

# Addition Rule and Multiplication Rule

Colby Community College

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## Multiplication Rule

If events  $A$  and  $B$  are independent, then the probability of both  $A$  and  $B$  occurring is

$$P(A \text{ and } B) = P(A) \cdot P(B)$$

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The sample space is  $\{H1, H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6\}$ .

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We could have also calculated

$$P(H \text{ and } 3) = P(H) \cdot P(3) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{12}$$

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But,  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{8}{12}$ , is wrong because we have double counted H6. Thus, we need to subtract  $P(H6) = \frac{1}{12}$ .

$$P(H \text{ or } 6) = P(H) + P(6) - P(H \text{ and } 6) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{12} = \frac{7}{12}$$

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Since there are no cards that are both Kings and Queens, we have

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### Note

If two events are **disjoint**, then  $P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B)$ .

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Two cards are red kings, so  $P(\text{Red and K}) = \frac{2}{52}$ .

Thus,

$$P(\text{Red or K}) = P(\text{Red}) + P(K) - P(\text{Red and K}) = \frac{26}{52} + \frac{4}{52} - \frac{2}{52} = \frac{7}{13}$$

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### Definition

The probability the event  $B$  occurs, given that event  $A$  has happened, is represented as  $P(B | A)$ . This is called a **conditional probability**.

Read as “the probability of  $B$  given  $A$ .”



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Car color	Speeding ticket	No speeding ticket	Total
Red	15	135	150
Not red	45	470	515
Total	60	605	665

Find the probability someone has gotten a speeding ticket *given* they drive a red car.

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$$P(\text{red} \mid \text{ticket}) = \frac{15}{60} = \frac{1}{4} = 25\%$$

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### Note

In general  $P(B \mid A) \neq P(A \mid B)$ .

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The probability that the first card is a heart is  $P(1^{\text{st}} \heartsuit) = \frac{13}{52}$ .



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The probability that the first card is a heart is  $P(1^{\text{st}} \heartsuit) = \frac{13}{52}$ .

The probability that the second card is a heart, given that the first card was a heart, is  $P(2^{\text{nd}} \heartsuit | 1^{\text{st}} \heartsuit) = \frac{12}{51}$ .

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The probability that the second card is a heart, given that the first card was a heart, is  $P(2^{\text{nd}} \heartsuit | 1^{\text{st}} \heartsuit) = \frac{12}{51}$ .

So, the probability that both are hearts is

$$P(\text{both } \heartsuit) = P(1^{\text{st}} \heartsuit) \cdot P(2^{\text{nd}} \heartsuit | 1^{\text{st}} \heartsuit) = \frac{13}{52} \cdot \frac{12}{51} = \frac{156}{2652} \approx 5.9\%$$

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**Event A** Drawing the Ace of Diamonds then drawing a black card.

$$\begin{aligned}P(A \spadesuit \text{ and Black}) &= P(A \spadesuit) \cdot P(\text{Black} \mid A \spadesuit) \\&= \frac{1}{52} \cdot \frac{26}{51} = \frac{1}{102}\end{aligned}$$

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**Event B** Drawing a black card then drawing the Ace of Diamonds.

$$\begin{aligned}P(\text{Black and } A \spadesuit) &= P(\text{Black}) \cdot P(A \spadesuit \mid \text{Black}) \\&= \frac{26}{52} \cdot \frac{1}{51} = \frac{1}{102}\end{aligned}$$

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These events are independent and mutually exclusive, so

$$P(A \text{ or } B) = P(A) + P(B) = \frac{1}{102} + \frac{1}{102} = \frac{2}{102} \approx 1.96\%$$

## Sampling

Sampling methods are critically important, and the following relationships hold:

- Sampling *with replacement*: Selections are *independent* events.
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## Treating Dependent Events as Independent

When sampling without replacement and the sample size is no more than 5% of the size of the population, treat the selections as being independent (even though they are actually dependent).

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Assume that three adults are randomly selected without replacement from the 247,436,830 adults in the United States. If we assume that 10% of adults use drugs, what is the probability that the three selected adults all use drugs?

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Because the three adults are randomly selected without replacement, the three events are dependent. This means the exact probability would be rather cumbersome.

$$\begin{aligned}P(\text{all use drugs}) &= P(\text{first use drugs and second use drugs and third use drugs}) \\&= \left( \frac{24,743,683}{247,436,830} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{24,743,682}{247,436,829} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{24,743,681}{247,436,828} \right) \\&= 0.0009999998909\end{aligned}$$

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Since 5 adults is less than 5% of the total population, we can simplify the calculations considerably.

$$\begin{aligned}P(\text{all use drugs}) &= P(\text{first use drugs and second use drugs and third use drugs}) \\&= 0.1 \cdot 0.1 \cdot 0.1 = 0.00100\end{aligned}$$

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## Caution

In any probability calculation, it is very important to carefully identify the event being considered.