

Two-by-Two (2x2) Tables

What they are

Two by two tables are created to evaluate the association between a possible risk factor and an outcome of interest.

General form

		Disease/outcome Status		
		+ (yes)	- (no)	Totals
Exposure Status	+ (yes)	a	b	a+b
	- (no)	c	d	c+d
Totals		a+c	b+d	a+b+c+d

a represents individuals exposed to the exposure of interest who developed the outcome being studied.

b represents individuals exposed to the exposure of interest who did not develop the outcome being studied.

c represents individuals not exposed to the exposure of interest but who did develop the outcome being studied.

d represents individuals not exposed to the exposure of interest that did not develop the outcome being studied.