

How to Create and Use a Distribution Table for Statistical Analysis

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The Fundamental Role of Distribution Tables in Data Science

In the expansive field of **statistics**, the ability to transform raw data into actionable insights is paramount. A **distribution table** serves as a primary instrument in this transformation, acting as a structured framework designed to organize and present complex information in a clear, concise, and highly accessible format. By systematically categorizing individual data points, these tables allow researchers to move beyond the chaos of raw observations toward a more refined understanding of the underlying variables. The core purpose of such a table is to provide a comprehensive visual summary of the **frequency** or proportion of specific values within a **dataset**, ensuring that the researcher can identify the spread and concentration of data at a glance.

Beyond simple organization, a distribution table facilitates the identification of essential patterns and trends that might otherwise remain hidden within a large volume of information. When dealing with substantial quantities of data, it becomes nearly impossible to interpret results without some form of **data summarization**. The distribution table bridges this gap by grouping data into manageable intervals or categories, thereby highlighting the most common occurrences and identifying outliers. This structured approach is not merely a matter of convenience; it is a fundamental requirement for **quantitative research**, providing the clarity necessary to make informed decisions and draw reliable conclusions from empirical evidence.

Furthermore, the utility of a distribution table extends to its role as a precursor to more advanced **statistical analysis**. By presenting data in an ordered fashion, it becomes significantly easier to calculate key measures of central tendency and dispersion. Researchers utilize these tables to gain a holistic view of the data's behavior, allowing for a more nuanced comparison between different groups or experimental conditions. Whether one is examining economic trends, medical trial results, or social science surveys, the distribution table remains an essential component of the analytical toolkit, ensuring that **data interpretation** is both efficient and accurate.

Ultimately, the adoption of distribution tables empowers analysts to communicate their findings with greater precision. In a professional or academic setting, presenting a well-structured table is often more effective than providing a list of raw numbers. It allows the audience to grasp the weight of the evidence quickly and provides a standardized format that is universally recognized across scientific disciplines. This standardization is critical for the **reproducibility** of research, as it allows other investigators to verify results and perform their own secondary analyses with ease.

Navigating the Structural Framework of Frequency Distributions

To fully appreciate the power of a distribution table, one must understand its structural components, most notably the **frequency distribution**. This structure typically consists of two primary columns: one representing the variable of interest (often grouped into classes or intervals)

and another representing the count of how often those variables occur. The process of **data binning**--the act of grouping continuous data into discrete intervals--is a critical step in constructing these tables. Proper binning ensures that the data is neither too fragmented nor too generalized, maintaining a balance that preserves the integrity of the information while enhancing its readability.

In addition to simple frequency counts, many distribution tables incorporate **relative frequency** and cumulative frequency. Relative frequency expresses the proportion of the total count that falls within a specific category, often represented as a percentage. This is particularly useful when comparing datasets of different sizes, as it provides a normalized view of the distribution. Cumulative frequency, on the other hand, provides a running total of frequencies across the classes, which is indispensable for identifying the **percentile rank** of specific data points. Together, these elements provide a multi-dimensional view of the dataset's characteristics.

The construction of these tables requires meticulous attention to detail to avoid **statistical bias** or misleading representations. For instance, the choice of class width can significantly impact the visual shape of the distribution. If the intervals are too wide, important nuances in the data may be smoothed over and lost; if they are too narrow, the table may become cluttered and fail to reveal any meaningful trends. Analysts must use logical criteria to determine these boundaries, often relying on established rules of thumb or the specific requirements of the **research design** to ensure the most accurate representation possible.

Enhancing Statistical Clarity through Data Organization

One of the primary benefits of utilizing a distribution table is the immediate improvement in **statistical clarity**. When data is presented in an unorganized state, the human brain struggles to process the magnitude and variation of the information. By contrast, a distribution table categorizes information so that the observer can instantly discern the range of the data, the most frequent values, and any gaps where data points are missing. This level of organization is the first step toward **descriptive statistics**, which aims to summarize the main features of a collection of information quantitatively.

The clarity provided by these tables also aids in the detection of **skewness** and symmetry within the data. By observing the distribution of frequencies across categories, a researcher can determine if the data follows a **normal distribution** or if it is skewed to the left or right. This observation is vital because many statistical tests assume a specific type of distribution. Identifying these properties early in the analysis process prevents the application of inappropriate tests and ensures the validity of the final results. Thus, the distribution table acts as a diagnostic tool that guides the entire analytical journey.

Moreover, distribution tables serve as the foundation for creating visual aids such as **histograms** and frequency polygons. These graphical representations are direct translations of the data found

within the table. While the table provides the precise numerical counts, the chart provides a visual impact that can make complex data more accessible to a non-technical audience. The synergy between tabulated data and graphical visualization is a cornerstone of effective **data science**, ensuring that the insights derived from the analysis are both robust and communicable.

Theoretical Frameworks: Transitioning to Probability Distributions

As analysis moves from descriptive to inferential, the role of the distribution table evolves. In **inferential statistics**, we often rely on theoretical **probability distributions** to make predictions about a population based on a sample. Standardized distribution tables, such as those for the Z-score, T-distribution, and F-distribution, provide **critical values** that are essential for **hypothesis testing**. These tables allow researchers to determine the probability of observing a particular result under a specific set of assumptions, typically defined by the **null hypothesis**.

Using these theoretical tables requires an understanding of **significance levels**, commonly denoted by the Greek letter alpha (α). The significance level represents the threshold for rejecting the null hypothesis; common values include 0.05, 0.01, and 0.10. A distribution table for a specific probability distribution will list critical values corresponding to these alpha levels and various **degrees of freedom**. By comparing a calculated test statistic to the value found in the table, a researcher can decide whether to reject or fail to reject their hypothesis with a known level of confidence.

The transition from empirical data tables to theoretical probability tables marks the shift from observing "what is" to predicting "what could be." This predictive power is what makes statistics so valuable in fields like engineering, economics, and social policy. Without these standardized tables, every researcher would have to calculate complex integrals and probability density functions manually for every test they perform. The existence of these tables streamlines the process of **statistical inference**, making rigorous scientific inquiry more efficient and less prone to calculation errors.

