

If $N = 32$, $\sigma = 5.15$, $\mu = 26.2$, $\alpha = 0.05$, In Testing $H_0: \mu = 25$, $H_1: \mu \neq 25$, The Rejection Region Is $Z > 1.645$

Understanding the Hypothesis Testing Scenario with $N=32$, $\sigma=5.15$, $\mu=26.2$, $\alpha=0.05$, and Testing $H_0: \mu=25$ vs. $H_1: \mu \neq 25$

If $N = 32$, $\sigma = 5.15$, $\mu = 26.2$, $\alpha = 0.05$, and in testing $H_0: \mu=25$ versus $H_1: \mu \neq 25$, the rejection region is $Z > 1.645$, it sets the stage for a comprehensive exploration of hypothesis testing principles, the calculation of test statistics, and decision-making criteria. This scenario exemplifies key statistical concepts used to determine whether a sample provides sufficient evidence to reject a null hypothesis in favor of an alternative hypothesis.

Fundamentals of Hypothesis Testing

What is Hypothesis Testing?

Hypothesis testing is a statistical method used to make decisions about a population parameter based on sample data. It involves formulating two competing hypotheses:

- Null hypothesis (H_0): The default claim or status quo, e.g., $\mu = 25$.
- Alternative hypothesis (H_1): The statement we seek evidence to support, e.g., $\mu \neq 25$.

Significance Level (α)

The significance level, denoted as α , represents the probability of committing a Type I error—rejecting the null hypothesis when it is actually true. In our scenario, $\alpha = 0.05$ indicates a 5% risk of false rejection.

Key Components of the Given Scenario

Sample Size (N)

With $N = 32$, we have a moderate sample size, which influences the precision of the estimates and the distribution of the test statistic.

Population Standard Deviation (σ)

The population standard deviation is given as $\sigma = 5.15$. When σ is known, a Z-test is typically employed to evaluate the hypotheses.

Sample Mean ($\bar{X}$)

The sample mean observed is $\bar{x} = 26.2$. Note that this might be a typo in the prompt, as μ generally represents a population parameter, but here it seems to be the sample mean. Clarification: the sample mean is 26.2, with the hypothesized mean being 25.

Null and Alternative Hypotheses

- $H_0: \mu = 25$
- $H_1: \mu \neq 25$

Significance Level and Rejection Region

The rejection region is determined based on the significance level and the nature of the test (two-tailed in this case). For $\alpha = 0.05$ in a two-tailed test, the critical Z-values are ± 1.96 ; however, the given rejection region is $Z > 1.645$, which corresponds to a one-tailed test at $\alpha = 0.05$. The specifics depend on the test direction and hypothesis formulation.

Calculating the Test Statistic

Formula for Z-Test

The Z-test statistic for testing a population mean with known σ is calculated as:

$$Z = (\bar{X} - \mu_0) / (\sigma / \sqrt{N})$$

where:

- $\bar{X}$ = sample mean

- μ_0 = hypothesized population mean under H_0
- σ = population standard deviation
- N = sample size

Applying the Data

Given:

- $\bar{X} = 26.2$
- $\mu_0 = 25$
- $\sigma = 5.15$
- $N = 32$

Calculating the standard error (SE):

$$SE = \sigma / \sqrt{N} = 5.15 / \sqrt{32} \approx 5.15 / 5.6569 \approx 0.91$$

Calculating the Z-value:

$$Z = (26.2 - 25) / 0.91 \approx 1.2 / 0.91 \approx 1.32$$

Interpreting the Rejection Region

Understanding the Critical Value

The rejection region for a two-tailed test at $\alpha = 0.05$ involves critical Z-values of ± 1.96 . However, the initial statement indicates the rejection region as $Z > 1.645$, which is typical for a one-tailed test at $\alpha = 0.05$.

