

2014 AP® STATISTICS FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

STATISTICS

SECTION II

Part A

Questions 1–5

Spend about 65 minutes on this part of the exam.

Percent of Section II score—75

Directions: Show all your work. Indicate clearly the methods you use, because you will be scored on the correctness of your methods as well as on the accuracy and completeness of your results and explanations.

1. An administrator at a large university is interested in determining whether the residential status of a student is associated with level of participation in extracurricular activities. Residential status is categorized as on campus for students living in university housing and off campus otherwise. A simple random sample of 100 students in the university was taken, and each student was asked the following two questions.

- Are you an on campus student or an off campus student?
- In how many extracurricular activities do you participate?

The responses of the 100 students are summarized in the frequency table shown.

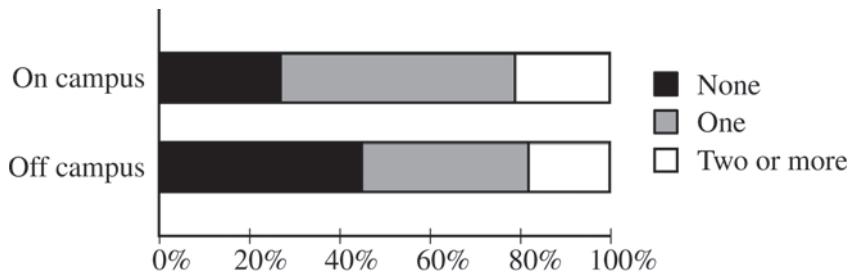
Level of Participation in Extracurricular Activities	Residential Status		
	On campus	Off campus	Total
No activities	9	30	39
One activity	17	25	42
Two or more activities	7	12	19
Total	33	67	100

- (a) Calculate the proportion of on campus students in the sample who participate in at least one extracurricular activity and the proportion of off campus students in the sample who participate in at least one extracurricular activity.

On campus proportion:

Off campus proportion:

The responses of the 100 students are summarized in the segmented bar graph shown.



- (b) Write a few sentences summarizing what the graph reveals about the association between residential status and level of participation in extracurricular activities among the 100 students in the sample.

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- (c) After verifying that the conditions for inference were satisfied, the administrator performed a chi-square test of the following hypotheses.

H_0 : There is no association between residential status and level of participation in extracurricular activities among the students at the university.

H_a : There is an association between residential status and level of participation in extracurricular activities among the students at the university.

The test resulted in a p -value of 0.23. Based on the p -value, what conclusion should the administrator make?

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2. Nine sales representatives, 6 men and 3 women, at a small company wanted to attend a national convention. There were only enough travel funds to send 3 people. The manager selected 3 people to attend and stated that the people were selected at random. The 3 people selected were women. There were concerns that no men were selected to attend the convention.
- (a) Calculate the probability that randomly selecting 3 people from a group of 6 men and 3 women will result in selecting 3 women.
- (b) Based on your answer to part (a), is there reason to doubt the manager’s claim that the 3 people were selected at random? Explain.
- (c) An alternative to calculating the exact probability is to conduct a simulation to estimate the probability. A proposed simulation process is described below.

Each trial in the simulation consists of rolling three fair, six-sided dice, one die for each of the convention attendees. For each die, rolling a 1, 2, 3, or 4 represents selecting a man; rolling a 5 or 6 represents selecting a woman. After 1,000 trials, the number of times the dice indicate selecting 3 women is recorded.

Does the proposed process correctly simulate the random selection of 3 women from a group of 9 people consisting of 6 men and 3 women? Explain why or why not.

3. Schools in a certain state receive funding based on the number of students who attend the school. To determine the number of students who attend a school, one school day is selected at random and the number of students in attendance that day is counted and used for funding purposes. The daily number of absences at High School A in the state is approximately normally distributed with mean of 120 students and standard deviation of 10.5 students.
- (a) If more than 140 students are absent on the day the attendance count is taken for funding purposes, the school will lose some of its state funding in the subsequent year. Approximately what is the probability that High School A will lose some state funding?
- (b) The principals’ association in the state suggests that instead of choosing one day at random, the state should choose 3 days at random. With the suggested plan, High School A would lose some of its state funding in the subsequent year if the mean number of students absent for the 3 days is greater than 140. Would High School A be more likely, less likely, or equally likely to lose funding using the suggested plan compared to the plan described in part (a)? Justify your choice.
- (c) A typical school week consists of the days Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. The principal at High School A believes that the number of absences tends to be greater on Mondays and Fridays, and there is concern that the school will lose state funding if the attendance count occurs on a Monday or Friday. If one school day is chosen at random from each of 3 typical school weeks, what is the probability that none of the 3 days chosen is a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday?

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Question 1 (continued)

Scoring

Parts (a), (b), and (c) were scored as essentially correct (E), partially correct (P), or incorrect (I).

Part (a) is scored as follows:

Essentially correct (E) if the response correctly performs *both* calculations with work shown.

Partially correct (P) if the response correctly performs one of the two calculations with work shown;

OR

if the response provides both correct answers with no work shown;

OR

if the response calculates the proportion of students involved in exactly one extracurricular activity rather than the proportion of students involved in at least one extracurricular activity for both groups, with work shown.

Incorrect (I) if the response does not meet the criteria for E or P.

Note: Answers reported as fractions rather than decimals are acceptable.

Part (b) is scored as follows:

Essentially correct (E) if the response correctly compares proportions between the two groups of students for at least two of the three categories.

Partially correct (P) if the response correctly lists proportions for at least two categories for the two groups but does not make an explicit comparison between the two groups;

OR

if the response correctly compares the relative values of the proportions between the two groups of students for only one of the three categories.

Incorrect (I) if the response does not meet the criteria for E or P.

Notes:

- A response without any reference to percentages or proportions is scored as at most P, (for example, a response that attempts to compare counts).
- A response that treats bar graphs as distributions of a quantitative variable lowers the score one level (that is, from E to P, or from P to I) in part (b).