The Utility of the F-Distribution Table in Comparative Analysis

Specifically, the **F-distribution** table is an indispensable tool when performing an **ANOVA** (Analysis of Variance) or comparing the variances of two different populations. The F-test helps determine if the means of several groups are equal or if there is a statistically significant difference between them. This is achieved by calculating the **F-statistic**, which is a ratio of two variances. To interpret this statistic, researchers must refer to an F-distribution table that matches their chosen alpha level and the degrees of freedom for both the numerator and the denominator of their ratio.

Below are several examples of F-distribution tables tailored to different levels of **statistical significance**. These tables are used to identify the boundaries of the rejection region in hypothesis

testing. Depending on the rigor required for the study--whether a more lenient 0.10 level or a highly stringent 0.001 level--the researcher will select the appropriate table to find the necessary critical value. Using the correct table is vital, as a value that is significant at $\alpha = 0.10$ may not be significant at $\alpha = 0.01$.

F Distribution Table

F Table for $\alpha = 0.10$ (Click to zoom in)

DF2	DF1		$\alpha = 0.10$																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf
1	39.863	49.5	53.593	55.833	57.24	58.204	58.906	59.439	59.858	60.195	60.705	61.22	61.74	62.002	62.265	62.529	62.794	63.061	63.328
2	8.5263	9	9.1618	9.2434	9.2926	9.3255	9.3491	9.3668	9.3805	9.3916	9.4081	9.4247	9.4413	9.4496	9.4579	9.4662	9.4746	9.4829	9.4912
3	5.5383	5.4624	5.3908	5.3426	5.3092	5.2847	5.2662	5.2517	5.24	5.2304	5.2156	5.2003	5.1845	5.1764	5.1681	5.1597	5.1512	5.1425	5.1337
4	4.5448	4.3246	4.1909	4.1073	4.0506	4.0098	3.979	3.9549	3.9357	3.9199	3.8955	3.8704	3.8443	3.831	3.8174	3.8036	3.7896	3.7753	3.7607
5	4.0604	3.7797	3.6195	3.5202	3.453	3.4045	3.3679	3.3393	3.3163	3.2974	3.2682	3.238	3.2067	3.1905	3.1741	3.1573	3.1402	3.1228	3.105
6	3.776	3.4633	3.2888	3.1808	3.1075	3.0546	3.0145	2.983	2.9577	2.9369	2.9047	2.8712	2.8363	2.8183	2.8	2.7812	2.762	2.7423	2.7222
7	3.5894	3.2574	3.0741	2.9605	2.8833	2.8274	2.7849	2.7516	2.7247	2.7025	2.6681	2.6322	2.5947	2.5753	2.5555	2.5351	2.5142	2.4928	2.4708
8	3.4579	3.1131	2.9238	2.8064	2.7265	2.6683	2.6241	2.5894	2.5612	2.538	2.502	2.4642	2.4246	2.4041	2.383	2.3614	2.3391	2.3162	2.2926
9	3.3603	3.0065	2.8129	2.6927	2.6106	2.5509	2.5053	2.4694	2.4403	2.4163	2.3789	2.3396	2.2983	2.2768	2.2547	2.232	2.2085	2.1843	2.1592
10	3.285	2.9245	2.7277	2.6053	2.5216	2.4606	2.414	2.3772	2.3473	2.3226	2.2841	2.2435	2.2007	2.1784	2.1554	2.1317	2.1072	2.0818	2.0554
11	3.2252	2.8595	2.6602	2.5362	2.4512	2.3891	2.3416	2.304	2.2735	2.2482	2.2087	2.1671	2.1231	2.1	2.0762	2.0516	2.0261	1.9997	1.9721
12	3.1766	2.8068	2.6055	2.4801	2.394	2.331	2.2828	2.2446	2.2135	2.1878	2.1474	2.1049	2.0597	2.036	2.0115	1.9861	1.9597	1.9323	1.9036
