

Worksheet 5.2: Normal Distributions – Finding Probabilities

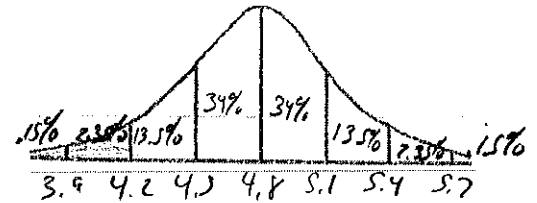
Let x = red blood cell (RBC) count in millions per cubic millimeter of whole blood. For healthy females, x has an approximately normal distribution with a mean $\mu = 4.8$ and a standard deviation $\sigma = 0.30$.

- Convert x intervals to z intervals.
- Shade the indicated area on the standard normal curve.
- Find the indicated probabilities using the standard normal distribution table.

1) $P(x < 4.2)$ $\mu = 4.8$
 $\sigma = .30$

$$z = \frac{4.2 - 4.8}{.3}$$

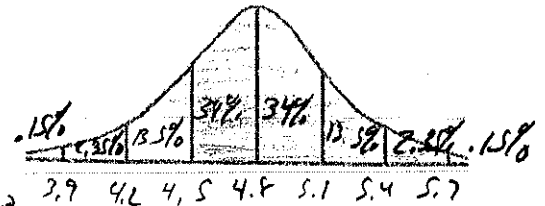
$z = -2$ $\approx 2.28\%$ or 2.5%



2) $P(x > 4.5)$

$$z = \frac{4.5 - 4.8}{.3}$$

$z = -1 \approx 1 - .1587 \approx .8413$ or 84.13%

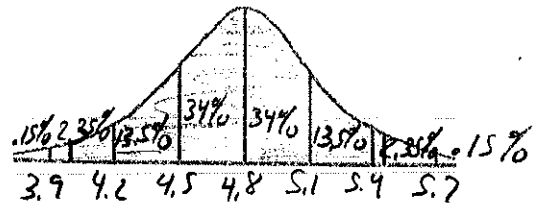


3) $4.0 < x < 5.5$

$$z = \frac{4.0 - 4.8}{.3} = -2.67 \approx .38\%$$

$$z = \frac{5.5 - 4.8}{.3} = 2.33 \approx 99.01\%$$

$99.01\% - 0.38\% \approx 98.63\%$



4) If a female had an RBC count of 5.9 or higher, would that be considered unusually high? Explain using z values.

$$z = \frac{5.9 - 4.8}{.3}$$

$z = 3.67$

Yes it would be unusually high as a z -score of 3.67 is off the chart and well beyond a z -score of 3.49.

Assume that x has a normal distribution with the specified mean and standard deviation.

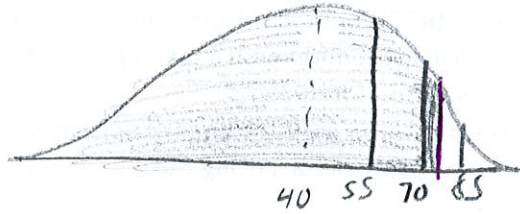
- Convert x intervals to z intervals.
- Find the indicated probabilities using the standard normal distribution table.

5. $P(x \leq 71); \mu = 40; \sigma = 15$

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$z = \frac{71 - 40}{15}$$

$$z = 2.07 \approx 98.08\%$$

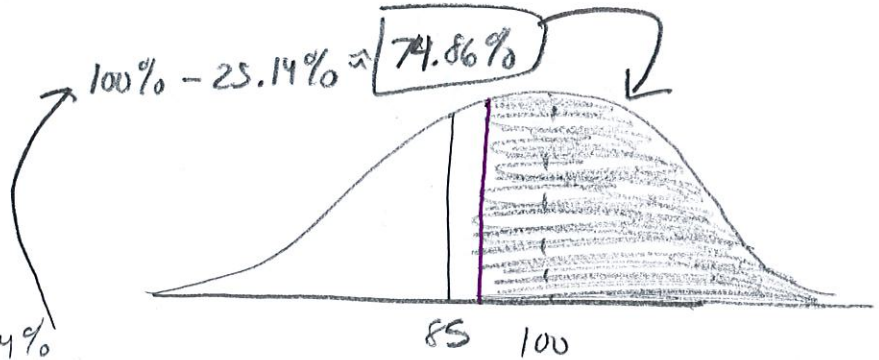


6. $P(x \geq 90); \mu = 100; \sigma = 15$

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$z = \frac{90 - 100}{15}$$

$$z = -0.67 \approx 25.14\%$$



7. $P(7 \leq x \leq 9); \mu = 5; \sigma = 1.2$

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$z = \frac{7 - 5}{1.2}$$

$$z = 1.67$$

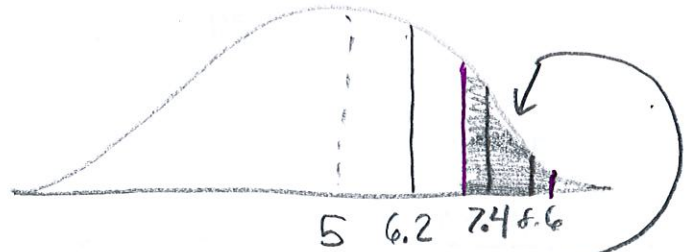
$$\approx 95.25\%$$

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$z = \frac{9 - 5}{1.2}$$

$$z = 3.33$$

$$\approx 99.96\%$$



$$99.96\% - 95.25\%$$

$$\approx 4.71\%$$

TABLE READING PRACTICE:

8. What is the probability that a z-score will be less than -3.5? 0%

What is the probability that a z-score will be more than -3.5? 100%