To Mom and Dad
About The Author

Carol E. Osborn, PhD, RHIA, earned an undergraduate degree in health information management from Mercy College of Detroit, a master's degree in health sciences education and evaluation from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and a PhD in research and evaluation from Ohio State University.

Dr. Osborn has spent most of her career in the academic setting, teaching at both the University of Illinois at Chicago and at Ohio State University. She is currently Associate Director of Medical Information Management for The Ohio State University Health System. In this position, she is responsible for instruction in coding, data quality, documentation improvement, and compliance. She has also consulted in a variety of healthcare settings including acute care, specialty care, and healthcare-related organizations. She has served on The Ohio State University’s Institutional Review Board for 12 years. She was part of the Allied Health Education Consulting Team to the Ministry of Health of Saudi Arabia. She has also served as a consultant to health information management (HIM) baccalaureate degree programs.

Dr. Osborn has been active in professional associations at the state and national levels. She has served as secretary, treasurer, and president of the Illinois Medical Record Association. Nationally, she has served on the Council of Education, the Sub-Panel for Accreditation of Academic Programs, and the Joint Committee on Education, and for ten years served as a member of the Panel of Accreditation Surveyors. She has authored numerous articles and book chapters for professional journals and textbooks. She is currently on the editorial review board for Perspectives in Health Information Management.
This text was written specifically for health information technology students enrolled in associate degree programs and for practicing health information management professionals. It focuses on applying basic statistical techniques to problems in health care. The text is set up so that students can input the data for each problem using their own statistical software. It is not the intent of this book to teach the student how to use SPSS, Microsoft Excel, or any other type of statistical package or electronic spreadsheet. They are included in this text as examples; I am not endorsing any of these products.

My goal in writing this book was to introduce students and professionals to how statistical techniques can be used to describe and make inferences from healthcare data. There are many statistical books available on the market, but few are directed specifically to the health information management profession. Also, this text also includes the “traditional hospital statistics” such as the average length of stay and total inpatient service days, which are not included in other versions of this text.
Contents

About the Author v
Preface vii

Chapter 1 Basic Statistical Data Used in Acute Care Facilities 1

Key Terms 1
Learning Objectives 1
Introduction to Frequency Distributions 2
Ratios, Proportions, and Rates 3
Ratios and Proportions 4
Rates 4
Hospital Statistics 7
Inpatient Census Data 8
Inpatient Bed Occupancy Rate 10
Bed Turnover Rate 12
Length of Stay Data 12
Hospital Death Rates 14
Autopsy Rates 19
Hospital Infection Rates 22
Consultation Rate 24
Case-Mix Statistical Data 24
Statistical Data Used in Ambulatory Care Facilities 26
Conclusion 27
Appendix 1-A 29

Chapter 2 Population-Based Morbidity and Mortality Measures 35

Key Terms 35
Learning Objectives 35
Population-Based Mortality Measures 35
Crude Death Rate 36
Age-Specific Death Rates 39
Age-Adjusted Death Rates 39
Direct Standardization 39
Indirect Standardization 41
Race- and Gender-Specific Death Rates 42
Cause-Specific Death Rates 43
Chapter 3  Graphic Display of Data

Key Terms
Learning Objectives
Construction of Tables
Table Shells
One-Variable Tables
Two- and Three-Variable Tables
Charts and Graphs
Bar Charts
Pie Charts
Line Graphs
Scatter Diagrams
Bubble Charts
Stem-and-Leaf Plots
Electronic Spreadsheets
Conclusion
Appendix 3-A

Chapter 4  Introduction to Measurement

Key Terms
Learning Objectives
What Is Measurement?
Validity
Reliability
Timeliness
Scales of Measurement
Nominal Scale
Ordinal Scale
Scales for Metric Variables
Conclusion
Appendix 4-A
Chapter 5  Measures of Central Tendency and Variability

Key Terms
Learning Objectives
Measures of Central Tendency
Mode
Median
Mean
Weighted Mean
Measures of Variability
Range
Variance and Standard Deviation
Calculating Measures of Central Tendency and Variability Using Excel
Grouped Frequency Distributions
Grouping Data
Calculating the Mean from a Grouped Frequency Distribution
Calculating the Median from Grouped Data
Calculating the Mode from Grouped Data
Calculating the Variance and Standard Deviation from Grouped Data
Percentiles
Conclusion
Appendix 5-A

Chapter 6  The Normal Distribution and Statistical Inference

Key Terms
Learning Objectives
Characteristics of the Normal Distribution
The Standard Normal Distribution (z-Distribution)
Statistical Inference
Central Limit Theorem
Standard Error of the Mean
Confidence Intervals
Sampling Methods
Using Computer Software to Solve Problems
Conclusion
Appendix 6-A

Chapter 7  Hypothesis Testing and Statistical Inference

Key Terms
Learning Objectives
Hypothesis Testing and Statistical Significance
Chapter 8 Measures of Association