

Crude rate

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Glossary Item

METEOR identifier: 327274

Registration status:

- [Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005

Definition: The ratio of the number of events in the population being studied during a certain time period to the estimated population size midway through that time period.

Context: Population health and health services research:
Required to calculate population rates, such as incidence rates, prevalence rates, mortality rates and health service utilisation rates.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Formula:
 $R = d/n$

Where:

R is the crude rate for the population being studied,
d is the number of events for that population group,
n is the total population for that population group.

Comments: Crude rates are generally multiplied by 1,000 or 100,000 to avoid small decimal fractions. It is then called the crude rate per 1,000 or 100,000 population.

Source and reference attributes


Origin: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: Textbooks of epidemiology, demography and biostatistics.

The presentation of formulae in this data element is based on the notation used in Armitage P & Berry G 1994. *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications.

See also [Age-standardised rate](#)

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes  [Crude rate, version 1, Derived DE, NHDD, NHIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (14.2 KB) *No registration status*

Metadata items which use this glossary item: [Age-standardised rate](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005

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