

Practice Problem: Lab 10

Consider a problem in which we observe students to see if they took notes by hand or by laptop and recorded whether they passed or failed. Of the 67 that used a laptop 44 passed. Of the 76 that wrote by hand 56 of them passed. Construct an observed and expected table. Compute the chi-squared statistic and find the p-value from the chi-squared table. Interpret your results.

Observed

Expected: $(44+56)/(67+76) = 0.699$

	Pass	Fail	Total		Pass	Fail	Total
Laptop	44	23	67	Laptop	46.83	20.17	67
Hand	56	20	76	Hand	53.12	22.88	76

$$\chi^2 = \frac{(44 - 46.83)^2}{46.83} + \frac{(23 - 20.17)^2}{20.17} + \frac{(56 - 53.12)^2}{53.12} + \frac{(20 - 22.88)^2}{22.88}$$

$$\chi^2 = 1.087$$

$$df = 1$$

From the table, everything below 1.087 is $p = 0.701$.

Therefore p-value: $1 - 0.701 = 0.299$

There is about a 30% probability of observing such an association by chance alone. There is no statistical evidence that writing notes on a laptop or by hand impacts test performance.