13	3.1362	2.7632	2.5603	2.4337	2.3467	2.283	2.2341	2.1954	2.1638	2.1376	2.0966	2.0532	2.007	1.9827	1.9576	1.9315	1.9043	1.8759	1.8462
14	3.1022	2.7265	2.5222	2.3947	2.3069	2.2426	2.1931	2.1539	2.122	2.0954	2.0537	2.0095	1.9625	1.9377	1.9119	1.8852	1.8572	1.828	1.7973
15	3.0732	2.6952	2.4898	2.3614	2.273	2.2081	2.1582	2.1185	2.0862	2.0593	2.0171	1.9722	1.9243	1.899	1.8728	1.8454	1.8168	1.7867	1.7551
16	3.0481	2.6682	2.4618	2.3327	2.2438	2.1783	2.128	2.088	2.0553	2.0282	1.9854	1.9399	1.8913	1.8656	1.8388	1.8108	1.7816	1.7508	1.7182
17	3.0262	2.6446	2.4374	2.3078	2.2183	2.1524	2.1017	2.0613	2.0284	2.0009	1.9577	1.9117	1.8624	1.8362	1.809	1.7805	1.7506	1.7191	1.6856
18	3.007	2.624	2.416	2.2858	2.1958	2.1296	2.0785	2.0379	2.0047	1.977	1.9333	1.8868	1.8369	1.8104	1.7827	1.7537	1.7232	1.691	1.6567
19	2.9899	2.6056	2.397	2.2663	2.176	2.1094	2.058	2.0171	1.9836	1.9557	1.9117	1.8647	1.8142	1.7873	1.7592	1.7298	1.6988	1.6659	1.6308
20	2.9747	2.5893	2.3801	2.2489	2.1582	2.0913	2.0397	1.9985	1.9649	1.9367	1.8924	1.8449	1.7938	1.7667	1.7382	1.7083	1.6768	1.6433	1.6074
21	2.961	2.5746	2.3649	2.2333	2.1423	2.0751	2.0233	1.9819	1.948	1.9197	1.875	1.8272	1.7756	1.7481	1.7193	1.689	1.6569	1.6228	1.5862
22	2.9486	2.5613	2.3512	2.2193	2.1279	2.0605	2.0084	1.9668	1.9327	1.9043	1.8593	1.8111	1.759	1.7312	1.7021	1.6714	1.6389	1.6042	1.5668
23	2.9374	2.5493	2.3387	2.2065	2.1149	2.0472	1.9949	1.9531	1.9189	1.8903	1.845	1.7964	1.7439	1.7159	1.6864	1.6554	1.6224	1.5871	1.549
24	2.9271	2.5383	2.3274	2.1949	2.103	2.0351	1.9826	1.9407	1.9063	1.8775	1.8319	1.7831	1.7302	1.7019	1.6721	1.6407	1.6073	1.5715	1.5327
25	2.9177	2.5283	2.317	2.1842	2.0922	2.0241	1.9714	1.9293	1.8947	1.8658	1.82	1.7708	1.7175	1.689	1.659	1.6272	1.5934	1.557	1.5176
26	2.9091	2.5191	2.3075	2.1745	2.0822	2.0139	1.961	1.9188	1.8841	1.855	1.809	1.7596	1.7059	1.6771	1.6468	1.6147	1.5805	1.5437	1.5036
27	2.9012	2.5106	2.2987	2.1655	2.073	2.0045	1.9515	1.9091	1.8743	1.8451	1.7989	1.7492	1.6951	1.6662	1.6356	1.6032	1.5686	1.5313	1.4906
28	2.8939	2.5028	2.2906	2.1571	2.0645	1.9959	1.9427	1.9001	1.8652	1.8359	1.7895	1.7395	1.6852	1.656	1.6252	1.5925	1.5575	1.5198	1.4784
29	2.887	2.4955	2.2831	2.1494	2.0566	1.9878	1.9345	1.8918	1.8568	1.8274	1.7808	1.7306	1.6759	1.6466	1.6155	1.5825	1.5472	1.509	1.467
30	2.8807	2.4887	2.2761	2.1422	2.0493	1.9803	1.9269	1.8841	1.849	1.8195	1.7727	1.7223	1.6673	1.6377	1.6065	1.5732	1.5376	1.4989	1.4564
40	2.8354	2.4404	2.2261	2.091	1.9968	1.9269	1.8725	1.8289	1.7929	1.7627	1.7146	1.6624	1.6052	1.5741	1.5411	1.5056	1.4672	1.4248	1.3769
60	2.7911	2.3933	2.1774	2.041	1.9457	1.8747	1.8194	1.7748	1.738	1.707	1.6574	1.6034	1.5435	1.5107	1.4755	1.4373	1.3952	1.3476	1.2915
120	2.7478	2.3473	2.13	1.9923	1.8959	1.8238	1.7675	1.722	1.6843	1.6524	1.6012	1.545	1.4821	1.4472	1.4094	1.3676	1.3203	1.2646	1.1926
Inf	2.7055	2.3026	2.0838	1.9449	1.8473	1.7741	1.7167	1.6702	1.6315	1.5987	1.5458	1.4871	1.4206	1.3832	1.3419	1.2951	1.24	1.1686	1

