

## Pearson's Standardized Residuals

Contingency tables, commonly known as cross-tabulations, show the **frequency** of observations that fall into different **combinations of categories** for two categorical variables.

Pearson's **standardized residuals** are used to **evaluate the association** between two categorical variables in a contingency table by comparing observed and expected frequencies in each cell.

Indeed, the presence of **large standardized residuals** indicates significant deviations from independence, which implies an **association** between the variables.

For instance, let's consider a bank that conducted a **survey** across three branches of its network.

The purpose of the survey is to gain an understanding of the **primary causes of customer dissatisfaction**. The bank's aim is to determine if customer dissatisfaction is dependent on the branch and, if so, to identify the **main contributors**.

The data is contained in this Excel file:

| Causes_of_Dissatisfaction_in_the_Relationship | Branch   | Responses |
|---|----------|-----------|
| High cost of services                         | Branch A | 23        |
| High cost of services                         | Branch B | 7         |
| High cost of services                         | Branch C | 37        |
| Failure to comply with the conditions         | Branch A | 39        |
| Failure to comply with the conditions         | Branch B | 13        |
| Failure to comply with the conditions         | Branch C | 8         |
| Loan Issues                                   | Branch A | 13        |
| Loan Issues                                   | Branch B | 5         |
| Loan Issues                                   | Branch C | 13        |
| Staff quality                                 | Branch A | 13        |
| Staff quality                                 | Branch B | 8         |
| Staff quality                                 | Branch C | 8         |

The Crosstab node using the KNIME platform<sup>1</sup> has provided a 2-way frequency table below.

Cross Tabulation of Causes of Dissatisfaction in the Relationship by Branch

| Frequency<br>Expected<br>Deviation    | Branch A | Branch B | Branch C | Total |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| Failure to comply with the conditions | 39       | 13       | 8        | 60    |
|                                       | 28,2353  | 10,5882  | 21,1765  |       |
|                                       | 10,7647  | 2,4118   | -13,1765 |       |
| High cost of services                 | 23       | 7        | 37       | 67    |
|                                       | 31,5294  | 11,8235  | 23,6471  |       |
|                                       | -8,5294  | -4,8235  | 13,3529  |       |
| Loan Issues                           | 13       | 5        | 13       | 31    |
|                                       | 14,5882  | 5,4706   | 10,9412  |       |
|                                       | -1,5882  | -0,4706  | 2,0588   |       |
| Staff quality                         | 13       | 8        | 8        | 29    |
|                                       | 13,6471  | 5,1176   | 10,2353  |       |
|                                       | -0,6471  | 2,8824   | -2,2353  |       |
| Total                                 | 88       | 33       | 66       | 187   |

Statistics for Table of Causes of Dissatisfaction in the Relationship by Branch

| Statistic  | DF | Value   | Prob   |
|------------|----|---------|--------|
| Chi-Square | 6  | 27,4104 | 0,0001 |

The same results can be obtained by using the `chisq.test()` function in the R software<sup>2</sup>.

```
> ctab <- xtabs( data=df, formula= Responses ~
  Causes_of_Dissatisfaction_in_the_Relationship + Branch)
```

```
> chisq.test(ctab)      # observed test statistics
```

Pearson's Chi-squared test

data: ctab

X-squared = 27.41, df = 6, p-value = 0.0001213

```
> qchisq(0.95, df=6)   # critical value
```

12.59159

From these results, a *Chi-square* value of 27.41 is observed, which would be expected to be 12.59 in case of independence.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.knime.com/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.r-project.org/>

It can be concluded that the **main causes** of customer dissatisfaction **are influenced by the specific branch**, as  $27.4 > 12.6$  and the *p-value* is  $0.00012 (< 0.05)$ .

In order to determine the **causes of dissatisfaction** that could have a significant impact on each branch, we can then calculate the **standardized residuals**<sup>3</sup>. As previously mentioned, the residuals are used to **measure the strength of the difference** between the observed and expected values using the following formula:

$$r_{ij} = (f_{ij}^{observed} - f_{ij}^{expected}) / \sqrt{f_{ij}^{expected}(1 - p_i)(1 - p_j)}$$

Here,  $f_{ij}^{observed}$  and  $f_{ij}^{expected}$  represent the observed and expected frequencies of the table cell  $(i, j)$ , respectively. Furthermore,  $p_i$  denotes the proportion in row  $i$ , calculated as  $(f_{i.}^{observed} / f^{observed})$ , while  $p_j$  signifies the proportion in column  $j$ , computed as  $(f_{.j}^{expected} / f^{expected})$ . Here,  $f_{i.}$  and  $f_{.j}$  refer to the row and column totals, respectively.

If the standardized residual  $r_{ij}$  is positive, it indicates that there are more subjects in that cell than expected, whereas if it is negative, it indicates that there are fewer.