Implications

- If the test is one-tailed (testing if $\mu > 25$), then the rejection region is $Z > 1.645$.
- If the test is two-tailed, the rejection regions are $Z > 1.96$ or $Z < -1.96$.

Decision Based on Calculated Z

Our calculated Z-value of approximately 1.32 does not exceed 1.645, so we fail to reject H_0 at the 0.05 significance level in a one-tailed test.

Understanding the Context: One-Tailed vs. Two-Tailed Tests

One-Tailed Test

Tests if the parameter is greater than or less than a specified value. For example, testing whether $\mu > 25$ or $\mu < 25$. The rejection region is on one side of the distribution.

- Rejection region: $Z > 1.645$ for testing $\mu > 25$ at $\alpha = 0.05$

Two-Tailed Test

Tests whether the parameter is simply different from a specified value, considering both directions. The rejection regions are on both tails:

- Rejection regions: $Z > 1.96$ or $Z < -1.96$ at $\alpha=0.05$

Practical Implications of the Rejection Region

Decision-Making Process

1. Compute the test statistic (Z-value) based on sample data.
2. Determine the appropriate rejection region based on the test type (one-tailed or two-tailed) and significance level.
3. Compare the calculated Z-value with the critical value(s). If Z falls into the rejection region, reject H_0 .

Application to Our Scenario

- Calculated $Z \approx 1.32$
- Rejection region (for one-tailed test at $\alpha=0.05$): $Z > 1.645$
- Since $1.32 < 1.645$, we do not reject H_0 .

Conclusion and Summary

This example underscores the importance of understanding the parameters involved in hypothesis testing, including sample size, standard deviation, significance level, and whether the test is one-tailed or two-tailed. In our scenario, with a calculated Z-value of approximately 1.32 and a rejection region $Z > 1.645$, the evidence is insufficient to reject the null hypothesis at the 5% significance level.

Key Takeaways:

- Always verify whether the test is one-tailed or two-tailed, as it influences the critical value and rejection region.
- Ensure correct calculation of the test statistic using the sample data and known parameters.
- Compare the test statistic with the critical value to make an informed decision about the hypotheses.

Understanding these principles enables statisticians and researchers to make sound decisions based on data, ensuring the validity and reliability of their conclusions.

Additional Considerations in Hypothesis Testing

Type I and Type II Errors

- **Type I Error:** Rejecting H_0 when it is true (controlled by α).
- **Type II Error:** Failing to reject H_0 when H_1 is true (affected by sample size and test power).

Power of the Test

The probability of correctly rejecting H_0 when H_1 is true. Increasing the sample size or choosing appropriate significance levels enhances test power.

Final Thoughts

Hypothesis testing remains a cornerstone of inferential statistics, allowing researchers and analysts to draw meaningful conclusions from data. Proper understanding of the rejection region, critical values, and test statistics ensures accurate decision-making. In the context of the

Frequently Asked Questions

In the given hypothesis testing scenario where $N=32$, $\sigma=5.15$, and $\bar{x} = 26.2$ with significance level $\alpha=0.05$, why is the rejection region specified as $Z > 1.645$?

Because the test is a one-tailed test at a 5% significance level, the critical Z-value for rejection is 1.645, so the rejection region is $Z > 1.645$.

How do you interpret the hypotheses $H_0: \mu=25$ and $H_1: \mu \neq 25$ in this context?

They represent a two-sided test where the null hypothesis assumes the population mean is 25, and the alternative suggests it is not equal to 25, prompting rejection if the test statistic falls into the rejection region.

Given the data, how is the test statistic calculated in this scenario?

The test statistic Z is calculated using $Z = (\text{sample mean} - \text{hypothesized mean}) / (\text{standard deviation} / \sqrt{\text{sample size}})$, which in this case would be $Z = (26.2 - 25) / (5.15 / \sqrt{32})$.

Why is the critical value set at $Z > 1.645$ for this test, and what does it imply about the significance level?

