

# CHI-SQUARED TEST

Data Science | CCDATsCL

The chi-squared is a statistical test that is used to determine **whether there is a relationship between two categorical variables.**

It is applied to sets of categorical data to evaluate **how likely it is that any observed difference between the sets arose by chance.**

## Example: Littering Behavior Between Genders

1. Presume you observed 100 people to see who deposits garbage in the can and who litters. You want to see if there is a difference based on gender. A person can fall in one of four categories

Person	Deposit	Litter	Male	Female
John	Yes	no	Yes	No
Julia	No	Yes	No	Yes

	Deposit	Litter	
Female	18	7	25
Male	42	33	75
	60	40	100

Given this data, is there a significant difference in littering behavior between men and women?

**Null Hypothesis  $H_0$ :**

Males and females litter at the same rate.

**Alternative Hypothesis  $H_1$ :**

Males and females litter at different rates.

To answer this question, you have to figure out what numbers you might expect if everything were left to chance.

If  $H_0$  were true, that there is no difference based on gender.

	Deposit	Litter	
Female	18	7	25
	15		
Male	42	33	75
	60	40	100

Since 60 people deposited their garbage and 25% of them were female, you would expect 15 (25% of 60) females to be the value in the upper left cell, if there's an equal distribution – no effect on gender.

	Deposit	Litter	
Female	18	7	25
	15		
Male	42	33	75
	60	40	100

Since 40 people littered and 75% of them were male, you would expect 30 (25% of 60) males to be the value in the lower right cell, if there is no gender effect.

	Deposit	Litter	
Female	18	7	25
	15	10	
Male	42	33	75
	45	30	
	60	40	100

Working in a similar method, you can fill in all the expected values.

The further the observed values are from the expected values, the more likely that there really is a significant difference.

## Chi-Squared Equation

$$\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$$

**Where:**

$O$  is the observed values of each cell

$E$  is the expected values of each cell

	Deposit	Litter	
Female	18	7	25
	15	10	
Male	42	33	75
	45	30	
	60	40	100

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(18-15)^2}{15} + \frac{(7-10)^2}{10} + \frac{(42-45)^2}{45} + \frac{(33-30)^2}{30}$$

$$\chi^2 = \frac{9}{15} + \frac{9}{10} + \frac{9}{45} + \frac{9}{30}$$

$$\chi^2 = 0.6 + 0.9 + 0.2 + 0.3$$

$$\chi^2 = 2.0$$

## Chi-squared Test: Degree of Freedom and Significance Level

$$\chi^2 = 2.0$$

$$df = (\text{number of rows} - 1) (\text{number of columns} - 1)$$

$$df = (2 - 1) (2 - 1)$$

$$df = 1$$

$$\text{significance level } \sigma = 0.05$$

### Chi-squared test: Decision

if  $\chi^2$  is greater than 3.841 we reject the null hypothesis  $H_0$

If  $\chi^2$  is less than 3.841, we fail to reject the null hypothesis  $H_0$

Since the computed **chi-square value (2.0) is less than the critical value (3.841)**, then we fail to reject the null hypothesis.

There is no statistically significant difference between gender and whether they litter (at  $\alpha = 0.05$ ).