

P-value approach to hypothesis testing: P-value is the probability of observing a value of the test statistic as extreme or more extreme than that observed, assuming H_0 is true.

One Tailed ($>$): $P(z > z_0) = P\text{-value}$, ($<$) $P(z < z_0) = P\text{-value}$, Two Tailed (\neq): $2P(z > |z_0|) = P\text{-value}$

Therefore, if the P-value is less than the significance level you would reject the null hypothesis and if the P-value is greater than the significance level you would accept the null hypothesis.

The P-value Approach – Use when you are given a Minitab Printout

Step 1: State Null Hypothesis. $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0$ (where μ_0 is a specified value)

Step 2: State Alternative Hypothesis. 1) $H_a : \mu \neq \mu_0$ (two-tailed test)
2) $H_a : \mu > \mu_0$ (one-tailed test)
3) $H_a : \mu < \mu_0$ (one-tailed test)

Step 3: State α . (Usually 0.05, 0.01, or 0.10)

Step 4: Determine p-value from Minitab printout

Step 5: Compare the p-value with the α value; If P-value $\leq \alpha$ reject H_0 , otherwise accept H_0 .

Step 6: State your conclusion in words.

Examples of Type I and Type II Errors

1) According to popcorn.org, the mean consumption of popcorn annually by Americans is 54 quarts. The marketing division of popcorn.org unleashes an aggressive campaign designed to get Americans to consume even more popcorn. The hypotheses are:

$H_0 : \mu = 54$ quarts

$H_a : \mu > 54$ quarts

Suppose that the results of sampling lead to **non-rejection** of the null hypothesis. Classify that conclusion as a Type I Error, a Type II Error, or a correct decision, if in fact the average popcorn consumption by Americans has **increased**.

Type II Error

2) The mean score on the SAT Math Reasoning exam is 516. A test preparation company states that the mean score of students who take its course is higher than 516. The hypotheses are:

$H_0 : \mu = 516$

$H_a : \mu > 516$

Suppose that the results of sampling lead to **rejection** of the null hypothesis. Classify that conclusion as a Type I Error, a Type II Error, or a correct decision, if in fact the average SAT score has **increased**.

Correct Decision

3) According to the *CTIA-The Wireless Association*, the mean monthly cell phone bill was \$95 in 2013. A researcher suspects the mean monthly cell phone bill is different today. The hypotheses are:

$$H_0 : \mu = \$95$$

$$H_a : \mu \neq \$95$$

Suppose that the results of the sampling lead to **rejection** of the null hypothesis. Classify that conclusion as a Type I Error, a Type II Error, or a correct decision, if in fact the mean cell phone bill is **not different** than in 2013.

Type I Error

4) According to the National Association of Home Builders, the mean price of an existing single-family home in 2009 was \$238,600. A real estate broker believes that the mean price has decreased since then. The hypotheses are:

$$H_0 : \mu = \$238,600$$

$$H_a : \mu < \$238,600$$

Suppose that the results of the sampling lead to **non-rejection** of the null hypothesis. Classify that conclusion as a Type I Error, a Type II Error, or a correct decision, if in fact the mean the mean price has **not decreased** since 2009.

Correct Decision

Hypothesis Testing for Population Mean with Known Population Standard Deviation

5) Jim Nasium claims that the mean A.C.T. score attained by two year college students is 22. Al Dente suspects this claim is too low and selects a random sample of 121 two year college students. The mean of the sample is 23.3 and the population standard deviation is assumed to be 3.3. Test at the 5% significance level. Show all steps.

$$\mu = 22$$

$$1) H_0: \mu = 22$$

$$\sigma = 3.3$$

$$2) H_a : \mu > 22$$

$$\bar{x} = 23.3$$

$$3) \alpha = 0.05$$

$$n = 121$$

$$4) \text{Reject } H_0 \text{ if } z > 1.645$$

$$\alpha = 0.05$$

$$5) z = \frac{23.3 - 22}{\left(\frac{3.3}{\sqrt{121}}\right)} = 4.33$$

$$6) \text{Reject } H_0, \text{ because } 4.33 > 1.645$$

$$7) \text{At } \alpha = 0.05, \text{ the population mean is greater than 22.}$$

6) Does the evidence support the idea that the average lecture consists of 3000 words if a random sample of the lectures of 16 professors had a mean of 3472 words, given the population standard deviation is 500 words? Use $\alpha = 0.01$. Assume that lecture lengths are approximately normally distributed. Show all steps.

