

Test of Statistical Significance for Problem Rates

Created by The Lewin Group
for the Health Rights Hotline

The formula for determining statistical significance is used as follows:

$$\text{T-statistic} = \frac{|(Pb / Pa) - (Nb / Na)|}{\sqrt{\frac{(Nb / Na) [1 - (Nb / Na)]}{Pa}}}$$

where:

Pa = Reference Group number of problems

Pb = Specific Group number of problems

Na = Reference Group number of persons

Nb = Specific Group number of persons

The difference between the Reference and Specific group problem rates is statistically significant if:

T > 1.96 and

Pa > 75 and

Pb > 5.