

Lecture Slides



Essentials of Statistics 5th Edition

and the Triola Statistics Series

by Mario F. Triola

Chapter 4

Probability

4-1 Review and Preview

4-2 Basic Concepts of Probability

4-3 Addition Rule

4-4 Multiplication Rule: Basics

4-5 Multiplication Rule: Complements and Conditional Probability

4-6 Counting

4-7 Probabilities Through Simulations

4-8 Bayes' Theorem

Definitions

A **prior probability** is an initial probability value originally obtained before any additional information is obtained.

A **posterior probability** is a probability value that has been revised using additional information that is later obtained.

Bayes' Theorem

The probability of event A , given that event B has subsequently occurred, is

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A) \cdot P(B | A)}{[P(A) \cdot P(B | A)] + [P(\bar{A}) \cdot P(B | \bar{A})]}$$

Example

In Orange County, 51% are males and 49% are females.

One adult is selected at random for a survey involving credit card usage.

- a. Find the prior probability that the selected person is male.
- b. It is later learned the survey subject was smoking a cigar, and 9.5% of males smoke cigars (only 1.7% of females do). Now find the probability the selected subject is male.

Example – continued

Notation:

M = male

\bar{M} = female

C = cigar smoker

\bar{C} = not a cigar smoker

a. Before the extra information obtained in part (b), we know 51% of the adults are male, so $P(M) = 0.51$.

Example – continued

b. Based on the additional information:

$$P(M) = 0.51$$

$$P(\bar{M}) = 0.49$$

$$P(C | M) = 0.095$$

$$P(C | \bar{M}) = 0.017$$

We can now apply Bayes' Theorem:

Example – continued

$$\begin{aligned}P(M | C) &= \frac{P(M) \cdot P(C | M)}{[P(M) \cdot P(C | M)] + [P(\bar{M}) \cdot P(C | \bar{M})]} \\&= \frac{0.51 \cdot 0.095}{[0.51 \cdot 0.095] + [0.49 \cdot 0.017]} \\&= 0.853 \text{ (rounded)}\end{aligned}$$

Bayes' Theorem Generalized

The preceding formula used exactly two categories for event A , but the formula can be extended to include more than two categories.

We must be sure the multiple events satisfy two important conditions:

1. The events must be **disjoint** (with no overlapping).
2. The events must be **exhaustive**, which means they combine to include all possibilities.