Because at $\alpha=0.05$ for a one-tailed test, the critical Z-value is 1.645; this implies that there's a 5% risk of rejecting the null hypothesis when it is true.

What would be the conclusion if the calculated Z-value

exceeds 1.645?

If the calculated Z-value exceeds 1.645, we reject the null hypothesis at the 5% significance level, indicating evidence that $\mu \neq 25$.

Additional Resources

Understanding the Critical Aspects of Hypothesis Testing: An Analytical Review of the Given Scenario

In the realm of statistical inference, hypothesis testing serves as a fundamental tool for making data-driven decisions. The scenario presented involves a set of parameters and conditions that guide the formulation and evaluation of a hypothesis test. This article aims to dissect and analyze each component comprehensively, providing clarity on the underlying principles, calculations, and implications. We will explore the key concepts, interpret the given data, and elucidate the reasoning behind the rejection region, culminating in a detailed understanding suitable for both students and practitioners.

Introduction to Hypothesis Testing in Statistics

Hypothesis testing is a formal procedure used to determine whether there is enough statistical evidence in a sample of data to support a particular belief or claim about a population parameter. It involves formulating two competing hypotheses:

- The null hypothesis (H_0): a statement of no effect or no difference. It represents the default or status quo.
- The alternative hypothesis (H_1 or H_a): a statement indicating the presence of an effect or difference.

The core objective is to assess whether the observed data provides enough evidence to reject H_0 in favor of H_1 at a predetermined significance level.

Deciphering the Given Parameters and Their Significance

The scenario provides several key parameters:

- $N = 32,0 = 5.15$
- $= 26.2$ (interpreted as the sample mean, denoted as $\bar{x}$)
- $A = 0.05$ (significance level, α)

- Testing $H_0: \mu = 25$, $H_1: \mu \neq 25$ (two-tailed test)

Let's interpret each element carefully:

Sample Size (N)

- $N = 32$ indicates the number of observations or data points collected from the population. A sample size of 32 is moderately sufficient to approximate the population parameters, assuming random sampling and independence.

Standard Deviation or Population Parameter ($\sigma = 5.15$)

- The notation $\sigma = 5.15$ is somewhat ambiguous. Typically, in hypothesis testing, " σ " denotes the population standard deviation. Given the context, it likely refers to the population standard deviation, $(\sigma = 5.15)$.

Sample Mean ($\bar{x}$)

- The notation $\bar{x} = 26.2$ is presumed to be the sample mean, $(\bar{x} = 26.2)$. This is the observed value from the sample data.

Significance Level (α)

- $\alpha = 0.05$ indicates the significance level, which defines the threshold for rejecting the null hypothesis. A 5% significance level implies that there's a 5% risk of rejecting the null hypothesis when it is actually true (Type I error).

Hypotheses

- Null hypothesis: $(H_0: \mu = 25)$

- Alternative hypothesis: $(H_1: \mu \neq 25)$

This indicates a two-tailed test, examining whether the population mean differs from 25 in either direction.

Formulating the Test Statistic

To analyze whether to reject (H_0) , we calculate a test statistic that measures how far the sample mean deviates from the hypothesized population mean, scaled by the standard error.

Step 1: Identify the Appropriate Test

Given the known population standard deviation (σ) and a reasonably large sample size ($N=32$), a z-test is appropriate.

Step 2: Calculate the Standard Error (SE)

$$SE = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{5.15}{\sqrt{32}}$$

Calculating:

$$\sqrt{32} \approx 5.6569$$

$$SE \approx \frac{5.15}{5.6569} \approx 0.910$$

Step 3: Compute the Z-Statistic

$$Z = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu_0}{SE} = \frac{26.2 - 25}{0.910} \approx \frac{1.2}{0.910} \approx 1.318$$

This Z-value reflects how many standard errors the sample mean is away from the hypothesized mean of 25.