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|------------------|---|
| $\mu = 3000$ | 1) $H_0: \mu = 3000$ |
| $\sigma = 500$ | 2) $H_a: \mu \neq 3000$ |
| $\bar{x} = 3472$ | 3) $\alpha = 0.01$ |
| $n = 16$ | 4) Reject H_0 if $z < -2.576$ or $z > 2.576$ |
| $\alpha = 0.01$ | 5) $z = \frac{3472-3000}{\left(\frac{500}{\sqrt{16}}\right)} = 3.78$ |
| | 6) Reject H_0 , because $3.78 > 2.576$ |
| | 7) At $\alpha = 0.01$, the population mean is not equal to 3000 words. |

7) The Dog Days Lawn Service advertises that it will completely maintain your lawn at an average cost per customer of \$35 per month. Assume the costs are normally distributed. A random sample of 18 Dog Days customers shows the average cost to be \$32.50 with a population standard deviation of \$8.10. Do the data support the claim that the average cost per month is less than \$35.00? Use a 5% level of significance. Show all steps.

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|------------------|---|
| $\mu = 35$ | 1) $H_0: \mu = 35$ |
| $\sigma = 8.10$ | 2) $H_a: \mu < 35$ |
| $\bar{x} = 32.5$ | 3) $\alpha = 0.05$ |
| $n = 18$ | 4) Reject H_0 if $z < -1.645$ |
| $\alpha = 0.05$ | 5) $z = \frac{32.50 - 35}{\left(\frac{8.10}{\sqrt{18}}\right)} = -1.31$ |
| | 6) Accept H_0 , because $-1.31 > -1.645$ |
| | 7) At $\alpha = 0.05$, the population mean is equal to \$35. |

8) Suppose that scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test form a normal distribution with $\mu = 500$ and $\sigma = 100$. A high school counselor has developed a special course designed to boost SAT scores. A random sample of 16 students is selected to take the course and then the SAT. The sample had an average score of $\bar{x} = 544$. Does the course boost SAT scores? Test at $\alpha = 0.01$. Show all steps.

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|-----------------|--|
| $\mu = 500$ | 1) $H_0: \mu = 500$ |
| $\sigma = 100$ | 2) $H_a: \mu > 500$ |
| $\bar{x} = 544$ | 3) $\alpha = 0.01$ |
| $n = 16$ | 4) Reject H_0 if $z > 2.326$ |
| $\alpha = 0.01$ | 5) $z = \frac{544-500}{\left(\frac{100}{\sqrt{16}}\right)} = 1.76$ |
| | 6) Accept H_0 , because $1.76 < 2.326$ |
| | 7) At $\alpha = 0.01$, the population mean is equal to 500. |

9) In a certain community, a claim is made that the average income of all employed individuals is \$35,500. A group of citizens suspects this value is incorrect and gathers a random sample of 140 employed individuals in hopes of showing that \$35,500 is not the correct average. The mean of the sample is \$34,325 with a population standard deviation of \$4,200. Test at $\alpha = 0.10$. Show all steps.

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|--------------------|---|
| $\mu = 35,500$ | 1) $H_0: \mu = 35,500$ |
| $\sigma = 4,200$ | 2) $H_a: \mu \neq 35,500$ |
| $\bar{x} = 34,325$ | 3) $\alpha = 0.10$ |
| $n = 140$ | 4) Reject H_0 if $z > 1.645$ or $z < -1.645$ |
| $\alpha = 0.10$ | 5) $z = \frac{34325 - 35500}{\left(\frac{4200}{\sqrt{140}}\right)} = -3.31$ |
| | 6) Reject H_0 , because $-3.31 < -1.645$ |
| | 7) At $\alpha = 0.10$, the population mean is not equal to \$35,500. |

10) The mean GPA at a certain university is 2.80 with a population standard deviation of 0.3. A random sample of 16 business students from this university had a mean of 2.91. Test to determine whether the mean GPA for business students is greater than the university mean at the 0.10 level of significance. Show all steps.

