# nhanes\_confidence\_intervals\_practice

February 20, 2022

## 1 Practice notebook for confidence intervals using NHANES data

This notebook will give you the opportunity to practice working with confidence intervals using the NHANES data.

You can enter your code into the cells that say "enter your code here", and you can type responses to the questions into the cells that say "Type Markdown and Latex".

Note that most of the code that you will need to write below is very similar to code that appears in the case study notebook. You will need to edit code from that notebook in small ways to adapt it to the prompts below.

To get started, we will use the same module imports and read the data in the same way as we did in the case study:

```
In [2]: %matplotlib inline
        import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
        import pandas as pd
        import numpy as np
        import seaborn as sns
        import statsmodels.api as sm
        da = pd.read_csv("nhanes_2015_2016.csv")
        #pd.set_option('display.max_rows', da.shape[0]+1)
        pd.set_option('display.max_rows', 100)
In [3]: # woman
        df_woman = da[da["RIAGENDR"] == 2]
        df_woman.count()
Out[3]: SEQN
                    2976
        ALQ101
                    2660
        ALQ110
                    1203
        ALQ130
                    1577
        SMQ020
                    2976
        RIAGENDR
                    2976
        RIDAGEYR
                    2976
        RIDRETH1
                    2976
        DMDCITZN
                    2975
```

```
DMDEDUC2
                     2850
        DMDMARTL
                     2850
        DMDHHSIZ
                     2976
        WTINT2YR
                     2976
        SDMVPSU
                     2976
        SDMVSTRA
                     2976
        INDFMPIR
                     2651
        BPXSY1
                     2780
        BPXDI1
                     2780
        BPXSY2
                     2857
        BPXDI2
                     2857
        BMXWT
                     2947
        BMXHT
                     2946
        BMXBMI
                     2944
        BMXLEG
                     2753
        BMXARML
                     2805
        BMXARMC
                     2805
        BMXWAIST
                     2762
        HIQ210
                     2504
        dtype: int64
In [4]: # woman
        df_woman = da[da["RIAGENDR"] == 2]
        df_woman.count()
Out[4]: SEQN
                     2976
        ALQ101
                     2660
        ALQ110
                     1203
        ALQ130
                     1577
        SMQ020
                     2976
        RIAGENDR
                     2976
                     2976
        RIDAGEYR
        RIDRETH1
                     2976
        DMDCITZN
                     2975
        DMDEDUC2
                     2850
        DMDMARTL
                     2850
        DMDHHSIZ
                     2976
        WTINT2YR
                     2976
        SDMVPSU
                     2976
        SDMVSTRA
                     2976
        INDFMPIR
                     2651
        BPXSY1
                     2780
        BPXDI1
                     2780
        BPXSY2
                     2857
        BPXDI2
                     2857
        BMXWT
                     2947
        BMXHT
                     2946
        BMXBMI
                     2944
```

```
BMXLEG
                    2753
                    2805
        BMXARML
        BMXARMC
                    2805
        BMXWAIST
                    2762
        HIQ210
                    2504
        dtype: int64
In [5]: # checks
        higher_eq_35_query = df_woman[df_woman['RIDAGEYR'] >= 35]
        higher_eq_35_query["RIDAGEYR"].count()
Out[5]: 2108
In [6]: higher_eq_35_slice = df_woman.query('RIDAGEYR >= 35')
        higher_eq_35_slice["RIDAGEYR"].count()
Out[6]: 2108
In [7]: higher_50_slice = df_woman.query('RIDAGEYR > 50')
        higher_50_slice["RIDAGEYR"].count()
Out[7]: 1321
In [8]: range_35_50 = higher_eq_35_slice["RIDAGEYR"].count() - higher_50_slice["RIDAGEYR"].count
        range_35_50
Out[8]: 787
In [9]: range_35_50_query = df_woman.query('RIDAGEYR >=35 and RIDAGEYR <= 50')</pre>
        range_35_50_query = range_35_50_query [["RIDAGEYR", "DMDMARTL", "DMDEDUC2"]].dropna()
        range_35_50_query["RIDAGEYR"].count()
Out [9]: 787
```

