

Experimental and Theoretical Probability

10.3

EQ: How can you use relative frequencies to find probabilities?

Relative Frequencies: the fraction or percent of the time that an event occurs.

$$R.F. = \frac{\text{\# of times the event occurs}}{\text{total \# of times you conduct the experiment}}$$

$\frac{4}{11}$ $\frac{1}{11}$ $R.F. = \frac{3}{5}$

→ Experimental Probability: probability based on repeated trials of an experiment.

$$P(\text{event}) = \frac{\text{\# of times the event occurs}}{\text{\# of trials}}$$

*experiment has happened *results

Theoretical Probability: ratio of favorable and possible outcomes, WHEN ALL POSSIBLE OUTCOMES ARE EQUALLY LIKELY!

*prediction $P(\text{event}) = \frac{\text{\# of favorable outcomes}}{\text{\# of possible outcomes}}$

Example 1: Figure 1. What is the experimental probability of rolling an odd number?

$\frac{1}{10} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{5}{11}$
 = 29 odd rolls

$P(\text{odd}) = \frac{29}{50}$

Example 2: It rains 2 out of 12 days in March. If this trend continues, how many rainy days would you expect in April?

experimental $P(\text{rain}) = \frac{2}{12}$ or $\frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{30}{1} = 5 \text{ days}$