



Exercise Solution

A restaurant offers two menus, one for weekdays and the other for weekends. Each menu offers four set prices, and the probability distributions for the amount someone pays is as follows:

Weekday:

x	10	15	20	25
P(X = x)	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.1

Weekend:

y	15	20	25	30
P(Y = y)	0.15	0.6	0.2	0.05

Who would you expect to pay the restaurant most: a group of 20 eating at the weekend, or a group of 25 eating on a weekday?

Let's start by finding the expectation of a weekday and a weekend. X represents someone paying on a weekday, and Y represents someone paying at the weekend.

$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= 10 \times 0.2 + 15 \times 0.5 + 20 \times 0.2 + 25 \times 0.1 \\ &= 2 + 7.5 + 4 + 2.5 \\ &= 16 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y) &= 15 \times 0.15 + 20 \times 0.6 + 25 \times 0.2 + 30 \times 0.05 \\ &= 2.25 + 12 + 5 + 1.5 \\ &= 20.75 \end{aligned}$$

Each person eating at the restaurant is an independent observation, and to find the amount spent by each group, we multiply the expectation by the number in each group.

$$25 \text{ people eating on a weekday gives us } 25 \times E(X) = 25 \times 16 = 400$$

$$20 \text{ people eating at the weekend gives us } 20 \times E(Y) = 20 \times 20.75 = 415$$

This means we can expect 20 people eating at the weekend to pay more than 25 people eating on a weekday.