F Table for $\alpha = 0.05$ (Click to zoom in)

DF2	DF1		$\alpha = 0.05$																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf	
1	161.45	199.5	215.71	224.58	230.16	233.99	236.77	238.88	240.54	241.88	243.91	245.95	248.01	249.05	250.1	251.14	252.2	253.25	254.31	
2	18.513	19	19.164	19.247	19.296	19.33	19.353	19.371	19.385	19.396	19.413	19.429	19.446	19.454	19.462	19.471	19.479	19.487	19.496	
3	10.128	9.5521	9.2766	9.1172	9.0135	8.9406	8.8867	8.8452	8.8123	8.7855	8.7446	8.7029	8.6602	8.6385	8.6166	8.5944	8.572	8.5494	8.5264	
4	7.7086	6.9443	6.5914	6.3882	6.2561	6.1631	6.0942	6.041	5.9988	5.9644	5.9117	5.8578	5.8025	5.7744	5.7459	5.717	5.6877	5.6581	5.6281	
5	6.6079	5.7861	5.4095	5.1922	5.0503	4.9503	4.8759	4.8183	4.7725	4.7351	4.6777	4.6188	4.5581	4.5272	4.4957	4.4638	4.4314	4.3985	4.365	
6	5.9874	5.1433	4.7571	4.5337	4.3874	4.2839	4.2067	4.1468	4.099	4.06	3.9999	3.9381	3.8742	3.8415	3.8082	3.7743	3.7398	3.7047	3.6689	
7	5.5914	4.7374	4.3468	4.1203	3.9715	3.866	3.787	3.7257	3.6767	3.6365	3.5747	3.5107	3.4445	3.4105	3.3758	3.3404	3.3043	3.2674	3.2298	
8	5.3177	4.459	4.0662	3.8379	3.6875	3.5806	3.5005	3.4381	3.3881	3.3472	3.2839	3.2184	3.1503	3.1152	3.0794	3.0428	3.0053	2.9669	2.9276	
9	5.1174	4.2565	3.8625	3.6331	3.4817	3.3738	3.2927	3.2296	3.1789	3.1373	3.0729	3.0061	2.9365	2.9005	2.8637	2.8259	2.7872	2.7475	2.7067	
10	4.9646	4.1028	3.7083	3.478	3.3258	3.2172	3.1355	3.0717	3.0204	2.9782	2.913	2.845	2.774	2.7372	2.6996	2.6609	2.6211	2.5801	2.5379	
11	4.8443	3.9823	3.5874	3.3567	3.2039	3.0946	3.0123	2.948	2.8962	2.8536	2.7876	2.7186	2.6464	2.609	2.5705	2.5309	2.4901	2.448	2.4045	
12	4.7472	3.8853	3.4903	3.2592	3.1059	2.9961	2.9134	2.8486	2.7964	2.7534	2.6866	2.6169	2.5436	2.5055	2.4663	2.4259	2.3842	2.341	2.2962	
13	4.6672	3.8056	3.4105	3.1791	3.0254	2.9153	2.8321	2.7669	2.7144	2.671	2.6037	2.5331	2.4589	2.4202	2.3803	2.3392	2.2966	2.2524	2.2064	
14	4.6001	3.7389	3.3439	3.1122	2.9582	2.8477	2.7642	2.6987	2.6458	2.6022	2.5342	2.463	2.3879	2.3487	2.3082	2.2664	2.2229	2.1778	2.1307	
15	4.5431	3.6823	3.2874	3.0556	2.9013	2.7905	2.7066	2.6408	2.5876	2.5437	2.4753	2.4034	2.3275	2.2878	2.2468	2.2043	2.1601	2.1141	2.0658	
16	4.494	3.6337	3.2389	3.0069	2.8524	2.7413	2.6572	2.5911	2.5377	2.4935	2.4247	2.3522	2.2756	2.2354	2.1938	2.1507	2.1058	2.0589	2.0096	
17	4.4513	3.5915	3.1968	2.9647	2.81	2.6987	2.6143	2.548	2.4943	2.4499	2.3807	2.3077	2.2304	2.1898	2.1477	2.104	2.0584	2.0107	1.9604	
18	4.4139	3.5546	3.1599	2.9277	2.7729	2.6613	2.5767	2.5102	2.4563	2.4117	2.3421	2.2686	2.1906	2.1497	2.1071	2.0629	2.0166	1.9681	1.9168	
19	4.3807	3.5219	3.1274	2.8951	2.7401	2.6283	2.5435	2.4768	2.4227	2.3779	2.308	2.2341	2.1555	2.1141	2.0712	2.0264	1.9795	1.9302	1.878	
20	4.3512	3.4928	3.0984	2.8661	2.7109	2.599	2.514	2.4471	2.3928	2.3479	2.2776	2.2033	2.1242	2.0825	2.0391	1.9938	1.9464	1.8963	1.8432	
21	4.3248	3.4668	3.0725	2.8401	2.6848	2.5727	2.4876	2.4205	2.366	2.321	2.2504	2.1757	2.096	2.054	2.0102	1.9645	1.9165	1.8657	1.8117	
22	4.3009	3.4434	3.0491	2.8167	2.6613	2.5491	2.4638	2.3965	2.3419	2.2967	2.2258	2.1508	2.0707	2.0283	1.9842	1.938	1.8894	1.838	1.7831	
23	4.2793	3.4221	3.028	2.7955	2.64	2.5277	2.4422	2.3748	2.3201	2.2747	2.2036	2.1282	2.0476	2.005	1.9605	1.9139	1.8648	1.8128	1.757	
24	4.2597	3.4028	3.0088	2.7763	2.6207	2.5082	2.4226	2.3551	2.3002	2.2547	2.1834	2.1077	2.0267	1.9838	1.939	1.892	1.8424	1.7896	1.733	
25	4.2417	3.3852	2.9912	2.7587	2.603	2.4904	2.4047	2.3371	2.2821	2.2365	2.1649	2.0889	2.0075	1.9643	1.9192	1.8718	1.8217	1.7684	1.711	
26	4.2252	3.369	2.9752	2.7426	2.5868	2.4741	2.3883	2.3205	2.2655	2.2197	2.1479	2.0716	1.9898	1.9464	1.901	1.8533	1.8027	1.7488	1.6906	
27	4.21	3.3541	2.9604	2.7278	2.5719	2.4591	2.3732	2.3053	2.2501	2.2043	2.1323	2.0558	1.9736	1.9299	1.8842	1.8361	1.7851	1.7306	1.6717	
28	4.196	3.3404	2.9467	2.7141	2.5581	2.4453	2.3593	2.2913	2.236	2.19	2.1179	2.0411	1.9586	1.9147	1.8687	1.8203	1.7689	1.7138	1.6541	
29	4.183	3.3277	2.934	2.7014	2.5454	2.4324	2.3463	2.2783	2.2229	2.1768	2.1045	2.0275	1.9446	1.9005	1.8543	1.8055	1.7537	1.6981	1.6376	
30	4.1709	3.3158	2.9223	2.6896	2.5336	2.4205	2.3343	2.2662	2.2107	2.1646	2.0921	2.0148	1.9317	1.8874	1.8409	1.7918	1.7396	1.6835	1.6223	
40	4.0847	3.2317	2.8387	2.606	2.4495	2.3359	2.249	2.1802	2.124	2.0772	2.0035	1.9245	1.8389	1.7929	1.7444	1.6928	1.6373	1.5766	1.5089	
60	4.0012	3.1504	2.7581	2.5252	2.3683	2.2541	2.1665	2.097	2.0401	1.9926	1.9174	1.8364	1.748	1.7001	1.6491	1.5943	1.5343	1.4673	1.3893	
120	3.9201	3.0718	2.6802	2.4472	2.2899	2.175	2.0868	2.0164	1.9588	1.9105	1.8337	1.7505	1.6587	1.6084	1.5543	1.4952	1.429	1.3519	1.2539	
Inf	3.8415	2.9957	2.6049	2.3719	2.2141	2.0986	2.0096	1.9384	1.8799	1.8307	1.7522	1.6664	1.5705	1.5173	1.4591	1.394	1.318	1.2214	1	

F Table for $\alpha = 0.025$ (Click to zoom in)