Determining the Rejection Region

The rejection region specifies the values of the test statistic that lead to rejecting (H_0) . Since the test is two-tailed with a significance level of $(\alpha=0.05)$, the critical values are determined by the standard normal distribution.

Step 1: Find Critical Z-Values

For a two-tailed test at $(\alpha=0.05)$:

- Divide (α) equally into two tails: 0.025 in each tail.
- From standard normal tables or z-score calculators:

$$Z_{\text{critical}} = \pm z_{0.025} \approx \pm 1.96$$

Step 2: Define the Rejection Region

- Reject (H_0) if:

$$|Z| > 1.96$$

- Equivalently, reject if:

$$\begin{aligned} & \backslash \\ Z < -1.96 \quad \text{or} \quad Z > 1.96 \\ & \backslash \end{aligned}$$

Step 3: Applying to the Calculated Z

- Our calculated $(Z \approx 1.318)$ does not exceed 1.96 in magnitude.
- Therefore, we fail to reject the null hypothesis at the 5% significance level based on this data.

Interpreting the Given Rejection Region: "A) $Z > 1.645$ "

The statement "The Rejection Region Is A) $Z > 1.645$ " suggests a different critical value, which corresponds to a one-tailed test at $(\alpha=0.05)$.

Clarifying the Discrepancy

- For a two-tailed test with $(\alpha=0.05)$, the critical Z-values are (± 1.96) .
- For a one-tailed test at $(\alpha=0.05)$, the critical Z-value is approximately 1.645.

Implications:

- The statement indicates that the rejection region is for Z-values greater than 1.645, which corresponds to a right-tailed test at 5% significance.
- However, the hypotheses specify $(H_1: \mu \neq 25)$, which is inherently two-tailed. Using a one-tailed rejection region would be inconsistent unless the testing context is one-sided.

Possible Interpretation:

- The original question or scenario might have intended a one-sided test (e.g., testing if $(\mu > 25)$). In that case:
 - The rejection region is $(Z > 1.645)$,
 - If the calculated (Z) -value exceeds 1.645, we reject (H_0) .
- Since the calculated $(Z = 1.318)$ is less than 1.645, we do not reject (H_0) .

Analytical Summary and Critical Reflection

The scenario involves critical components of hypothesis testing—sample size, population standard

deviation, sample mean, and significance level—all contributing to the decision-making process.

Key Takeaways:

1. The sample size ($N=32$) provides a reasonable basis for applying the z-test, assuming the population standard deviation is known.
2. The population standard deviation ($\sigma=5.15$) allows for precise standard error calculation.
3. The sample mean ($\bar{x} = 26.2$) exceeds the null hypothesis mean ($\mu_0=25$), suggesting a potential deviation.
4. The calculated z-statistic (~ 1.318) indicates a deviation but not enough to cross the critical thresholds for rejection at the 5% significance level in a two-tailed test.
5. The rejection region, as specified, is ($Z > 1.645$), aligning with a one-tailed test at ($\alpha=0.05$). This implies the test might be one-sided, focusing on whether the mean is significantly greater than 25.

Critical Reflections:

- The choice between one-tailed and two-tailed tests hinges on the research question. If the hypothesis is directional (e.g., testing if the mean is greater than 25), then a one-tailed test with the rejection region ($Z > 1.645$) is appropriate.
- If the hypothesis is non-directional ($\neq 25$), then the two-tailed approach with critical values (± 1.96) should be used.
- The actual calculated Z-value does not fall into the rejection zone for either test configuration, indicating insufficient evidence to reject the null hypothesis based on the sample data.

Conclusion and Practical Implications

In conclusion, the statistical analysis demonstrates the meticulous process of hypothesis testing, highlighting how parameters such as sample size, significance level, and test directionality influence the decision to reject or accept the null hypothesis

If N 32 0 5 15 26 2 A 0 05 In Testing H U 25 H 25 The Rejection Region Is A Z Gt 1 645

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