

Biostatistics Lecture: Mortality Statistics

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1 Introduction to Mortality Measures

1.1 Understanding Mortality Statistics

Welcome to today's lecture on **Mortality Statistics** in **Biostatistics**. Imagine you're the captain of a ship navigating the vast ocean of a country's health data. Mortality measures are your compass and map, guiding you to understand the nation's health status and economic growth. Let's dive into the essential metrics that help chart this course.

1.2 Importance of Mortality Measures

Mortality measures are pivotal in:

- **Formulating Health Policies:** They help design policies that cater to the nation's health needs.
- **Assessing Growth and Progress:** By analyzing mortality rates, we can gauge a country's development and economic growth.
- **Social Criteria for Economic Growth:** Mortality statistics serve as social indicators that influence economic planning and progress.

1.3 Crude Death Rate

Crude Death Rate is a fundamental measure of mortality, representing the ratio of deaths per thousand individuals in a population over a year.

Formula 1:

$$\text{Crude Death Rate} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Deaths}}{\text{Population in the Middle of the Year}} \right) \times 1000$$

Example 1: Calculating Crude Death Rate

Suppose a country recorded **727,340** deaths in a year, with a mid-year population of **45,891,423** people.

$$\text{Crude Death Rate} = \left(\frac{727,340}{45,891,423} \right) \times 1000 = 15.849$$

Interpretation: Approximately **16 deaths** occur per **1,000 people** annually.

2 Advanced Mortality Rates

2.1 Rate of Natural Increase

The **Rate of Natural Increase** indicates the population growth rate excluding migration, calculated by subtracting deaths from live births.

Formula 2:

$$\text{Rate of Natural Increase} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Live Births} - \text{Number of Deaths}}{\text{Population in the Middle of the Year}} \right) \times 1000$$

2.2 Death Rate Due to Specific Diseases

This rate measures mortality from specific illnesses within a population.

Formula 3:

$$\text{Death Rate Due to Specific Disease} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Deaths from Disease}}{\text{Number of Infected Individuals in the Middle of the Year}} \right) \times 1000$$

2.3 Maternal Mortality Rate

Maternal Mortality Rate assesses the number of women who die due to complications from pregnancy or childbirth per thousand women in the population.

Formula 4:

$$\text{Maternal Mortality Rate} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Deaths During Pregnancy or Childbirth}}{\text{Population in the Middle of the Year}} \right) \times 1000$$

Example 2: Understanding Maternal Mortality Rate

If **50** women die during pregnancy or childbirth in a year, and the mid-year population is **100,000**, then:

$$\text{Maternal Mortality Rate} = \left(\frac{50}{100,000} \right) \times 1000 = 0.5$$

Interpretation: There are **0.5 maternal deaths** per **1,000 women** annually.

2.4 Infant Mortality Rate

Infant Mortality Rate measures the number of children who die before reaching one year of age, excluding those born dead.

Formula 5:

$$\text{Infant Mortality Rate} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Infant Deaths During the Year}}{\text{Number of Live Births in the Middle of the Year}} \right) \times 1000$$

3 Calculating Infant Mortality Rate

3.1 Example 3: Infant Mortality Rate Calculation

Consider the following data for a country:

Year	Infant Mortality Rate	Live Births
2009	4,343	242,379
2010	4,634	253,420

Table 1: Mortality in Children Under One Year and Live Births

Task: Calculate the infant mortality rate for 2009 and 2010, given a **separation factor** of **30%**.

Solution:

1. **Infant Mortality Rate for 2009:**

$$\text{Infant Mortality Rate} = \left(\frac{4,343}{242,379} \right) \times 1000 \approx 17.91$$

2. **Infant Mortality Rate for 2010:**

$$\text{Infant Mortality Rate} = \left(\frac{4,634}{253,420} \right) \times 1000 \approx 18.29$$

Note: The separation factor of **30%** is not directly applied in these calculations but may influence data interpretation or policy decisions.

4 Neonatal and Early Childhood Mortality Rates

4.1 Neonatal Mortality Rate

Neonatal Mortality Rate focuses on deaths of children less than 28 days old per thousand live births.

Formula 6:

$$\text{Neonatal Mortality Rate} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Deaths Under 28 Days}}{\text{Number of Live Births in the Middle of the Year}} \right) \times 1000$$

4.2 Early Childhood Mortality Rate

Early Childhood Mortality Rate measures deaths of children aged between 28 days and 11 months per thousand live births, excluding those who died before 28 days.

Formula 7:

$$\text{Early Childhood Mortality Rate} = \left(\frac{\text{Number of Deaths Aged 28 Days to 11 Months}}{\text{Number of Live Births} - \text{Number of Deaths Under 28 Days}} \right) \times 1000$$

5 Key Notes and Considerations

5.1 Important Observations

1. Comparison Across Populations:

- The **Infant Mortality Rate** is **independent** of the population's age and gender composition.
- **Implication:** It is a reliable metric for comparing mortality across different countries.

2. Distinguishing Infant Deaths:

- **Before One Month:**
 - Causes are typically **internal**, related to diseases the child is born with.
 - **After One Month:**
 - Causes are generally **external**, influenced by societal factors like **environmental pollution**.
 - **Implication:** Understanding the timing of deaths can help target specific health interventions.
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6 Conclusion

Today, we've navigated through the crucial aspects of **Mortality Statistics** in **Biostatistics**. From calculating crude death rates to understanding the nuances of infant and maternal mortality, these measures provide invaluable insights into a nation's health and economic progress. Remember, each statistic tells a story—of lives lost, challenges faced, and the strides made towards a healthier society.

Stay curious, stay informed, and keep charting the course towards better health outcomes!

End of Lecture

If you have any questions or need further clarification on today's topics, feel free to reach out!