DF2	DF1		$\alpha = 0.025$																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf	
1	647.79	799.5	864.16	899.58	921.85	937.11	948.22	956.66	963.28	968.63	976.71	984.87	993.1	997.25	1001.4	1005.6	1009.8	1014	1018.3	
2	38.506	39	39.166	39.248	39.298	39.332	39.355	39.373	39.387	39.398	39.415	39.431	39.448	39.456	39.465	39.473	39.481	39.49	39.498	
3	17.443	16.044	15.439	15.101	14.885	14.735	14.624	14.54	14.473	14.419	14.337	14.253	14.167	14.124	14.081	14.037	13.992	13.947	13.902	
4	12.218	10.649	9.9792	9.6045	9.3645	9.1973	9.0741	8.9796	8.9047	8.8439	8.7512	8.6565	8.5599	8.5109	8.461	8.411	8.36	8.309	8.257	
5	10.007	8.4336	7.7636	7.3879	7.1464	6.9777	6.8531	6.7572	6.6811	6.6192	6.5245	6.4277	6.3286	6.278	6.227	6.175	6.123	6.069	6.015	
6	8.8131	7.2599	6.5988	6.2272	5.9876	5.8198	5.6955	5.5996	5.5234	5.4613	5.3662	5.2687	5.1684	5.1172	5.065	5.012	4.959	4.904	4.849	
7	8.0727	6.5415	5.8898	5.5226	5.2852	5.1186	4.9949	4.8993	4.8232	4.7611	4.6658	4.5678	4.4667	4.415	4.362	4.309	4.254	4.199	4.142	
8	7.5709	6.0595	5.416	5.0526	4.8173	4.6517	4.5286	4.4333	4.3572	4.2951	4.1997	4.1012	3.9995	3.9472	3.894	3.84	3.784	3.728	3.67	
9	7.2093	5.7147	5.0781	4.7181	4.4844	4.3197	4.197	4.102	4.026	3.9639	3.8682	3.7694	3.6669	3.6142	3.56	3.505	3.449	3.392	3.333	
10	6.9367	5.4564	4.8256	4.4683	4.2361	4.0721	3.9498	3.8549	3.779	3.7168	3.6209	3.5217	3.4185	3.3654	3.311	3.255	3.198	3.14	3.08	
11	6.7241	5.2559	4.63	4.2751	4.044	3.8807	3.7586	3.6638	3.5879	3.5257	3.4296	3.3299	3.2261	3.1725	3.118	3.061	3.004	2.944	2.883	
12	6.5538	5.0959	4.4742	4.1212	3.8911	3.7283	3.6065	3.5118	3.4358	3.3736	3.2773	3.1772	3.0728	3.0187	2.963	2.906	2.848	2.787	2.725	
13	6.4143	4.9653	4.3472	3.9959	3.7667	3.6043	3.4827	3.388	3.312	3.2497	3.1532	3.0527	2.9477	2.8932	2.837	2.78	2.72	2.659	2.595	
14	6.2979	4.8567	4.2417	3.8919	3.6634	3.5014	3.3799	3.2853	3.2093	3.1469	3.0502	2.9493	2.8437	2.7888	2.732	2.674	2.614	2.552	2.487	
15	6.1995	4.765	4.1528	3.8043	3.5764	3.4147	3.2934	3.1987	3.1227	3.0602	2.9633	2.8621	2.7559	2.7006	2.644	2.585	2.524	2.461	2.395	
16	6.1151	4.6867	4.0768	3.7294	3.5021	3.3406	3.2194	3.1248	3.0488	2.9862	2.889	2.7875	2.6808	2.6252	2.568	2.509	2.447	2.383	2.316	
17	6.042	4.6189	4.0112	3.6648	3.4379	3.2767	3.1556	3.061	2.9849	2.9222	2.8249	2.723	2.6158	2.5598	2.502	2.442	2.38	2.315	2.247	
18	5.9781	4.5597	3.9539	3.6083	3.382	3.2209	3.0999	3.0053	2.9291	2.8664	2.7689	2.6667	2.559	2.5027	2.445	2.384	2.321	2.256	2.187	
19	5.9216	4.5075	3.9034	3.5587	3.3327	3.1718	3.0509	2.9563	2.8801	2.8172	2.7196	2.6171	2.5089	2.4523	2.394	2.333	2.27	2.203	2.133	
20	5.8715	4.4613	3.8587	3.5147	3.2891	3.1283	3.0074	2.9128	2.8365	2.7737	2.6758	2.5731	2.4645	2.4076	2.349	2.287	2.223	2.156	2.085	
21	5.8266	4.4199	3.8188	3.4754	3.2501	3.0895	2.9686	2.874	2.7977	2.7348	2.6368	2.5338	2.4247	2.3675	2.308	2.246	2.182	2.114	2.042	
22	5.7863	4.3828	3.7829	3.4401	3.2151	3.0546	2.9338	2.8392	2.7628	2.6998	2.6017	2.4984	2.389	2.3315	2.272	2.21	2.145	2.076	2.003	
23	5.7498	4.3492	3.7505	3.4083	3.1835	3.0232	2.9023	2.8077	2.7313	2.6682	2.5699	2.4665	2.3567	2.2989	2.239	2.176	2.111	2.041	1.968	
24	5.7166	4.3187	3.7211	3.3794	3.1548	2.9946	2.8738	2.7791	2.7027	2.6396	2.5411	2.4374	2.3273	2.2693	2.209	2.146	2.08	2.01	1.935	
25	5.6864	4.2909	3.6943	3.353	3.1287	2.9685	2.8478	2.7531	2.6766	2.6135	2.5149	2.411	2.3005	2.2422	2.182	2.118	2.052	1.981	1.906	
26	5.6586	4.2655	3.6697	3.3289	3.1048	2.9447	2.824	2.7293	2.6528	2.5896	2.4908	2.3867	2.2759	2.2174	2.157	2.093	2.026	1.954	1.878	
27	5.6331	4.2421	3.6472	3.3067	3.0828	2.9228	2.8021	2.7074	2.6309	2.5676	2.4688	2.3644	2.2533	2.1946	2.133	2.069	2.002	1.93	1.853	
28	5.6096	4.2205	3.6264	3.2863	3.0626	2.9027	2.782	2.6872	2.6106	2.5473	2.4484	2.3438	2.2324	2.1735	2.112	2.048	1.98	1.907	1.829	
29	5.5878	4.2006	3.6072	3.2674	3.0438	2.884	2.7633	2.6686	2.5919	2.5286	2.4295	2.3248	2.2131	2.154	2.092	2.028	1.959	1.886	1.807	
30	5.5675	4.1821	3.5894	3.2499	3.0265	2.8667	2.746	2.6513	2.5746	2.5112	2.412	2.3072	2.1952	2.1359	2.074	2.009	1.94	1.866	1.787	
40	5.4239	4.051	3.4633	3.1261	2.9037	2.7444	2.6238	2.5289	2.4519	2.3882	2.2882	2.1819	2.0677	2.0069	1.943	1.875	1.803	1.724	1.637	
60	5.2856	3.9253	3.3425	3.0077	2.7863	2.6274	2.5068	2.4117	2.3344	2.2702	2.1692	2.0613	1.9445	1.8817	1.815	1.744	1.667	1.581	1.482	
120	5.1523	3.8046	3.2269	2.8943	2.674	2.5154	2.3948	2.2994	2.2217	2.157	2.0548	1.945	1.8249	1.7597	1.69	1.614	1.53	1.433	1.31	
Inf	5.0239	3.6889	3.1161	2.7858	2.5665	2.4082	2.2875	2.1918	2.1136	2.0483	1.9447	1.8326	1.7085	1.6402	1.566	1.484	1.388	1.268	1	

F Table for $\alpha = 0.01$ (Click to zoom in)