This difference has a normal distribution with mean = 0 and standard deviation = 1, and it is considered significant if its absolute value is greater than 2 ( $1.96\sigma$ ).

The R software's `chisq.test()` function can also be used to calculate standardized residuals:

```
> chisq.test(ctab)$stdres
```

|   | Branch           |            |                   |
|---|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Causes_of_Dissatisfaction_in_the_Relationship | Branch A         | Branch B   | Branch C          |
| Failure to comply with the conditions         | <b>3.3785330</b> | 0.9910659  | <b>-4.3193597</b> |
| High cost of services                         | -2.6061207       | -1.9296653 | <b>4.2613447</b>  |
| Loan Issues                                   | -0.6257130       | -0.2427409 | 0.8471762         |
| Staff quality                                 | -0.2618905       | 1.5274419  | -0.9449414        |

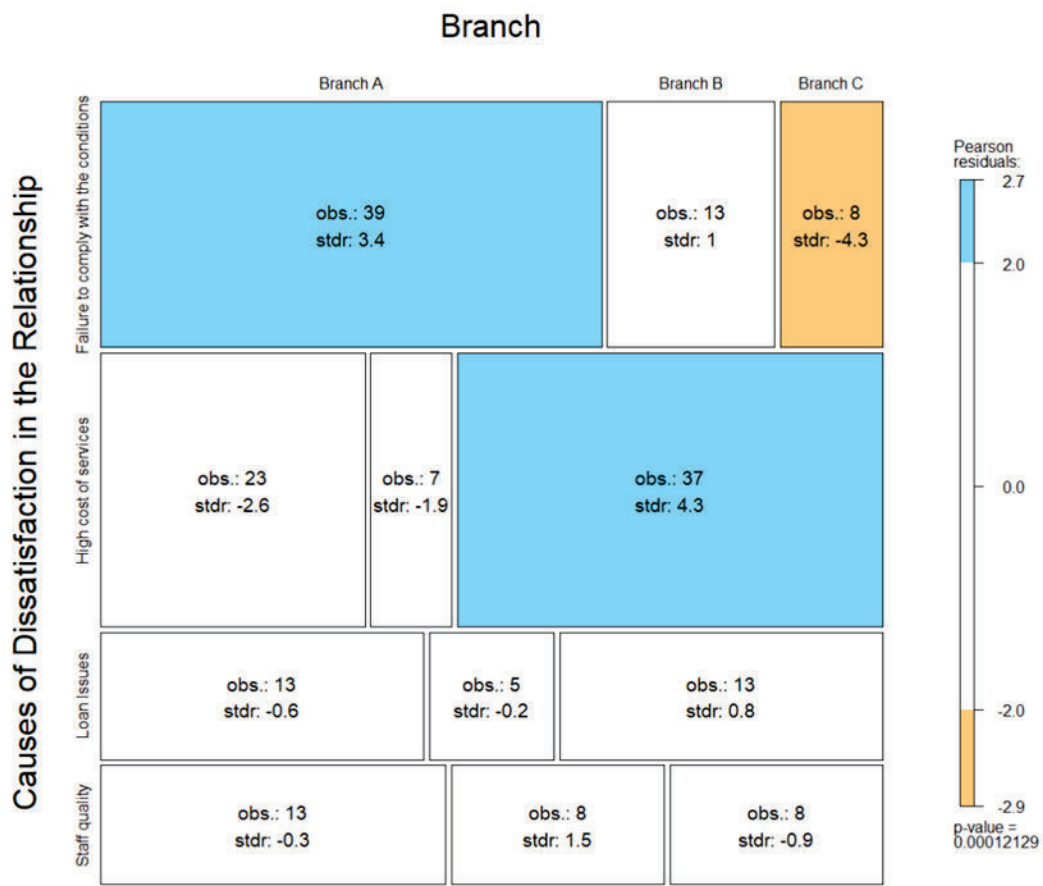
Based on this analysis, it can be concluded that **dissatisfaction is dependent on the following factors**:

- **Non-compliance conditions for Branch A**

- **Costs for Branch C**

<sup>3</sup> For more information, please refer to section 2.4.5 of Agresti (2007).

A mosaic plot can be used to visualize a contingency table. The `mosaic()` function of R package “`vcd`” is used for this task:



The **blue** color indicates that the observed value is **higher than the expected** value if the data were random, while the **orange** color signifies that the observed value is **lower than the expected** value if the data were random.

## References

- Agresti, A. (2007), An Introduction to Categorical Data Analysis, 2nd Edition, New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Field, A., Miles, J., & Field, Z. (2012). Discovering Statistics Using R. London: Sage publications.

## Contacts

studio roccato  
Data Science Training & Consulting 

e-mail: [alfredo.roccato@fastwebnet.it](mailto:alfredo.roccato@fastwebnet.it)

[www.alfredoroccatto.it](http://www.alfredoroccatto.it)