# Week 1: Welcome to statistics and data 

3. Statistics to illuminate

Stat 140-04<br>Mount Holyoke College

## Rename yourself on Zoom with the following format:

## [Group number]_[Your preferred name] (Your pronoun)

## E.g.,

- 1_Shan Shan (she/her) (if I'm in group 1)
- 2_Shan Shan (she/her) (if I'm in group 2)

Find your group information here:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/ 17Q8S2iAjZJ81PBterieARC-InLgz3MrY-nHEyAE2vEw/edit? usp=sharing

Step 1: Find 'Participants' tab


Step 2: Find yourself $\rightarrow$ More $\rightarrow$ Rename


## Outline

1. Summary to the admission example

A table of counts, based on data from UC Berkely's graduate admission process in 1973.

|  | Men | Women |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Accepted | 533 | 113 |
| Denied | 663 | 336 |
| Total | 1198 | 449 |

A table of counts, based on data from UC Berkely's graduate admission process in 1973.

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Proportion of male applicants who were accepted out of the total male applicants is $533 /(533+663) \approx .445 \approx 45 \%$.

Proportion of female applicants who were accepted out of the total male applicants is $113 /(113+336) \approx .25 \approx 25 \%$.

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We observed that the acceptance rate for men is almost 20 percentage points higher than the acceptance rate for women ( $44.5 \%$ vs. $25.2 \%$ ).

Let's proceed to dig a little deeper. The data actually came from two different programs, let's call them A and F. This table show the counts for these two programs separately.

|  | $M($ accpt $)$ | $M($ denied $)$ | W(accpt) | W(denied) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ProgA | 511 | 314 | 89 | 19 |
| ProgF | 22 | 351 | 24 | 317 |
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Within A, the proportion of male applicants who were accepted out of the total male applicants who applied for A is $511 /(511+314)=511 / 825 \approx .619 \approx 62 \%$

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In summary,
Program A, men: $511 /(511+314)=511 / 825 \approx .619 \approx 62 \%$
Program A, women: $89 /(89+19)=89 / 108 \approx .824 \approx 82 \%$
Program F, men: $22 /(22+351)=22 / 373 \approx .059 \approx 6 \%$
Program F, women: $24 /(24+317)=24 / 341 \approx .070 \approx 7 \%$
This is very strange!

Hint: think about what's the difference between program A and program F?

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Let' look at the data table more carefully.

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What's the acceptance rate for program A:

$$
(511+89) /(511+314+89+19) \approx 64 \%
$$

What's the acceptance rate for program F :

$$
(22+24) /(22+351+24+317) \approx 5 \%
$$

## Hint: think about what's the difference between program $A$ and program F?

Let' look at the data table more carefully.

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| ProgA | 511 | 314 | 89 | 19 |
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How many men applied for program A? $511+314=825$ How many women applied for program A? $89+19=108$

How many men applied for program F? $22+351=373$ How man women applied for program F? $24+317=341$

The odds is because more women applied for the program that is difficult to get into.

This explains how it happens that women have a higher acceptance rate than men in both programs but a lower acceptance rate than men when the programs are combined.

## Simpson's paradox

A phenomenon where a trend appears in several different groups of data, but disappears or reverses when they are combined.

HW01: find another example of the Simpson's paradox.

## Tutorial exercise: For the rest of the class

Work on mini-project 1
Goal: practice using R markdown to produce report
Let me know if you have any questions
You are allowed to leave once you are done.
Tips:

- Each one of you work on your own markdown file first. Then copy your write up to a shared google doc with your group and collaboratively edit the google doc together.
- Figure out a time to meet outside of class first.
- Read the grading guidelines carefully, and let me know if I can help clarify.