#### 1.1 Question 1

Restrict the sample to women between 35 and 50, then use the marital status variable DMD-MARTL to partition this sample into two groups - women who are currently married, and women who are not currently married (married = 1, Missing = ., Dont know = 99, Refused = 77). Within each of these groups, calculate the proportion of women who have completed college (variable DMDEDUC2). Calculate 95% confidence intervals for each of these proportions. ich.edu/web/DSDR/studies/25504/datasets/0232/variables/DMDEDUC2?archive=DSDR

DMDEDUC2: 1 Less Than 9th Grade, 2 9-11th Grade (Includes 12th grade with no diploma), 3 High School Grad/GED or Equivalent, 4 Some College or AA degree, 5 College Graduate or above, 7 Refused, 9 Don't know, . Missing values https://www.icpsr.um

Out[10]: RIDAGEYR 787
DMDMARTL 787
DMDEDUC2 787
dtype: int64
In [11]: # added colum El

Out[11]:		RIDAGEYR	DMDMARTL	DMDEDUC2	HAS_COLLEGE
4	1	42	3.0	4.0	False
3	34	37	1.0	4.0	False
5	50	39	1.0	3.0	False
5	52	50	4.0	1.0	False
5	55	45	1.0	2.0	False
5	58	44	5.0	1.0	False
$\epsilon$	31	37	1.0	3.0	False
6	32	49	1.0	3.0	False
6	33	46	1.0	5.0	True
7	76	42	1.0	5.0	True
8	32	38	1.0	4.0	False
S	95	47	1.0	4.0	False
S	98	49	1.0	4.0	False
1	100	43	6.0	4.0	False
1	106	48	1.0	1.0	False
1	114	44	1.0	5.0	True
1	124	46	1.0	5.0	True
1	127	47	3.0	3.0	False
1	129	44	1.0	4.0	False
1	131	44	3.0	4.0	False
1	147	37	5.0	2.0	False
1	150	41	6.0	3.0	False
1	159	45	6.0	2.0	False
1	166	41	1.0	5.0	True
1	178	41	3.0	4.0	False
1	186	45	1.0	5.0	True
1	192	50	1.0	4.0	False
1	193	45	1.0	4.0	False
1	194	48	4.0	4.0	False
1	199	39	5.0	3.0	False
	202	46	5.0	3.0	False
2	206	45	1.0	4.0	False
	234	46	4.0	4.0	False
2	241	35	5.0	1.0	False
	244	46	1.0	1.0	False
2	290	43	5.0	1.0	False
2	294	40	5.0	2.0	False

295	47	5.0	4.0	Falac
				False
300	42	1.0	5.0	True
301	43	1.0	3.0	False
318	44	1.0	4.0	False
321	36	1.0	3.0	False
326	36	1.0	5.0	True
331	36	5.0	3.0	False
332	41	1.0	5.0	True
335	45	1.0	5.0	True
346	50	1.0	4.0	False
348	39	3.0	4.0	False
355	36	1.0	1.0	False
357	48	4.0	2.0	False
5256	36	3.0	4.0	False
5272	49	1.0	5.0	True
5299	50	5.0	5.0	True
5324	38	5.0	4.0	False
5338	39	1.0	4.0	False
5359	40	1.0	5.0	True
5363	42	1.0	5.0	True
5364	36	1.0	3.0	False
5366	49	4.0	1.0	False
5385	44	2.0	5.0	True
5386	49	3.0	5.0	True
5392	48	1.0	5.0	True
5396	45	1.0	4.0	False
5404	40	3.0	3.0	False
5410	47	6.0	4.0	False
5442	46	5.0	3.0	False
5444	44	1.0	4.0	False
5445	38	6.0	4.0	False
5446	47	1.0	2.0	False
5455	44	6.0	4.0	False
5475	46	3.0	3.0	False
5476	37	5.0	5.0	True
5481	48	1.0	3.0	False
5488	46	1.0	1.0	False
5489	35	1.0	5.0	True
5495	40	5.0	5.0	True
5497	40	1.0	2.0	False
				False
5499	46	5.0	4.0	
5509	39 42	1.0	4.0	False
5514	43	1.0	4.0	False
5530 5536	43	1.0	3.0	False
5536	36	5.0	5.0	True
5540	40	1.0	5.0	True
5552	35	5.0	4.0	False