DF2	DF1		$\alpha = 0.01$																	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120	Inf	
1	4052.2	4999.5	5403.4	5624.6	5763.7	5859	5928.4	5981.1	6022.5	6055.8	6106.3	6157.3	6208.7	6234.6	6260.6	6286.8	6313	6339.4	6365.9	
2	98.503	99	99.166	99.249	99.299	99.333	99.356	99.374	99.388	99.399	99.416	99.433	99.449	99.458	99.466	99.474	99.482	99.491	99.499	
3	34.116	30.817	29.457	28.71	28.237	27.911	27.672	27.489	27.345	27.229	27.052	26.872	26.69	26.598	26.505	26.411	26.316	26.221	26.125	
4	21.198	18	16.694	15.977	15.522	15.207	14.976	14.799	14.659	14.546	14.374	14.198	14.02	13.929	13.838	13.745	13.652	13.558	13.463	
5	16.258	13.274	12.06	11.392	10.967	10.672	10.456	10.289	10.158	10.051	9.888	9.722	9.553	9.466	9.379	9.291	9.202	9.112	9.02	
6	13.745	10.925	9.78	9.148	8.746	8.466	8.26	8.102	7.976	7.874	7.718	7.559	7.396	7.313	7.229	7.143	7.057	6.969	6.88	
7	12.246	9.547	8.451	7.847	7.46	7.191	6.993	6.84	6.719	6.62	6.469	6.314	6.155	6.074	5.992	5.908	5.824	5.737	5.65	
8	11.259	8.649	7.591	7.006	6.632	6.371	6.178	6.029	5.911	5.814	5.667	5.515	5.359	5.279	5.198	5.116	5.032	4.946	4.859	
9	10.561	8.022	6.992	6.422	6.057	5.802	5.613	5.467	5.351	5.257	5.111	4.962	4.808	4.729	4.649	4.567	4.483	4.398	4.311	
10	10.044	7.559	6.552	5.994	5.636	5.386	5.2	5.057	4.942	4.849	4.706	4.558	4.405	4.327	4.247	4.165	4.082	3.996	3.909	
11	9.646	7.206	6.217	5.668	5.316	5.069	4.886	4.744	4.632	4.539	4.397	4.251	4.099	4.021	3.941	3.86	3.776	3.69	3.602	
12	9.33	6.927	5.953	5.412	5.064	4.821	4.64	4.499	4.388	4.296	4.155	4.01	3.858	3.78	3.701	3.619	3.535	3.449	3.361	
13	9.074	6.701	5.739	5.205	4.862	4.62	4.441	4.302	4.191	4.1	3.96	3.815	3.665	3.587	3.507	3.425	3.341	3.255	3.165	
14	8.862	6.515	5.564	5.035	4.695	4.456	4.278	4.14	4.03	3.939	3.8	3.656	3.505	3.427	3.348	3.266	3.181	3.094	3.004	
15	8.683	6.359	5.417	4.893	4.556	4.318	4.142	4.004	3.895	3.805	3.666	3.522	3.372	3.294	3.214	3.132	3.047	2.959	2.868	
16	8.531	6.226	5.292	4.773	4.437	4.202	4.026	3.89	3.78	3.691	3.553	3.409	3.259	3.181	3.101	3.018	2.933	2.845	2.753	
17	8.4	6.112	5.185	4.669	4.336	4.102	3.927	3.791	3.682	3.593	3.455	3.312	3.162	3.084	3.003	2.92	2.835	2.746	2.653	
18	8.285	6.013	5.092	4.579	4.248	4.015	3.841	3.705	3.597	3.508	3.371	3.227	3.077	2.999	2.919	2.835	2.749	2.66	2.566	
19	8.185	5.926	5.01	4.5	4.171	3.939	3.765	3.631	3.523	3.434	3.297	3.153	3.003	2.925	2.844	2.761	2.674	2.584	2.489	
20	8.096	5.849	4.938	4.431	4.103	3.871	3.699	3.564	3.457	3.368	3.231	3.088	2.938	2.859	2.778	2.695	2.608	2.517	2.421	
21	8.017	5.78	4.874	4.369	4.042	3.812	3.64	3.506	3.398	3.31	3.173	3.03	2.88	2.801	2.72	2.636	2.548	2.457	2.36	
22	7.945	5.719	4.817	4.313	3.988	3.758	3.587	3.453	3.346	3.258	3.121	2.978	2.827	2.749	2.667	2.583	2.495	2.403	2.305	
23	7.881	5.664	4.765	4.264	3.939	3.71	3.539	3.406	3.299	3.211	3.074	2.931	2.781	2.702	2.62	2.535	2.447	2.354	2.256	
24	7.823	5.614	4.718	4.218	3.895	3.667	3.496	3.363	3.256	3.168	3.032	2.889	2.738	2.659	2.577	2.492	2.403	2.31	2.211	
25	7.77	5.568	4.675	4.177	3.855	3.627	3.457	3.324	3.217	3.129	2.993	2.85	2.699	2.62	2.538	2.453	2.364	2.27	2.169	
26	7.721	5.526	4.637	4.14	3.818	3.591	3.421	3.288	3.182	3.094	2.958	2.815	2.664	2.585	2.503	2.417	2.327	2.233	2.131	
27	7.677	5.488	4.601	4.106	3.785	3.558	3.388	3.256	3.149	3.062	2.926	2.783	2.632	2.552	2.47	2.384	2.294	2.198	2.097	
28	7.636	5.453	4.568	4.074	3.754	3.528	3.358	3.226	3.12	3.032	2.896	2.753	2.602	2.522	2.44	2.354	2.263	2.167	2.064	
29	7.598	5.42	4.538	4.045	3.725	3.499	3.33	3.198	3.092	3.005	2.868	2.726	2.574	2.495	2.412	2.325	2.234	2.138	2.034	
30	7.562	5.39	4.51	4.018	3.699	3.473	3.304	3.173	3.067	2.979	2.843	2.7	2.549	2.469	2.386	2.299	2.208	2.111	2.006	
40	7.314	5.179	4.313	3.828	3.514	3.291	3.124	2.993	2.888	2.801	2.665	2.522	2.369	2.288	2.203	2.114	2.019	1.917	1.805	
60	7.077	4.977	4.126	3.649	3.339	3.119	2.953	2.823	2.718	2.632	2.496	2.352	2.198	2.115	2.028	1.936	1.836	1.726	1.601	
120	6.851	4.787	3.949	3.48	3.174	2.956	2.792	2.663	2.559	2.472	2.336	2.192	2.035	1.95	1.86	1.763	1.656	1.533	1.381	
Inf	6.635	4.605	3.782	3.319	3.017	2.802	2.639	2.511	2.407	2.321	2.185	2.039	1.878	1.791	1.696	1.592	1.473	1.325	1	

