

# Basic Statistics for Health Information Management Technology

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*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*.



## PREFACE

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.



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