One-Sample Z - GPA

Descriptive Statistics

N	Mean	SE Mean	95% Lower Bound for μ
16	2.9081	0.0750	2.7847

μ : mean of Sample

Known standard deviation = 0.3

Test

Null hypothesis $H_0: \mu = 2.8$
 Alternative hypothesis $H_1: \mu > 2.8$

Z-Value	P-Value
1.44	0.075

- 1) $H_0: \mu = 2.8$
- 2) $H_a: \mu > 2.8$
- 3) $\alpha = 0.10$
- 4) p-value = 0.075
- 5) $0.075 < 0.1$, Reject H_0
- 6) At $\alpha = 0.10$, the population mean is greater than 2.8.

11) A study by the Web metrics firm Experian showed that in August of 2011, the mean time spent per visit to Facebook was 20.8 minutes with a population standard deviation of 8 minutes. Suppose a simple random sample of 60 visits in August 2013 has a mean of 21.5 minutes. A social scientist is interested to know whether the mean time of Facebook visits has changed. Use $\alpha = 0.05$. Show all steps.

One-Sample Z - Time

Descriptive Statistics

N	Mean	SE Mean	95% CI for μ
60	21.50	1.03	(19.48, 23.52)

μ : mean of Sample

Known standard deviation = 8

Test

Null hypothesis $H_0: \mu = 20.8$
 Alternative hypothesis $H_1: \mu \neq 20.8$

Z-Value	P-Value
0.68	0.498

- 1) $H_0: \mu = 20.8$
- 2) $H_a: \mu \neq 20.8$
- 3) $\alpha = 0.05$
- 4) p-value = 0.498
- 5) $0.498 > 0.05$, Accept H_0
- 6) At $\alpha = 0.05$, the population mean is equal to 20.8 minutes.

Hypothesis Testing for Population Mean with Unknown Population Standard Deviation

12) The secretary of an association of professional landscape gardeners claims that the average cost of services to customers is \$90 per month. Feeling that this figure is too high, we question a random sample of 14 customers. Our sample yields a mean cost of \$85 and a standard deviation of \$10. Test at the 0.10 significance level. Assume that such costs are normally distributed.

- $\mu = 90$ 1) $H_0: \mu = 90$
 $s = 10$ 2) $H_a: \mu < 90$
 $\bar{x} = 85$ 3) $\alpha = 0.10$
 $n = 14$ 4) (df = 13) Reject H_0 if $t < -1.350$
 $\alpha = 0.10$ 5) $t = \frac{85 - 90}{\left(\frac{10}{\sqrt{14}}\right)} = -1.87$
6) Reject H_0 , because $-1.87 < -1.350$
7) At $\alpha = 0.10$, the population mean is less than \$90.

13) A study was done in Europe recently to investigate the health hazards of working long hours in front of a computer or word processor video displays. It found that it took an average of 2.6 hours before a certain symptom of eye strain developed. If a similar experiment in the United States using a sample of 85 people had a mean of 2.8 hours, with standard deviation of 1.25 hours, would this indicate that the American results are in conflict with the European results? Use a level of significance of 0.01.

- $\mu = 2.6$ 1) $H_0: \mu = 2.6$
 $s = 1.25$ 2) $H_a: \mu \neq 2.6$
 $\bar{x} = 2.8$ 3) $\alpha = 0.01$
 $n = 85$ 4) ($\alpha = \frac{0.01}{2} = 0.005$ and df = 84) Reject H_0 if $t < -2.636$ or $t > 2.636$
 $\alpha = 0.01$ 5) $t = \frac{2.8 - 2.6}{\left(\frac{1.25}{\sqrt{85}}\right)} = 1.48$
6) Accept H_0 , because $1.48 < 2.636$
7) At $\alpha = 0.01$, the population mean is equal to 2.6 hours.