F Table for $\alpha = 0.001$ (Click to zoom in)

DF2	DF1																	Inf		
	α = 0.001																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	15	20	24	30	40	60	120		
1	405284	500000	540379	562500	576405	585937	592873	598144	602284	605621	610668	615764	620908	623497	626099	628712	631337	633972	636619	
2	998.5	999	999.17	999.25	999.3	999.33	999.36	999.37	999.39	999.4	999.42	999.43	999.45	999.46	999.47	999.47	999.48	999.49	999.5	
3	167.03	148.5	141.11	137.1	134.58	132.85	131.58	130.62	129.86	129.25	128.32	127.37	126.42	125.93	125.45	124.96	124.47	123.97	123.47	
4	74.137	61.246	56.177	53.436	51.712	50.525	49.658	48.996	48.475	48.053	47.412	46.761	46.1	45.766	45.429	45.089	44.746	44.4	44.051	
5	47.181	37.122	33.202	31.085	29.752	28.834	28.163	27.649	27.244	26.917	26.418	25.911	25.395	25.133	24.869	24.602	24.333	24.06	23.785	
6	35.507	27	23.703	21.924	20.803	20.03	19.463	19.03	18.688	18.411	17.989	17.559	17.12	16.897	16.672	16.445	16.214	15.981	15.745	
7	29.245	21.689	18.772	17.198	16.206	15.521	15.019	14.634	14.33	14.083	13.707	13.324	12.932	12.732	12.53	12.326	12.119	11.909	11.696	
8	25.415	18.494	15.829	14.392	13.485	12.858	12.398	12.046	11.767	11.54	11.194	10.841	10.48	10.295	10.109	9.9194	9.7272	9.5321	9.3337	
9	22.857	16.387	13.902	12.56	11.714	11.128	10.698	10.368	10.107	9.8943	9.57	9.2381	8.8976	8.7239	8.5476	8.3685	8.1865	8.0014	7.8128	
10	21.04	14.905	12.553	11.283	10.481	9.9256	9.5175	9.2041	8.9558	8.7539	8.4452	8.1288	7.8037	7.6376	7.4688	7.2971	7.1224	6.9443	6.7625	
11	19.687	13.812	11.561	10.346	9.5784	9.0466	8.6553	8.3548	8.1163	7.9224	7.6256	7.321	7.0076	6.8471	6.6839	6.5178	6.3483	6.1753	5.9983	
12	18.643	12.974	10.804	9.6327	8.8921	8.3788	8.0009	7.7104	7.4797	7.292	7.0046	6.7092	6.4048	6.2488	6.0898	5.9278	5.7623	5.5931	5.4195	
13	17.815	12.313	10.209	9.0727	8.3541	7.8557	7.4886	7.2061	6.9818	6.7992	6.5192	6.2312	5.934	5.7814	5.6258	5.467	5.3046	5.1381	4.9671	
14	17.143	11.779	9.7294	8.6223	7.9218	7.4358	7.0775	6.8017	6.5826	6.4041	6.1302	5.8483	5.5568	5.407	5.2542	5.0979	4.9378	4.7735	4.6042	
15	16.587	11.339	9.3353	8.2527	7.5674	7.0917	6.7408	6.4707	6.2559	6.0808	5.8121	5.5351	5.2484	5.1009	4.9502	4.7959	4.6377	4.475	4.307	
16	16.12	10.971	9.0059	7.9442	7.2719	6.8049	6.4604	6.195	5.9839	5.8117	5.5473	5.2745	4.9918	4.8462	4.6972	4.5446	4.3878	4.2263	4.0592	
17	15.722	10.658	8.7269	7.6831	7.0219	6.5625	6.2234	5.962	5.7541	5.5844	5.3237	5.0544	4.7751	4.6311	4.4836	4.3323	4.1767	4.016	3.8496	
18	15.379	10.39	8.4875	7.4593	6.8078	6.355	6.0206	5.7628	5.5575	5.39	5.1324	4.8663	4.5899	4.4471	4.3009	4.1507	3.996	3.836	3.6698	
19	15.081	10.157	8.2799	7.2655	6.6225	6.1754	5.8452	5.5904	5.3876	5.2219	4.9672	4.7037	4.4297	4.2881	4.1429	3.9936	3.8396	3.6801	3.5141	
20	14.819	9.9526	8.0984	7.096	6.4606	6.0186	5.692	5.44	5.2392	5.0752	4.8229	4.5618	4.29	4.1493	4.005	3.8564	3.703	3.5438	3.3778	
21	14.587	9.7223	7.9383	6.9467	6.3179	5.8805	5.5571	5.3076	5.1087	4.9462	4.696	4.4369	4.167	4.0272	3.8836	3.7357	3.5827	3.4237	3.2575	
22	14.38	9.612	7.796	6.8142	6.1914	5.758	5.4376	5.1901	4.9929	4.8317	4.5835	4.3262	4.0579	3.9189	3.7759	3.6285	3.4759	3.317	3.1505	
23	14.195	9.4685	7.6688	6.6957	6.0783	5.6486	5.3308	5.0853	4.8896	4.7296	4.4831	4.2274	3.9606	3.8222	3.6798	3.5328	3.3804	3.2216	3.0548	
24	14.028	9.3394	7.5545	6.5892	5.9768	5.5504	5.2349	4.9912	4.7968	4.6379	4.3929	4.1387	3.8732	3.7354	3.5935	3.4468	3.2946	3.1357	2.9685	
25	13.877	9.2225	7.4511	6.4931	5.8851	5.4617	5.1484	4.9063	4.7131	4.5551	4.3116	4.0587	3.7944	3.657	3.5155	3.3692	3.2171	3.0581	2.8904	
26	13.739	9.1163	7.3572	6.4057	5.8018	5.3812	5.0698	4.8292	4.6372	4.4801	4.2378	3.9861	3.7228	3.5859	3.4448	3.2987	3.1467	2.9875	2.8193	
27	13.613	9.0194	7.2715	6.3261	5.7259	5.3078	4.9983	4.759	4.568	4.4117	4.1706	3.92	3.6576	3.5211	3.3803	3.2344	3.0825	2.9231	2.7543	
28	13.498	8.9305	7.1931	6.2532	5.6565	5.2407	4.9328	4.6947	4.5047	4.3491	4.1091	3.8595	3.598	3.4618	3.3213	3.1755	3.0236	2.864	2.6947	
29	13.391	8.8488	7.121	6.1863	5.5927	5.1791	4.8727	4.6358	4.4466	4.2917	4.0526	3.8039	3.5432	3.4074	3.2671	3.1215	2.9695	2.8097	2.6397	
30	13.293	8.7734	7.0545	6.1245	5.5339	5.1223	4.8173	4.5814	4.393	4.2388	4.0006	3.7527	3.4928	3.3572	3.2171	3.0716	2.9196	2.7595	2.5889	
40	12.609	8.2508	6.5945	5.6981	5.1283	4.7306	4.4355	4.207	4.0243	3.8744	3.6425	3.4003	3.145	3.0111	2.8721	2.7268	2.5737	2.4103	2.2326	
60	11.973	7.7678	6.1712	5.3067	4.7565	4.3721	4.0864	3.8648	3.6873	3.5415	3.3153	3.0781	2.8266	2.6938	2.5549	2.4086	2.2523	2.0821	1.8905	
120	11.38	7.3211	5.7814	4.9472	4.4157	4.0437	3.767	3.5519	3.3792	3.2372	3.0162	2.7833	2.5344	2.4019	2.2621	2.1128	1.9502	1.7667	1.5433	
Inf	10.828	6.9078	5.4221	4.6167	4.103	3.743	3.4746	3.2656	3.0975	2.9588	2.7425	2.5132	2.2657	2.1324	1.9901	1.835	1.6601	1.4468	1	