5556	50	1.0	5.0	True
5557	36	4.0	2.0	False
5558	47	1.0	2.0	False
5559	50	3.0	4.0	False
5575	43	1.0	5.0	True
5582	36	5.0	3.0	False
5598	44	1.0	1.0	False
5606	42	1.0	4.0	False
5609	47	1.0	4.0	False
5623	40	5.0	3.0	False
5627	43	1.0	4.0	False
5658	46	3.0	2.0	False
5685	36	1.0	5.0	True
5689	44	1.0	2.0	False
5721	35	3.0	5.0	True
5724	41	1.0	5.0	True

[787 rows x 4 columns]

```
Out[12]:
             RIDAGEYR DMDMARTL DMDEDUC2 HAS_COLLEGE
                                                         IS MARRIED
                   42
                             3.0
                                        4.0
                                                   False
                                                                False
         34
                    37
                             1.0
                                        4.0
                                                   False
                                                                 True
         50
                    39
                             1.0
                                        3.0
                                                   False
                                                                 True
                             4.0
         52
                    50
                                        1.0
                                                   False
                                                                False
         55
                    45
                             1.0
                                        2.0
                                                   False
                                                                 True
```

```
In [14]: df_women_35_50.count()
```

dtype: int64

```
Other
                              287
                                       266
In [16]: df_women_35_50.head(10)
Out[16]:
             RIDAGEYR
                       DMDMARTL
                                  DMDEDUC2
                                             HAS_COLLEGE
                                                          IS_MARRIED MARITAL_STATUS \
                             3.0
                                        4.0
                                                   False
                                                                False
                                                                               Single
         4
                    42
         34
                    37
                             1.0
                                        4.0
                                                   False
                                                                 True
                                                                              Married
         50
                    39
                             1.0
                                        3.0
                                                   False
                                                                 True
                                                                              Married
         52
                    50
                             4.0
                                        1.0
                                                   False
                                                                False
                                                                               Single
         55
                    45
                             1.0
                                        2.0
                                                   False
                                                                 True
                                                                              Married
                             5.0
         58
                    44
                                        1.0
                                                   False
                                                                False
                                                                               Single
                             1.0
                                        3.0
         61
                    37
                                                   False
                                                                 True
                                                                              Married
                                                                 True
         62
                    49
                             1.0
                                        3.0
                                                   False
                                                                              Married
         63
                    46
                             1.0
                                        5.0
                                                    True
                                                                 True
                                                                              Married
         76
                    42
                             1.0
                                        5.0
                                                    True
                                                                 True
                                                                              Married
            EDUC_LEVEL
         4
                  Other
                 Other
         34
         50
                  Other
                  Other
         52
         55
                 Other
         58
                 Other
         61
                 Other
         62
                  Other
         63
               College
         76
               College
In [17]: # Proportion married and not married
                      total, college, not college
         #married
                       34,
                             17,
                                     17
         #not married 27,
                             9,
                                     18
         proportions = df_women_35_50.groupby(df_women_35_50.MARITAL_STATUS).agg({"EDUC_LEVEL"
         proportions.columns = ["With_College", "Total n"]
         proportions
Out[17]:
                          With_College Total_n
         MARITAL_STATUS
                              0.360802
         Married
                                             449
                              0.213018
         Single
                                             338
In [18]: # Women single
         # standard error
         p_single = proportions.With_College.Single # Women Single proportion
         n_single = proportions.Total_n.Single # Total number of females
         se_single = np.sqrt(p_single * (1 - p_single) / n_single)
```

College

162

72

```
# confidence interval
         lcb = p_single - 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_single * (1 - p_single) / n_single)
         ucb = p_single + 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_single * (1 - p_single) / n_single)
         ci range = ucb - lcb
         print('single:', se_single, ' - confidence interval (', lcb, ',', ucb, ') - range:',
         # Women married
         # standard error
         p_married = proportions.With_College.Married
         n_married = proportions.Total_n.Married # Total number of females
         se_married = np.sqrt(p_married * (1 - p_married) / n_married)
         # confidence interval
         lcb = p_married - 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_married * (1 - p_married) / n_married)
         ucb = p_married + 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_married * (1 - p_married) / n_married)
         ci_range = ucb - lcb
         print('married:', se_married, ' - confidence interval(', lcb, ',', ucb, ') - range:'
single: 0.022270605048202215 - confidence interval ( 0.1693673655848136 , 0.25666813737376626
married: 0.02266360248455356 - confidence interval( 0.3163811208674688 , 0.4052224426069187 )
In [19]: # same calcs using the lib statsmodels
         # Women single
         sm.stats.proportion_confint(counts.Single.College , n_single)
Out [19]: (0.16936816767089768, 0.2566673352876822)
In [20]: # Women married
         sm.stats.proportion_confint(counts.Married.College , n_married)
Out [20]: (0.31638193710753626, 0.4052216263668512)
```