14) A mean grade point average (GPA) of graduating college seniors who have been admitted to graduate school is 3.1, where an A is given 4 points. At Ivy University a random sample of 43 incoming graduate students yielded a GPA of 3.2 with a standard deviation of 0.42. Can we claim that the students going to Ivy have better grades than the national average, using the 0.05 significance level?

- $\mu = 3.1$ 1) $H_0: \mu = 3.1$
 $s = 0.42$ 2) $H_a: \mu > 3.1$
 $\bar{x} = 3.2$ 3) $\alpha = 0.05$
 $n = 43$ 4) (df = 42) Reject H_0 if $t > 1.682$
 $\alpha = 0.05$ 5) $t = \frac{3.2 - 3.1}{\left(\frac{0.42}{\sqrt{43}}\right)} = 1.56$
6) Accept H_0 , because $1.56 < 1.682$
7) At $\alpha = 0.05$, the population mean is equal to 3.1.

15) Count and Countess Dracula supervise students who are training to be hematologists. For one project their 8 students had to count certain cell types in blood samples. Their counts were 103, 75, 82, 107, 63, 102, 81, and 72. Does this support the hypothesis that the mean count is 100? Use $\alpha = 0.05$. Assume that the cell counts are normally distributed and $\bar{x} = 85.63$ and $s = 16.35$.

- $\mu = 100$ 1) $H_0: \mu = 100$
 $s = 16.35$ 2) $H_a: \mu \neq 100$
 $\bar{x} = 85.63$ 3) $\alpha = 0.05$
 $n = 8$ 4) ($\alpha = \frac{0.05}{2} = 0.025$ and $df = 7$) **Reject H_0 if $t < -2.365$ or $t > 2.365$**
 $\alpha = 0.05$ 5) $t = \frac{85.63 - 100}{\left(\frac{16.35}{\sqrt{8}}\right)} = -2.49$
 6) **Reject H_0 , because $-2.49 < -2.365$**
 7) **At $\alpha = 0.05$, the population mean not equal to 100.**

16) A newspaper states that a family in Alton, Rhode Island, on average, produces 5.2 pounds of organic garbage per week. A public health officer feels that the figure is incorrect. A random sample of 40 families is chosen and the mean number of pounds of organic garbage produced by these 40 families is 4.4 pounds with a standard deviation of 1.35 pounds. Test the health officer's test of the newspaper's claim, using the Minitab printout below and a level of significance of 0.05.

One-Sample T: Garbage
Descriptive Statistics

N	Mean	StDev	SE Mean	95% CI for μ
40	4.400	1.350	0.213	(3.968, 4.832)

μ : mean of Sample

Test

Null hypothesis	$H_0: \mu = 5.2$
Alternative hypothesis	$H_1: \mu \neq 5.2$
T-Value	P-Value
-3.75	0.001

- 1) $H_0: \mu = 5.2$
 2) $H_a: \mu \neq 5.2$
 3) $\alpha = 0.05$
 4) **p-value = 0.001**
 5) **0.001 < 0.05, Reject H_0**
 6) **At $\alpha = 0.05$, the population mean is not equal to 5.2 pounds.**

17) A claim is published that in a certain area of high unemployment, \$195 is the average amount spent on food per week by a family of four. A home economist wants to test this claim against the suspicion that the true average is lower than \$195. She surveys a random sample of 36 families from the locality and finds the mean to be \$193.20 with a standard deviation of \$6.80. Using the Minitab printout below and 0.01 level of significance, test the home economists claim.

One-Sample T: Food
Descriptive Statistics

N	Mean	StDev	SE Mean	99% Upper Bound for μ
36	193.20	6.80	1.13	195.96

μ : mean of Sample

Test

Null hypothesis	$H_0: \mu = 195$
Alternative hypothesis	$H_1: \mu < 195$
T-Value	P-Value
-1.59	0.061

- 1) $H_0: \mu = 195$
 2) $H_a: \mu < 195$
 3) $\alpha = 0.01$
 4) **p-value = 0.061**
 5) **0.061 > 0.01, Accept H_0**
 6) **At $\alpha = 0.01$, the population mean is equal to \$195.**