

## Learning Goal: Odds

**Odds:** A way to express a level of confidence about an outcome by the **ratio** of the probability that the event will occur to the probability that it will not occur. Odds is **always** presented in a form of a fraction or a ratio.

Odds in favour of A

$$P(A) : P(A') = \frac{P(A)}{P(A')} = \frac{n(A)}{n(A')}$$

Odds against A *reciprocal*

$$\frac{n(A')}{n(A)}$$

eg  
 $\frac{4}{1}$   
 ~~$\frac{4}{1}$~~   
 OR  
 4:1  
 OR  
 4 to 1

### Relationships between Odds and Probability

If  $h$  = outcomes =  $n(A)$

$k$  = complement of  $h$  =  $n(A')$

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Probability:<br>$P(A) = \frac{h}{h+k}$ | Odds in Favour:<br>$\text{odds} = \frac{h}{k}$ |
|--|--|

Example#1: Given total of 10 baskets: 3 are red 5 are black and 2 are white:

a) What <sup>are</sup> is the odds in favour of red basket?

$$P(\text{red}) = \frac{3}{10}$$

$$\text{odds} = \frac{3}{10-3} = \frac{3}{7}$$

b) What <sup>are</sup> is the odds against white basket?

$$P(\text{white}) = \frac{2}{10}$$

$$P(\text{white}') = \frac{8}{10}$$

$$\text{odds} = \frac{8}{2} = \frac{4}{1}$$

$$\text{odds against} = \frac{8}{2} = \frac{4}{1}$$

Example#2: Given the Odds in favour of passing the last unit test is 8:1, What is the probability of passing the last unit test?

$$P(\text{passing}) = \frac{8}{8+1}$$

$$= \frac{8}{9}$$

Example#3:

If the chance of snowing in April is estimated at 0.4, what are the odds against having snows next April?

$$P(\text{snow}) = \frac{4}{10}$$

$$\text{odds} = \frac{4}{6}$$

$$\text{odds against} = \frac{6}{4} = \frac{3}{2}$$

Example#4:

The odds of Kevin passing data management are 2:7. What is the probability of Kevin passing data management?

A) Round your answer to 3 decimal places.

$$P(\text{passing}) = \frac{2}{9}$$

$$= 0.222$$

B) Provide your answer in percent to 1 decimal place.

$$22.2\%$$

betting = payout ratio 3:5  
 (odds against)  
 for every \$5 you bet, you will get \$3 profit if you win.  

$$\frac{\text{profit}}{\text{bet}} = \frac{3}{5} = \frac{x}{15} \quad x=9$$