**Q1a.** Identify which of the two confidence intervals is wider, and explain why this is the case. The married woman confidence interval is slightly wider.

**Q1b.** Write 1-2 sentences summarizing these findings for an audience that does not know what a confidence interval is (the goal here is to report the substance of what you learned about how marital status and educational attainment are related, not to teach a person what a confidence interval is).

With 95% confident that, approximatelly, between 32% and 41% of married woman completed a college degree Whereas between 17% and 26% of unmarried woman completed a colledge degree

#### 1.2 Question 2

Construct a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of smokers who are female. Construct a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of smokers who are male. Construct a 95% confidence interval for the **difference** between those two gender proportions.

```
In [44]: # woman
         df = da[["RIAGENDR", "SMQ020"]]
         df["GENDER"] = df.RIAGENDR.replace({1: "Male", 2: "Female"})
         df["SMOKER"] = df.SMQ020.replace({1: "Yes", 2: "No", 7: np.nan, 9: np.nan})
         df = df[["SMOKER", "GENDER"]].dropna()
         df.head()
Out [44]:
           SMOKER
                   GENDER
              Yes
                     Male
         0
         1
              Yes
                     Male
         2
                     Male
              Yes
         3
               No Female
               No
                  Female
In [45]: df.count()
Out[45]: SMOKER
                   5725
         GENDER
                   5725
         dtype: int64
In [47]: proportions = df.groupby(df.GENDER).agg({"SMOKER": [lambda x: np.mean(x=="Yes"), np.s
         proportions.columns = ["Proportion", "Total_n"]
         proportions
Out [47]:
                 Proportion Total_n
         GENDER.
         Female
                   0.304845
                                 2972
         Male
                   0.513258
                                 2753
In [51]: # Construct a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of smokers who are female
         # standard error
         p_women = proportions.Proportion.Female # Women smokers proportion
         n_women = proportions.Total_n.Female # Total number of females
         se_women = np.sqrt(p_women * (1 - p_women) / n_women)
         # confidence interval
         lcb = p_{women} - 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_{women} * (1 - p_{women}) / n_{women})
         ucb = p_women + 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_women * (1 - p_women) / n_women)
         ci_range = ucb - lcb
         print('women:', se_women, ' - confidence interval (', lcb, ',', ucb, ') - range:', ci
         # Construct a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of smokers who are male
```

```
# standard error
        p_men = proportions.Proportion.Male # Males smokers proportion
        n_men = proportions.Total_n.Male # Total number of males
         se_men = np.sqrt(p_men * (1 - p_men) / n_men)
         # confidence interval
        lcb = p_men - 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_men * (1 - p_men) / n_men)
         ucb = p_men + 1.96 * np.sqrt(p_men * (1 - p_men) / n_men)
         ci_range = ucb - lcb
         print('males:', se_men, ' - confidence interval(', lcb, ',', ucb, ') - range:', ci_re
women: 0.008444152146214435 - confidence interval ( 0.288294683866098 , 0.32139576027925865 )
males: 0.009526078653689868 - confidence interval( 0.49458714955108174 , 0.531929377873546 )
In [59]: # Construct a 95% confidence interval for the difference between those two gender pro
         # standard error of the difference
         # sqrt(SE1^2 + SE2^2) is the standard error for the difference of these proportions
         se_diff = np.sqrt(se_women**2 + se_men**2)
         se_diff
         # confidence interval
        diff = proportions.Proportion.Male - proportions.Proportion.Female # difference bet
        lcb = diff - 2*se_diff
        ucb = diff + 2*se_diff
         ci_range = ucb - lcb
        print('diff:', 'std error ', se_diff, ' - confidence interval(', lcb, ',', ucb, ') -
diff: std error 0.012729881381407434 - confidence interval(0.18295327887682067, 0.23387280-
```

The 95% confidence interval above shows us that any value for the difference of population proportions (between females and males) lying between 0,1829 and 0.2338.

