion for Americans? Try with both approaches, the classical and the p -value.

6. A researcher conducted a survey of 880 adult drivers. Eight hundred sixty-two of the drivers acknowledged that running red lights is hazardous. Another sample of 240 adult drivers showed that 106 said they do not run red lights.
 - a) Construct a 95% confidence interval for the difference in the proportion of drivers who label running red lights as hazardous and the proportion of drivers who do not run red lights.
 - b) At the 5% level of significance, test the claim that the proportion of drivers who label running red lights as hazardous is greater than the proportion of drivers who do not run red lights. Try with both approaches, the classical and the p -value.

7. What is wrong with this statistical project?

Mary wants to know if the proportion of students who have used illicit drugs within the past year is significantly different from the proportion of students who are in favor of legalizing marijuana. For this, she selects 50 students at random and asks each of them if they have used illicit drugs within the past year and, also, if they are in favor of legalizing marijuana. She then applies the hypothesis test introduced in this section to the results she obtains.

ANSWERS

1. a) 0.25% to 5.15%
 b) $H_0 : p_{2002} - p_{1995} = 0$ critical values: $z_{0.01} = 2.33$ Reject H_0
 $H_A : p_{2002} - p_{1995} > 0$ test statistic: $z = 2.82$
 p -value = 0.0024
2. a) -2.25% to 12.25%
 b) $H_0 : p_M - p_W = 0$ critical value: $z_{0.05} = 1.645$ Fail to reject H_0
 $H_A : p_M - p_W \neq 0$ test statistic: $z = 1.13$
 p -value = 0.2584
3. a) -6.43% to 12.30%
 b) $H_0 : p_{18-24} - p_{\geq 25} = 0$ critical value: $z_{0.025} = 1.96$ Fail to reject H_0
 $H_A : p_{18-24} - p_{\geq 25} \neq 0$ test statistic: $z = 0.63$
 p -value = 0.5286
4. a) 2.81% to 7.57%
 b) $H_0 : p_W - p_M = 0$ critical value: $z_{0.01} = 2.33$ Reject H_0
 $H_A : p_W - p_M \neq 0$ test statistic: $z = 5.05$
 p -value = 0.000
5. a) 0.17% to 6.29%
 b) $H_0 : p_C - p_A = 0$ critical value: $z_{0.04} = 1.75$ Reject H_0
 $H_A : p_C - p_A > 0$ test statistic: $z = 1.99$
 p -value = 0.0233
6. a) 47.44% to 60.14%
 b) $H_0 : p_{\text{label}} - p_{\text{run}} = 0$ critical value: $z_{0.025} = 1.645$ Reject H_0
 $H_A : p_{\text{label}} - p_{\text{run}} > 0$ test statistic: $z = 21.57$
 p -value = 0.000
7. The samples are dependent since each student answers both questions.