Definition 1.1

The *mean* of a sample of n measured responses $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ is given by

$$\bar{y} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i .$$

The corresponding population mean is denoted μ .

Definition 1.2

The *variance* of a sample of measurements $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ is the sum of the square of the differences between the measurements and their mean, divided by $n - 1$. Symbolically, the sample variance is

$$s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1}\sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \bar{y})^2 .$$

The corresponding population variance is denoted by the symbol σ^2.

Definition 1.3

The *standard deviation* of a sample of measurements is the positive square root of the variance; that is,

$$s = \sqrt{s^2}.$$

The corresponding population standard deviation is denoted by $\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$.

Definition 2.1

An experiment is the process by which an observation is made.

Definition 2.2

A *simple event* is an event that cannot be decomposed. Each simple event corresponds to one and only one *sample point*. The letter E with a subscript will be used to denote a simple event or the corresponding sample point.

Definition 2.3

The *sample space* associated with an experiment is the set consisting of all possible sample points. A sample space will be denoted by S.

Definition 2.4

A *discrete sample space* is one that contains either a finite or a countable number of distinct sample points.

Definition 2.5

An *event* in a discrete sample space S is a collection of sample points—that is, any subset of S.

Definition 2.6

Suppose S is a sample space associated with an experiment. To every event A in S (A is a subset of S), we assign a number, $P(A)$, called the probability of S, so that the following axioms hold:

Axiom 1: $P(A) \geq 0$.

Axiom 2: $P(S) = 1$.

Axiom 3: If $A_1, A_2, A_3, \ldots$ form a sequence of pairwise mutually exclusive events in S (that is, $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ if $i \neq j$), then

$$P(A_1 \cup A_2 \cup A_3 \cup \ldots) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} P(A_i).$$

Definition 2.7

An ordered arrangement of r distinct objects is called a *permutation*. The number of ways of ordering n distinct objects taken r at a time will be designated by the symbol P^n_r.

Definition 2.8

The number of *combinations* of n objects taken r at a time is the number of subsets, each of size r, that can be formed from the n objects. This number will be denoted by $C^n_r\ or\ \binom{n}{r}$.

Definition 2.9

The *conditional probability* of an event A, given that an event B has occurred, is equal to

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cup B)}{P(B)},$$

provided $P(B) > 0$. [The symbol $P(A|B)$ is read "probability of A given B."]

Definition 2.10

Two events A and B are said to be *independent* if any one of the following holds:

$$P(A|B) = P(A),$$

$$P(B|A) = P(B),$$

$$P(A \cap B) = P(A)P(B).$$

Otherwise, the events are said to be dependent.

Definition 2.11

For some positive integer k, let the sets $B_1, B_2 \ldots, B_k$ be such that

1. $S = B_1 \cup B_2 \cup \ldots \cup B_k$.
2. $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset,\ for\ i \neq j$

Then the collection of sets $\{B_1, B_2, \ldots, B_k\}$ is said to be a *partition* of S.

Definition 2.12

A *random variable* is a real-valued function for which the domain is a sample space.

Definition 2.13

Let N and n represent the numbers of elements in the population and sample, respectively. If the sampling is conducted in such a way that each of the $\binom{N}{n}$ samples has an equal probability of being selected, the sampling is said to be random, and the result is said to be a *random sample*.

Definition 3.1

A random variable Y is said to be *discrete* if it can assume only a finite or countably infinite number of distinct values.

Definition 3.2

The probability that Y takes on the value y, $P(Y = y)$, is defined as the *sum of the probabilities of all sample points* in S that are assigned the value y. We will sometimes denote $P(Y = y)$ by $p(y)$.

Definition 3.3

The *probability distribution* for a discrete variable Y can be represented by a formula, a table, or a graph that provides $p(y) = P(Y = y)$ for all y.

Definition 3.4

Let Y be a discrete random variable with the probability function $p(y)$. Then the expected value of Y, $E(Y)$, is defined to be

$$E(Y) = \sum_y yp(y).$$

Definition 3.5

If Y is a random variable with mean $E(Y) = \mu$, the variance of a random variable Y is defined to be the expected value of $(Y - \mu)^2$. That is,

$$V(Y) = E[(Y - \mu)^2].$$

The *standard deviation* of Y is the positive square root of $V(Y)$.

Definition 3.6

A binomial experiment possesses the following properties:

1. The experiment consists of a fixed number, n, of identical trials.
2. Each trial results in one of two outcomes: success, S, or failure, F.
3. The probability of success on a single trial is equal to some value p and remains the same from trial to trial. The probability of a failure is equal to $q = (1 - p)$.
4. The trials are independent.
5. The random variable of interest is Y, the number of successes observed during the n trials.

Definition 3.7

A random variable Y is said to have a binomial distribution based on n trials with success probability p if and only if

$$p(y) = \binom{n}{y} p^y q^{n-y}, \quad y = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n \quad and \quad 0 \leq p \leq 1.$$

Definition 3.8

A random variable Y is said to have a *geometric probability distribution* if and only if

$$p(y) = q^{y-1}p, \quad y = 1, 2, 3, \ldots, \quad 0 \leq p \leq 1.$$

Definition 3.9

A random variable Y is said to have a *negative binomial probability distribution* if and only if

$$p(y) = \binom{y-1}{r-1} p^r q^{y-r}, \quad y = r, r+1, r+2, \ldots, 0 \leq p \leq 1.$$

Definition 3.10

A random variable Y is said to have a *hypergeometric probability distribution* if and only if

$$p(y) = \frac{\binom{r}{y}\binom{N-r}{n-y}}{\binom{N}{n}},$$

where y is an integer $0, 1, 2, \ldots, n$, subject to the restrictions $y \leq r$ and $n - y \leq N - r$.