**Q2a.** Why might it be relevant to report the separate gender proportions **and** the difference between the gender proportions?

A confidence interval (C.I.) for a difference in proportions is a range of values that is likely to contain the true difference between two population proportions with a certain level of confidence. The confidence intervals for the proportions of female and male smokers shown above are quite narrow and do not overlap. This suggests that there is a substantial difference between the lifetime smoking rates for women and men. However there is no explicit information here about how different the two population proportions might be. To address this question, we can form a confidence interval for the difference between the proportion of females who smoke and the proportion of males who smoke.

**Q2b.** How does the **width** of the confidence interval for the difference between the gender proportions compare to the widths of the confidence intervals for the separate gender proportions?

It is wider and contains zero. Since the interval does not contain 0, we see that the difference seen in this study was "significant."

#### 1.3 Question 3

Construct a 95% interval for height (BMXHT) in centimeters. Then convert height from centimeters to inches by dividing by 2.54, and construct a 95% confidence interval for height in inches. Finally, convert the endpoints (the lower and upper confidence limits) of the confidence interval from inches to back to centimeters

```
In []: # centimeters
       ddof=1mean_cm = da_bmxht_cm.mean()
        std_cm = da_bmxht_cm.std(ddof=1)
        # inches
        da_bmxht_inches = da_bmxht_cm.apply(lambda x: x/2.54)
        mean_inches = da_bmxht_inches.mean()
        std_inches = da_bmxht_inches.std(ddof=1)
        # common variables
        n = da_bmxht_inches.count()
        z = 1.96
In [ ]: # centimeters
        std_error_inches = std_inches / np.sqrt(n)
        # inches
        std_error_cm = std_cm / np.sqrt(n)
In []: # inches
       lcb_inches = mean_inches - z * std_error_inches
        ucb_inches = mean_inches + z * std_error_inches
        print(lcb_inches, ucb_inches)
       print('With 95% confidence, the population mean is estimaded to be between', lcb_inches
In [ ]: # inches to centimeters
       lcb_inches_to_cm = lcb_inches * 2.54
        ucb_inches_to_cm = ucb_inches * 2.54
       print('With 95% confidence, the population mean is estimaded to be between', lcb_inches
In [ ]: # centimeters
        lcb_cm = mean_cm - z * std_error_cm
        ucb_cm = mean_cm + z * std_error_cm
        print('With 95% confidence, the population mean is estimaded to be between',lcb_cm, 'a
In [ ]: sm.stats.DescrStatsW(da_bmxht_inches).zconfint_mean()
In [ ]: sm.stats.DescrStatsW(da_bmxht_cm).zconfint_mean()
```

**Q3a.** Describe how the confidence interval constructed in centimeters relates to the confidence interval constructed in inches.

#### 1.4 Question 4

Partition the sample based on 10-year age bands, i.e. the resulting groups will consist of people with ages from 18-28, 29-38, etc. Construct 95% confidence intervals for the difference between the mean BMI for females and for males within each age band.

**Q4a.** How do the widths of these confidence intervals differ? Provide an explanation for any substantial differences in the confidence interval widths that you see.

#### 1.5 Question 5

Construct a 95% confidence interval for the first and second systolic blood pressure measures, and for the difference between the first and second systolic blood pressure measurements within a subject.

```
In [ ]: # enter code here
```

**Q5a.** Based on these confidence intervals, would you say that a difference of zero between the population mean values of the first and second systolic blood pressure measures is consistent with the data?

**Q5b.** Discuss how the width of the confidence interval for the within-subject difference compares to the widths of the confidence intervals for the first and second measures.

### 1.6 Question 6

Construct a 95% confidence interval for the mean difference between the average age of a smoker, and the average age of a non-smoker.

```
In [ ]: # insert your code here
```

**Q6a.** Use graphical and numerical techniques to compare the variation in the ages of smokers to the variation in the ages of non-smokers.

```
In [1]: # insert your code here
```

**Q6b.** Does it appear that uncertainty about the mean age of smokers, or uncertainty about the mean age of non-smokers contributed more to the uncertainty for the mean difference that we are focusing on here?