Practical Application: Interpreting Critical Values and Alpha Levels

Interpreting the tables provided above requires a systematic approach. Each table corresponds to a specific alpha level, which represents the probability of committing a Type I error--falsely rejecting a true null hypothesis. For instance, an alpha of 0.05 suggests a 5% risk of concluding that a difference exists when it actually does not. As the alpha level decreases (e.g., from 0.05 to 0.01), the critical value required to achieve significance increases, meaning the evidence must be stronger to reject the null hypothesis. This relationship is fundamental to maintaining the integrity of scientific

research and ensuring that findings are not merely the result of random chance.

To use these tables, one must first identify the degrees of freedom for the numerator (usually based on the number of groups being compared) and the degrees of freedom for the denominator (usually based on the total sample size minus the number of groups). In the F-table, the numerator degrees of freedom are typically listed along the top horizontal axis, while the denominator degrees of freedom are listed down the vertical axis. The intersection of these two values within the table for the chosen alpha provides the critical F-value. If the calculated F-statistic from the experiment is greater than this critical value, the result is considered statistically significant.

This process is highly structured and objective, removing much of the guesswork from data analysis. By relying on these standardized tables, researchers around the world can apply the same rigorous criteria to their datasets, ensuring that "significance" has a consistent meaning across different studies. Whether one is evaluating the efficacy of a new pharmaceutical

drug or the impact of a social intervention, these tables provide the mathematical foundation for validating experimental results and advancing human knowledge.

Calculating Central Tendency and Dispersion from Tabulated Data

Beyond its role in hypothesis testing, a distribution table is an invaluable tool for calculating fundamental descriptive statistics. When data is organized into a frequency distribution, the arithmetic mean can be calculated by taking the weighted average of the class midpoints. This approach is much more efficient than summing thousands of individual raw data points. Similarly, the median can be estimated by identifying the class interval that contains the middle value of the cumulative frequency, providing a measure of the dataset's center that is resistant to outliers.

The mode is perhaps the easiest statistic to identify from a distribution table, as it simply corresponds to the class interval with the highest frequency. Identifying the mode is particularly useful in categorical data analysis, where it reveals the most popular or common response among participants. In addition to these measures of central tendency, distribution tables allow

for the estimation of variance and standard deviation. These metrics describe the spread or dispersion of the data, indicating whether the values are tightly clustered around the mean or widely dispersed.

Understanding both the center and the spread of a dataset is essential for a complete statistical profile. For example, two different datasets could have the same mean but vastly different standard deviations. A distribution table makes this distinction immediately apparent. By providing the necessary data to calculate these measures, the table enables researchers to describe the "typical" case within their study while also accounting for the diversity and variability present in the real world. This depth of analysis is what allows for meaningful conclusions and nuanced understanding in any scientific endeavor.

Strategic Decision Making through Statistical Inference

In the final analysis, the purpose of a distribution table is to facilitate strategic decision making. By providing a structured view of data, these tables allow stakeholders to visualize risks, identify opportunities, and predict future outcomes with greater confidence. In a business

context, a distribution table might summarize customer purchase behavior, allowing a company to target its marketing efforts more effectively. In public health, it might track the spread of a disease, enabling officials to allocate resources where they are most needed. The ability to interpret these tables is, therefore, a critical skill for leaders and researchers alike.

The rigorous use of distribution tables also protects against the pitfalls of anecdotal evidence. Rather than relying on a few isolated examples, the table presents the entire scope of the evidence, ensuring that decisions are based on the totality of the data. This commitment to evidence-based practice is what separates scientific inquiry from mere speculation. By adhering to the structured methodologies of statistical analysis, we can navigate the complexities of the modern world with greater clarity and purpose.

As we have explored, the distribution table is far more than a simple list of numbers; it is a sophisticated tool for data organization, a diagnostic instrument for distribution analysis, and a gateway to advanced inferential statistics. Whether you are using a simple

frequency table to summarize survey results or a complex F-distribution table to conduct an ANOVA, the principles remain the same: clarity, accuracy, and structured interpretation. By mastering the use of these tables, analysts can unlock the full potential of their data, transforming raw information into the meaningful insights that drive progress in every field of human endeavor.

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