

# What is the interpretation of $Pr(>|t|)$ in the regression model output in R?

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## RECOMMENDED CITATION

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The interpretation of  $\Pr(>|t|)$  in the regression model output in R refers to the probability of obtaining a t-value that is larger than the absolute value of the calculated t-statistic. This value is used to determine the significance of each independent variable in the model and is often compared to a predetermined threshold, such as 0.05. A smaller  $\Pr(>|t|)$  indicates a higher level of significance and suggests that the corresponding variable has a significant effect on the dependent variable. Conversely, a larger  $\Pr(>|t|)$  suggests that the relationship between the variable and the dependent variable is not statistically significant. Overall,  $\Pr(>|t|)$  is an important measure in determining the validity and reliability of the regression model.

## Interpret $\Pr(>|t|)$ in Regression Model Output in R

Whenever you perform linear regression in R, the output of your regression model will be displayed in the following format:

**Coefficients:**

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	$\Pr(> t )$
(Intercept)	10.0035	5.9091	1.693	0.1513
x1	1.4758	0.5029	2.935	0.0325 *
x2	-0.7834	0.8014	-0.978	0.3732

The  $\Pr(>|t|)$  column represents the p-value associated with the value in the t value column.

If the p-value is less than a certain significance level (e.g.  $\alpha = .05$ ) then the predictor variable is said to have a statistically significant relationship with the response variable in the model.

The following example shows how to interpret values in the  $\Pr(>|t|)$  column for a given regression model.

Example: How to Interpret  $\Pr(>|t|)$  Values

Suppose we would like to fit a using predictor variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  and a single response variable  $y$ .

The following code shows how to create a data frame and fit a regression model to the data:

```
#create data frame  
df <- data.frame(x1=c(1, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 6, 6),  
x2=c(7, 7, 5, 6, 5, 4, 5, 6),  
y=c(8, 8, 9, 9, 13, 14, 17, 14))
```

```
#fit multiple linear regression model  
model <- lm(y ~ x1 + x2, data=df)
```

```
#view model summary  
summary(model)
```

Call:

```
lm(formula = y ~ x1 + x2, data = df)
```

Residuals:

```
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
```

2.0046 -0.9470 -1.5138 -2.2062 1.0104 -0.2488 2.0588  
-0.1578

### Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t )
(Intercept)	10.0035	5.9091	1.693	0.1513
x1	1.4758	0.5029	2.935	0.0325 *
x2	-0.7834	0.8014	-0.978	0.3732

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Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 1.867 on 5 degrees of freedom

Multiple R-squared: 0.7876, Adjusted R-squared: 0.7026

F-statistic: 9.268 on 2 and 5 DF, p-value: 0.0208

Here's how to interpret the values in the Pr(>|t|) column:

The p-value for the predictor variable x1 is .0325. Since this value is less than .05, it has a statistically significant relationship with the response variable in the model. The p-value for the predictor variable x2 is .3732. Since this value is not less than .05, it does not have a statistically significant relationship with the response variable in the model.

The under the coefficient table tell us that a single asterik (\*) next to the p-value of .0325 means the p-value is statistically significant at  $\alpha = .05$ .

How is  $\Pr(>|t|)$  Actually Calculated?

Here's how the value for  $\Pr(>|t|)$  is actually calculated:

**Step 1: Calculate the t value**

First, we calculate the t value using the following formula:

**t value = Estimate / Std. Error**

**#calculate t-value**

**1.4758 / .5029**

**2.934579**

**Step 2: Calculate the p-value**

Next, we calculate the p-value. This represents the probability that the absolute value of the t-distribution is greater than 2.935.

We can use the following formula in R to calculate this

**value:**

**p-value = 2 \* pt(abs(t value), residual df, lower.tail = FALSE)**

**For example, here's how to calculate the p-value for a t-value of 2.935 with 5 residual degrees of freedom:**

**#calculate p-value**

**2 \* pt(abs(2.935), 5, lower.tail = FALSE)**

**0.0324441**

**Notice that this p-value matches the p-value in the regression output from above.**

**Note: The value for the residual degrees of freedom can be found near the bottom of the regression output. In our example, it turned out to be 5:**

**Residual standard error: 1.867 on 5 degrees of freedom**