

assessing level of disease using rates



Ask Mish

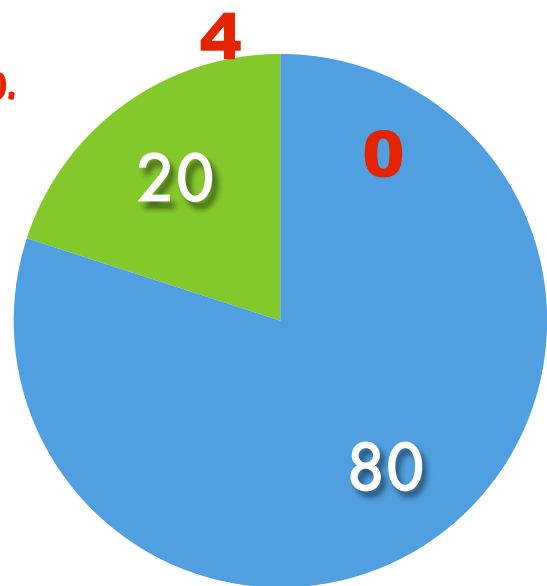
- Rates are ratios (numerator / denominator)
- in epidemiology : **# diseases/#population***
- **# = number**
- ***population at risk:** *susceptible to a given disease*
- if refer to **total population** we have **crude rates**
- if refer to **group of population** we have **specific rates** (e.g.:gender, age, marital status, socioeconomic status)
- if rates are **adjusted** to allow comparison: **adjusted rates**(e.g comparing the same age group)

examples of crude vs specific vs adjusted



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POPULATION 1
100 people
4 diseased p.

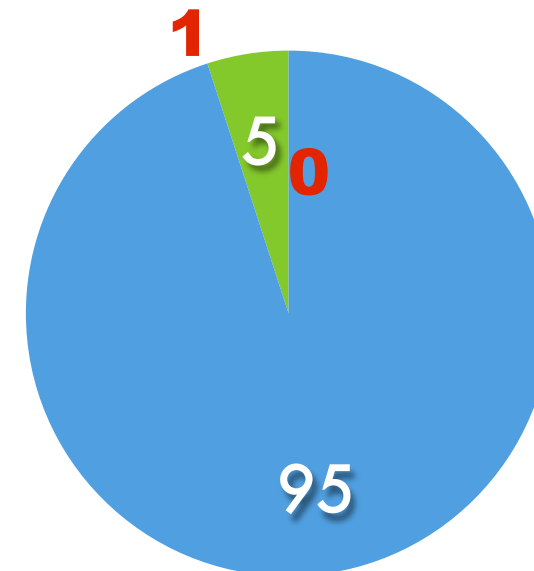


COLORS: age groups :
blue: < 60 yo
green > 60 yo

NUMBERS in white:
number of people investigated
for each age group

NUMBERS in red:
number of diseased people in each
age group

POPULATION 2
100p.
1 d.



CRUDE RATE: 4/100 (1)

SPECIFIC RATE: 4/20 & 0/80 (1)

ADJUSTED RATE: 4/20 (1)
0/80 (1)

CRUDE RATE: 1/100 (2)

SPECIFIC RATE: 1/5 & 0/95 (2)

ADJUSTED RATE: 1/5 (2)
0/95 (2)

SAME

SAME